CWP

Confronting Wicked Problems: Adapting Architectural Education to the New Situation in Europe

Agreement no.: 2014-1-NO01-KA203-000366

The Project

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Partner institutions:

The Oslo School of Architecture and Design (AHO), coordinator
European Association for Architectural Education (EAAE)
Architect's Council of Europe (ACE)
Politecnico di Milano
Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya (ETSAB)
Universiteit Hasselt
Ceske Vysoke Uceni Technicke v Praze
Technische Universiteit Delft
Universitatea de Arhitectura si Urbanism "Ion Mincu" (UAUIIM)
Universitá degli studi di Genova (UNIGE)

The Activity

Name of the activity:

Charrette
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<td>2nd Wicked Workshop on Architectural and Urban Sustainability</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Receiving organization/hosting institution:</strong></td>
<td>&quot;Ion Mincu&quot; University of Architecture and Urbanism</td>
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"Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism:  
Ana-Maria Dabija  
Zeno Bogdanescu |
| **Documentation from the meeting:** | 1: Report  
2: Presentations (if relevant)  
3: Photographs, film (if relevant) |
REPORT

Introduction
The theme of the second Wicked Workshop was how to teach a theme that relates to the territory as well as to the building, with connections and intersections with disciplines from other scientific fields: historic, cultural, sociological, economical, administrative etc.

The theme is a “wicked” one, as it is replicating all over the world. The charrette focused on the wicked problem of sustainability in vernacular architecture and rural communities. In this case, we studied the vernacular architecture in relation with the depopulation of the rural area and the role of the architect in approaching this issue.

Subthemes that were taken into consideration were:
- Causes and possibilities to bring the rural areas (and the buildings) back to life;
- Historic approaches;
- Vernacular architecture as part of the rural landscape;
- Examples of good practices;
- Ideas, scenarios, strategies;

The theme of the charrette is challenging, as the (rural) depopulation issue is a worldwide problem. Causes are different, geo-climatic and political conditions are different but the fact remains: people are deserting the villages and move into the cities. The deserted / remaining localities represent a built heritage that needs to be carefully considered: should it be preserved, with the original function, preserved but conversed to a different architectural programme, updated, retrofitted, integrated, demolished...

It is not only the physical building that is to be taken into consideration but also the entire world of links, connections to the culture, people, economy, sociology that the building / the environment, the territory was influenced by.

The idea of updating – retrofitting of localities / neighbourhoods was emphasized from the beginning of the charrette, as an exhibition of the
Lafayette Park in Detroit was launched, courtesy of Prof. Adalberto Del Bo.

Previous (historic) approaches of preserving the built vernacular environment were presented, on the site of the Dimitrie Gusti Village Museum [Annex 1] in Bucharest (in the first day) and the Astra Museum in Sibiu [Annex 2], in the second day.

The charrette began in Bucharest and continued in Dealu’ Frumos in the Sibiu County [Annex 3] from the second day – where all the work was carried out – to the last day.

The outcome was presented in Sibiu, in the last day (Saturday), the venue being the "Ion Mincu" University headquarters, for Architecture Conservation and Restoration.

Architects of the Sibiu county were invited, as well as administrative responsible of the City of Sibiu (unfortunately they did not respond to the invitation, maybe as the final presentations were on Saturday).

The charrette included two distinct phases:

- During the first phase the students were provided with information regarding previous policies / strategies / steps that were made in order to preserve the rural built heritage; therefore the guided visits to the Village Museum in Bucharest, the Astra Museum of Traditional Folk Civilization and the presentation of the Citadel, the Church, the school, the village of Dealu’ Frumos were meant to understand the Romanian vernacular architecture and its typologies as well as to offer some examples of interventions on sites, buildings, spaces. The suggested readings [Annex 4] were sent via e-mail prior to the charrette (a little late as it proved to be).

- The charrette (that took place from Wednesday to Friday) was carried out in the Dealu’ Frumos village (in fact the accommodation was in the Citadel and in the School across the street from the Citadel), giving the students the opportunity to feel and touch the space, the environment and to interact with locals ‘in situ’.

While hosted in a XVI-th century fortification, the groups managed to find documentation on the internet and to present their ideas in the manner they considered to represent them best.
The idea of the workshop and the charrette was to physically plunge in the built environment (not to visit the site and go back to the city or have only documentation about the site and theme) and experience it with all senses. Walking the path of the village gives the sense of the place, with more tangible informations than any of the written or visual documentations.

1. Activities
   - participation, formal program for the event

Monday 18.04
9.30 - Visit of UAUIM. Presentation of the workshop
11.00 - Visit of the Village Museum Lecture in the Village Museum
14.00 - Lunch.
17.00 - Opening of the Lafayette Park Exhibition – Adalberto del Bo

Tuesday 19.04.
7.00 - Departure for Sibiu (260 km distance). A stop on the way at the Cozia Monastery, monument of architecture dating from 1388
14.00 - Lunch
16.00 - Visit of Astra Museum in Sibiu (about 80 km from Sibiu)
19.00 - Arrival in Agnita. Dinner
20.00 - Arrival in Dealu’ Frumos (about 80 km from Sibiu)

Wednesday 20.04
9.00 - Beginning of the charrette
Visit and presentation of the fortified medieval church, the school (with the ethnographic museum) and the village (history)
11.00 - Technical presentations. Teams and themes
13.00 - Lunch
14.00 - Site and studio work
18.00 - Dinner, work and leisure in the citadel

Thursday 21.04
9.00 - Critics and comments
Site and studio work
13.00 - Lunch
14.00 - Site and studio work
18.00 - Dinner work and leisure in the citadel

Friday 22.04
9.00 - Critics and comments
Site and studio work
Extra lecture: Dr. Veronika Schröpfer (ACE) delivered a presentation of The Architects' Council of Europe (ACE)
13.00 - Lunch
Site and studio work
18.00 - Dinner work and leisure in the citadel
19.00 - Transnational meeting of the staff
Saturday 23.04
9.00 - Departure for Sibiu
10.00 - Final presentations in the UAAIM School in Sibiu (expected but absent guests: Astra-Sibiu Museum representatives, Sibiu Order of Architects representatives, students). Critics and comments. Conclusions
12.30 End of the Charette
Lunch and visit of Sibiu
15.00 - Departure for Bucharest
20.00 - Arrival in Bucharest

- *actual work, examples/documentation*

1. case studies of preserving the rural landscape, environment, tradition, techniques and culture, by visiting

- the Dimitrie Gusti National Village Museum, Bucharest
- The `Astra` Museum of Traditional Folk Civilization – The Open Air Museum, Sibiu

Aim of the presentations, related to the theme of the charrette:
- to get contact with one of the first ways of preserving the built heritage and to approach rural depopulation
- to undersand the notion of living museum of traditional living and folk technics.
- to prepare the students (and tutors) for the site where the workshop was being held: Dealu’ Frumos, Transylvania, the center of Romania.
2. lectures (presented in Annex 5):

PhD.C. Arch. Adrian Ibric, UAUIM: "European Villages Depopulation Risk Management"

Key aspects:
- the European depopulation context (tendencies West/East, North/South, EU/non EU, immigration, emigration etc)
- Values affected by European rural depopulation
- Connected issues & follow-ups, focusing mainly on the local architecture and identity.
- International/EU national counteractions on the matter
- having the purpose of counteracting methods of depopulation and the accompanying loss of values
Dr. Arch. Mihaela Hârmănescu, UAUIM: „Sustainable Rural Development“

Examples of good practices, strategies, solution and projects emerging from local culture which contribute towards sustainability of rural territory/settlements/landscape - the relation between rurality, heritage and sustainability.

Key aspects
- The rural eco-economy
- Heritage and rural landscape
- Sustainability lessons from vernacular knowledge
- Resilience of the vernacular architecture

Aims:
- To find a sustainable development for rural communities regeneration, to enable rural communities to have access to new cultural and technical resources, and deploy arts projects to promote rural regeneration and farm diversification initiative
- To identify new aesthetic, ethical and intellectual issues and challenges in rural contexts, which could inform policy discourse on the future of local activities
- Designing-in rural environmental sustainability
- Opportunities and challenges to design for environmental sustainability
The lecture completes the theme of the charrette with the following questions:

- How to provide rural development scenarios for Dealu Frumos settlement? Which are the possible sustainable development solutions?
- How to value settlement' built culture?

PPT and PDF presentations on strategies, examples, NGOs activities as well as the on site examples of approaching the existing heritage and giving it a new use completed the first stage of the charrette, the where we offered them information and know-how. Electronic documentation was provided (such as topographic plans, essays provided by Maria Faraone, links a.s.o)

At the end of this stage the groups of students were formed, each having 1 Dutch student, 1 Italian student and 3 Romanian students (one group had only 2 Romanian students but had 2 Italians). In 4 of the 5 groups the 'leader' of the group had previously attended the charrette in Delft, in 2015.

After a short presentation delivered by Maria Faraone, that provided the guiding lines of approaching the theme in 3 phases (issue / vision / scenario), each group was required to develop the 3 phases of the project, dealing with 3 scales of the final proposal.
1st phase: ISSUE: to integrate the problematic of the wicked
2nd phase: VISION:
3rd phase: SCENARIOS: Accurate design of the proposal and the chosen
topic: new design, intervention on vernacular architecture, on rural
household/landscape
The phases corresponded with the 3 days of effective work of the
students, within the charrette, and at the end of each day the teams
presented their work and got feedback from their colleagues and tutors.
The international group of tutors, advisers and experts assisted and
contributed with suggestions, comments and recommendation to the
students' presentations and work.

The theme is 'wicked', as it meets issues far beyond the building and its
surroundings, dealing with tradition, ethnography, sociology, economy,
agriculture, history only to mention some of them. The links between all
these fields are almost tangible and care should be taken not to destroy
the balance.

Thus, the conjugated effort of the students and the tutors to evaluate
the hypothesis, to take the steps, to construct a vision and a strategy of
intervention is, we consider, probably the best outcome.

We insert the 5 teams' presentation, as Annex 6.
Outcomes:

In a highly globalized world, the importance of preserving the heritage – whatever kind it may be – is vital: common values should be highlighted and particular values should be identified. Even though the principles or the type of approach may be similar, even though different causes may lead to similar actions, each situation, each site, each neighbourhood must be dealt with individually, with care and respect.

The inter-disciplinarity of the studied topic of rural depopulation represented a challenge for the students who had to choose how and where can the architect, as a professionist, contribute.

Active preservation of the heritage of the depopulated localities (in this case study, the villages) is one of the roles of the architects of today and tomorrow. The questions that we have to answer may be, among others)

- how to teach this and how to contribute to the future
- how to reuse the existing built heritage (the vernacular buildings) while maintaining the characteristics that give unicity to the environment
- how to use the existing professional know-how and how to communicate / interact with specialists from other fields of knowledge
- how to find the common principles and mechanisms of/for intervention despite the different causes / locations in Europe that generate depopulation

2. Findings

- With relevance to future architectural education

One of the strongest points of this Erasmus+ project is the international collaboration: Schools of Architecture- tutors and students - professionals from ACE and AEEA together in an effort to improve / increase the teaching methods in architectural education, in the challenging globalized world. The expertise and professional line mix and the outcome is a better understanding of where we are and how to reach the students’ mind in terms of principles of approaching and developing a theme and a project.
The experience of being located in the built environment in which one has to intervene proved to be a good one, as the students managed to feel the sense of the place at any time of the day (and night).

Practical and in-situm approaches tend to give more result in studying issues, as the data gathered on-site and local interaction had a lot of impact on the final proposals.

The positive outcomes of the previous workshop / charrette in Delft were maintained or further exploited: international students’ teams, international tutors who teamed for the common effort.

The idea of less ‘ex cathedra’ lectures was introduced, as a request from the previous workshop, the two professionals who delivered presentations (Adrian Ibric and Mihaela Hârmănescu) being also tutors for the students in the charrette. Although involved in the academic field, they both have solid expertise in the profession, as urbanist (Mihaela) and architecture (Adrian).

The presentation of the results, at the end of each day, was shifted to the next morning, as it gave the students more time to think, research, discuss, propose. No mandatory design parts were requested, the students having the possibility to use whatever means, drawings, written or drawn paers that they considered appropriate in order to express their ideas.

Architectural education should take more into consideration the social aspects of the population benefiting from the envisioned planning.

Furthermore, architects and planners should be educated to proper use a larger field of instruments of social and (multi) ethnographical origin.

Site specific approach is still not yet (or not enough) large scale used in architectural approach and in regional economy as well.

- (eventually: with relevance to a “professional knowledge”-curriculum)

- We consider depopulation of the built (rural mainly but not only) areas as a new situation and a complex problem. However, it is not entirely new: throughout history such situations occurred and examples of deserted localities are all over the world. What this workshop brings new is the multidisciplinary approach and it
should be looked upon as a "professional knowledge curriculum", as the contemporary principles of sustainability and resilience imply the use of what we already have, focusing on how to evaluate the impact of our way of life on the built environment, what needs to be changed, how can we adapt what is already there and how to accommodate new functions in existing buildings / built sites, without destroying the balance of the network that connects the materiality to the immaterial spheres of the specific place (culture, religion, economy, tradition etc)

- Depopulation varies extremely, in term of cause and effect, in rather small scale neighbouring regions from transnational euroregion to euroregion;

- Depopulation greatly affects architecture – heritage and new build as well

- Peoples’ mobility issues - like depopulation - are phenomena that directly affect architectural heritage and people's culture in general and as such they should be studied by architects and urban planners.

- Practical and in-situm approaches tend to give more result in studying issues, as the data gathered on-site and local interaction had a lot of impact on the final proposals.

- Architectural education should take more into consideration the social aspects of the population benefiting from the envisioned planning. Furthermore, architects and planners should be educated to proper use a larger filed of instruments of social and (multi) ethnographical origin.

- Site specific approach is still not yet (or not enough) large scale used in architectural approach and in regional economy as well.

- Local economy can be both autonomous and deeply affected by global economy. While the population can survive locally at a minimum level of existence, it cannot evolve/ thrive past a certain point without external intervention or serious local collaboration efforts.

- Built patrimony and culture landmarks that lose their original population can be taken over by a new population group over
- Regional evaluation and strategy planning can lead to specific architectural solutions inside a certain village of that region (in terms of heritage protection, promotion and valuation).

- Local and regional branding focused on material or immaterial heritage could be a field of activity into which architects can naturally make a positive difference and impact.

- Local strategies should take into consideration a broader regional spectrum of analysis and villages alliances, matters in which the future architect should be involved not only as a designer of material objects but as well as a manager.

- EU architectural research funding, as well as EU regional development funding are overall instruments overlooked by the majority of European architects, probably mainly due to low impact in the European Architectural Schools Curricula and Strategies that need to adapt to these opportunities.

- Built patrimony and culture landmarks that loses its original population CAN be assumed by a new population over generations and with serious in advance planning and funding.

- Religious landmarks and issues are not so easily absorbed by population shifts and need to be taken into a larger area of consideration and strategy.

- Local economy can be both autonomous and deeply affected by global economy. While the population can survive locally at a minimum level of existence, it cannot evolve/thrive past a certain point without external intervention or serious local collaboration efforts.

3. Evaluation

- discussion of findings

Throughout the three days of the charrette the progress made by the teams was important and visible: the issues were in the same time from architectural, sociological, urban, economical, demographical and ethnical and the effort to brush all these fields and to place things in order, on a scale, was remarkable. In the end, the result is an
architectural perspective of how to deal with the built heritage, that is... feasible...

- **evaluation/priorities of findings, related to architectural education**

Exchanging knowledge was a strong point: mixing different students from different levels of education, tutors from different schools of architecture adds value to the students' education, completing it.

Site location was of great practical value to the workshop as it exposed the participants to a various (somewhat unexpected by the foreign groups) array of issues, like multi ethinical background, multi religious aspects, planning disfunctionalities as well as strengths, a sort of a “time-capsuled” environment etc.
Special thanks to Adrian Ibric and Mihaela Hărmănescu for the contribution to this report and to the workshop, as well as to all the members of the participant institutions.

Bucharest, 26.06.2016

Name: Prof. Dr. Arch. Zeno Bogdanescu

Signature:
Members of the think-tank Sustainability, “Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urbanism

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ANNEX 1
THE DIMITRIE GUSTI NATIONAL VILLAGE MUSEUM – A BRIEF HISTORY

Down on the Herăstrău lakeside, right in the middle of Romania’s capital city, the wandering traveller will encounter an authentic Romanian village, rich in monuments and artifacts from the XVIIth century, all the way up to the XXth century, representative constructions originating from important ethnographical regions which have been granted a second life at the National Village Museum „Dimitrie Gusti”.

The idea of an open-air museum in Romania came about in the second half of the XIXth century. In 1867, Alexandru Odobescu, an eminent man of culture, suggests an exhibition on vernacular architecture pieces in a purposely designed pavilion during the Paris Universal Expo. A few years later, the savant Alexandru Țzigara Samurcaș would advocate bringing to the National Ethnographic, Industrial, Decorative and Folk Art Museum of Bucharest a number of „complete authentic households from every important area inhabited by Romanian people”, a project which succeeded in 1909 with the showcase of a peasant home from the county of Gorj.

Europe, in the 1930’s, used to exhibit only two open-air museums: The Skansen Museum in Stockholm (Sweden, 1891) and the Bygdøy Museum in Lillehamer (Norway). Our country was host to the Ethnographic Museum of Transylvania, from „Hoia” Park in Cluj City, founded in 1929 by professor Romulus Vuia, showcasing regional constructions, and the National Village Museum in Bucharest (today called the „Dimitrie Gusti” National Village Museum) inaugurated in 1936, exhibiting national constructions.

To bring about the fruition of the Village Museum, Professor Dimitrie Gusti, the founder of The Sociological School of Bucharest, underwent and sustained over a decade of intense theoretical research coupled with field work and curatorial experiments in order to fulfill a vision. As head of the sociology department for the University of Bucharest, Dimitrie Gusti has organized between the years 1925-1935 several monographic interdisciplinary research campaigns on a large number of villages (Fundu Moldovei, Suceava County, Nereju – Vrancea County, Drăguș – Brașov County, Dragomirești – Maramureș County, Clopotiva – Hunedoara County, Runcu – Gorj County, Rușetu – Buzău County etc) aided by a team of specialists from a wide array of practices (sociologists, ethnographers, folk researchers, geographers, statisticians, doctors etc), also with the help of students.

The cultural and scientific experiences, hard conception work, moral and financial support given by the Royal Prince Charles Foundation, have laid the groundwork to build in a minimum of two months, starting March 1936, a
museographic exhibition of exceptional value. This short time frame was used by field teams (students and experts that also participated in the research campaigns) coordinated by Dimitrie Gusti and H. H. Stahl to acquire peasant constructions from researched villages (houses, annex household buildings, churches, technical installations), also interior objects (furniture, ceramics, fabrics, tools etc.) regarded as representative for their places of origin.

In conformance with mandatory standards of authenticity, and abiding vernacular construction traditions still employed today, master crafters from the villages that hosted the constructions have worked to reassemble the buildings and monuments under the supervision of Henry H. Stahl and Victor Ion Popa.

The Village Museum’s official inauguration took place on the 10th of May, 1936, in the presence of King Charles II, followed by a public opening a week later, 17th of May, 1936.

The Village Museum, in its early days, between the years 1936 – 1940, had an area of 4.5 hectares of land. This land was used to host 33 authentic household assemblies, transferred from the researched villages: houses with annex buildings, a church (from Dragomirești village, Maramureș County), a triptych religious monument, technical installations and a swing set. The lay out for the buildings was made following an elaborate plan made by the playwright and scenographer Victor Ion Popa.

In the conception of the Romanian Village Museum as a sociological museum, professor Dimitrie Gusti and his team of collaborators have considered to be their duty to showcase the verity of village lifestyles, as the authentic Romanian villagers were committed to living it. In this regard, families of peasants originating from the researched villages, would have inhabited the houses in the Museum. The residents were the original owners
of the households, they came to Bucharest bringing everything they needed to live on Museum premises, including poultry and animals.

The merits held by the Sociological School run by the savant Dimitrie Gusti cannot be contested, they were true, but so were the conditions that led to the degradation of some monuments and museum objects following handle and use, adequate patrimony conservation and restauration treatment methods were not yet employed due to historical context.

New Village Museum development directions, based on multiple criteria, were employed: historically (the representation of vernacular habitat – implicitly, popular culture – as spatial development, between the XVII and XX century), socially (a questionable matter today, the initial approach has been to offer a reflection to the situation of the exploited peasant), geographically (the grouping of monuments in historical provinces – this particular plan, generally relevant today, is intended to reproduce the land map of Romania by grouping architecture and technical monuments under the principle of geographic vicinity of villages of provenance, into sectors representing the main historical provinces of Romania), economically (typology of the household as related to occupations and crafts), artistically (the aesthetic value of exhibitions), authenticity and specificity.

Based on these criteria, that implicitly led to systematic research and acquisitions campaigns, have also led to the waive of the sociological component, the physical presence of peasants. Objects and buildings featured in the open-air expo undergo a paradigm shift, and turn the site from a „sociological reservation” to an ethnographic Museum.

The new architecture and folk technique expo, consequently, the particular inventory of ethnographic objects, as well as a new curatorial organization concept, enable the Museum to showcase to the public a systematic layout of the authentic villages from Romania, regarded in their heyday, representativity, unity and diversity. At the same time, respecting and
applying the concept of – unity in diversity – has allowed the ethnic profiling of other cultures and nationalities in Romania, ethnical differences and interferrences

(source: http://www.muzeul-satului.ro/the-museum/15/history)
ANNEX 2

THE `ASTRA` MUSEUM OF TRADITIONAL FOLK CIVILIZATION

or THE OPEN AIR MUSEUM, Sibiu

Situated in the natural reservation of Dumbrava Sibiului, on the road to Rasinari village and to Paltinis ski resort, 8 kilometers away from the city centre, the Open Air Museum spreads across a 96 ha area of which an area of 40 ha is covered by the permanent exhibition which is the largest open air ethnographic exhibition in Europe. Inaugurated in 1963 under the name of the Museum of Folk Technics, the museum currently has over 400 monuments of folk architecture and technique as well as an impressive collection of ethnographic heritage objects. The collection of mills, the wooden churches, and the traditional homesteads are very popular and very much appreciated. The museum is divided in 6 thematic sectors, 36 thematic groups and subgroups. Conceived as a living museum, it hosts many traditional events such as: traditional fairs, folk festivals, workshops, performances and much more. The traditional function is kept for the wooden churches where all religious ceremonies specific to Romanian tradition are regularly performed. The exceptional natural landscape makes the open air museum adequate during both summer and winter, for educational visits, relaxing walks, drives by carriage, sleigh or sailing, according to everyone`s taste.
The most important museum unit is **THE 'ASTRA' MUSEUM OF TRADITIONAL FOLK CIVILIZATION – or THE OPEN AIR MUSEUM.**

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The exceptional natural landscape makes the open air museum adequate during both summer and winter, for educational visits, relaxing walks, drives by carriage, sleigh or sailing, according to everyone’s taste.

The museum has its own traditional inns, spaces suitable for practical lessons, a lake, a playground, over 400 parking lots and over 10 kilometers of paved alleys.

**THE ‘ASTRA’ MUSEUM OF TRADITIONAL FOLK CIVILIZATION** hosts workshops, handicraft trainings, team buildings, and other recreational activities. The traditional Romanian village reveals the visitor its heritage richness specific to all the ethnographical areas of Romania. Cultural events are organized during the summer season.
The advance of Hungarians inside the Carpathian space took place in several stages during the period comprised between the tenth and twelfth century, and it was largely conditioned by the internal political situation of Hungary, by the resistance of pre-state formations existing in Transylvania, and their relations with the Byzantine Empire and the first Romanian-Bulgarian Tsardom. A consequence of the Hungarian expansion into the Transylvanian space was the planned colonization of border areas with the stated purpose of its population and protection. Colonization was achieved by attracting those hospites (visitors or settlers) with tempting promises (privileges). A first step of the occupation by hospites of the provinces in southern Transylvania took place during the time of Hungarian King Géza II (1141-1162). For these first settlers arriving from the areas of Flanders and Germany the name of saxones ("Saxons" derived from it) became widespread, a name that was not necessarily an indication of the geographical area from which they came (i.e. Saxony), but rather a reference to a certain social status¹. Colonization continued with the occupation of the northern and eastern area of Transylvania (Bistrița) in the late twelfth century, entering the final stage once the King Andrew II invited the Teutonic Knights in Țara Bârsei, in 1211.

¹ Konrad Gündisch, „Autonomie de stări și regionalitate în Ardealul medieval” (Autonomy of statuses and regional autonomy in the medieval Transylvania), in „Transilvania și sașii ardeieni în istoriografie. Din publicațiile Asociației de Studii Transilvane Heidelberg” (Transylvania and Transylvanian Saxons in historiography. From the publications of the Transylvanian Study Association Heidelberg), Sibiu, 2001, p. 43. The holders of privileges that the miners in Saxony initially enjoyed appear recorded under this name in medieval Hungary. The name of saxones was therefore synonymous with a legal status and not a name referring to their place of origin.
The most important nuclei of settlers’ urbanization are mentioned in documents as early as the twelfth century. For example, the first mention of Sibiu dates back to 1191, when Pope Celestine III confirmed the existence here of the free prepositure of the Germans in Transylvania. The beginning of the Saxon organizations in seats (headquarters of judicial Sax-on power) was recorded in 1302 – the first seat mentioned was the one in Sibiu and later Cincu with subordination of Dealu Frumos (Schönberg\(^2\)), which was mentioned for the first time in an act of sales in 1321. The free community of Dealu Frumos was documented in written sources free only in 1374 as being subordinated to the seat of Cincu (Schenker).

In the Middle Ages, about 300 villages were defended by Kirchenburgen, or fortified churches with massive walls. Though many of these fortified churches have fallen into ruin, nowadays south-eastern Transylvania region has one of the highest numbers of existing fortified churches from the 13th to 16th centuries as more than 150 villages in the area count various types of fortified churches in good shape, seven of them being included in the UNESCO World Heritage under the name of Villages with fortified churches in Transylvania\(^3\).

After the ravages of the Tatar invasions from the middle and end of the thirteenth century, the Ottoman danger was felt in the south of Transylvania as early as the first half of the fourteenth century, and the town was first attacked in 1432. Turkish campaigns have only become a constant threat during the following centuries and, besides them, internal conflicts were the main determinant of the specificity of settlements organization and fortification of churches – the only means of defence of small communities. The origins of the architectural program of the fortified church in the Transylvanian Saxon environment are placed by historians at the beginning of the fifteenth century, while disparate precedents were confirmed by documents since the thirteenth century. Fortification of religious buildings is a characteristic encountered throughout medieval Europe. However, Saxon fortified churches in southern Transylvania are distinguished by a wide variety of solutions, many of them original. Assemblies generally consist of the perimeter fortification system (composed of one or several walls equipped with towers, watch road, throwing and shooting holes etc., all having most often ingenious solutions, determined by and adapted to the particularities of conducting the defence), delimiting a courtyard in which centre the church is located. The church was the only building of sufficient size to accommodate the entire population of the rural settlement. Consequently, the religious building was modified to operate as a last stronghold in case of attack. In addition, in relation to the manner in which the Turkish incursions took place, the church presented the additional advantage of being quickly accessible to everyone in a short period of time.

The first decades of the sixteenth century brought about major political and religious changes in Transylvania, which was felt both in the major cities and in the small rural settlements, including Dealu Frumos, which had only 51 residents around the year 1500. In 1526, the Hungarian Kingdom led by Louis II was defeated by the Ottoman army led by Suleiman II in the battle of Mohács. Hungarian failure


triggered a gradual increase in the independence of Transylvania to the Hungarian crown, culminating in declaring it an autonomous principality under Ottoman suzerainty (status kept between 1541-1688), and the Saxons still enjoying the benefits given via the privileges by virtue of which they had settled here. The detachment of Transylvania from the Hungarian Kingdom was largely the work of monk Giorgio Martinuzzi, who had become chancellor of Isabella, widow of the first Transylvanian prince, Ioan Zápolya. In the new political context, Transylvania had to practice in most situations duplicitous policy divided between the Habsburgs and the Ottomans, situation that entailed both pressures and attacks from both powers. On the turbulent political and military background the first reformist religious ideas penetrated in Transylvania, while drawing the influences of Western humanism, where they have found fertile ground. Towards the middle of the sixteenth century Saxon communities in the area of Sibiu had already adhered to Lutheran reformist ideas.

Dealu Frumos / Schönberg

represented in the Josephine topographic survey (Josephinische Landesaufnahme), executed between 1769 and 1773

The political decay of the principality of Transylvania was deepened during the reign of Mihai Apafi (1662-1690), a leader easily manipulated by the Turks. The victory of the Austrian-Polish coalition armies over the Turks in 1683 opened the way of conquests to Austria in the years that followed, and Transylvania was included in the Habsburg Empire by way of diplomatic negotiations. The first signs of enlightened absolutism in Transylvania made their presence felt only in the second half of the eighteenth century and especially during the reign of Josef II (1780-1790). Although after issuing the „rescriptul concivilităţii” – conviviality rescript (1781, Act that gave the right to those belonging to other ethnicities than Saxon to purchase property within Saxon fortifications) important urban settlements of the Saxons began to open outwards from a social and cultural point of view, villages were continuing to preserve their essential features that defined them in the medieval period. These features make reference to their internal legal organization in relation to the church, the social organization - the neighbourhoods - with significant repercussions on the manner of structuring the physical framework of everyday life.
Neighbourhoods (Nachbarschaft) included landlord residents and their tenants („jeleri” - peasants), organized by streets and led by „vilici” (superintendents). The origins of these forms of social organization encountered both in cities and in villages – with multiple roles in the religious, economic, administrative and defensive field – dates back to the early medieval period, a model that was probably imported by settlers from their areas of origin. Saxon villages, and not only these (examples of takeover of the Saxon model by Romanian communities were the „Blumâna” and „Schei” suburbs of Brasov), were organized in in neighbourhoods whose size was limited to a certain number of families or households. The members of these neigh-bourhoods had a number of duties (recorded in statutes) that were meant to generate mutual benefits: „... observing the order on the streets and by every citizen in his/her own life”, granting of „... mutual help in difficult situations”, „... supervision of authorized parties” etc. Therefore neighbourhoods, as a form of social organization, represented and still represent in some areas instances of social control that ordained the life of each member (Assistant Professor PhD. Arch.Horia Moldovan).

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During the massive industrialization of the country (the early seventies) young families left for the cities, where they could work in factories.

In the eighties the massive departure of the German population began (there was an agreement between Eastern Germany and the Socialist Ro-mania that allowed them to leave for their original lands) and in the past twenty five years the exodus continued as the possibility to work abroad was granted. So the villages are left with elderly persons and, sometimes, with children.

This way some villages were almost entirely abandoned.

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Among so many other settlements of Saxon colonization in Transylvania, Dealu Frumos-Schönberg is one of the very few which have retained in the Romanian toponymy the meaning of the German name: Schönberg because Dealu Frumos means The Beautiful Hill in Romania . This is due to the fact that in the mediaeval times the Latin name of the village was Pulcromonte as specified in a document dating back to 1320, or, as later said „Pulchro monte, quae villa vulgariter dicitur Schönberg “ (1374). In the Europen maps, the village appears as: Schamberg -1566 , Schomberg - 1595 , Schönberg - 1667 . The village started with 75 Saxon (in fact coming from present day Flanders, Rhineland or Luxemburg) colonists and reached 300 inhabitants before the Tartar invasion of 1241 (Prof. P. Niedermaier). In 1346, it reaches about to 1000 inhabitants but has only 250 and 300 in 1488 and respectively in 1532. In 1500 and 1532, the local Schenker Seat census counts for 51 and respectively 67 homes and one mill. The first document about Romanians living in the village dates back to 1752. Later on, in 1856, the 584 Romanian inhabitants decide to build themselves an orthodox church. In 1902, Schönberg counts 626 Saxons, 662 Romanians, 8 Hungarians, and a not specified number of gypsies. After the World War II, 114 Saxon women and men were deported to the Soviet Union and with very few exceptions all the Saxons proprieties were confiscated and nationalized.
The Evangelic Church

Entering the evangelic church of Dealu Frumos-Schönberg, one can notice from the very first moment the 16th century oak door with gothic ironwork from the SE corner, and immediately after, can have a full glimpse of the nave, only three bays long, with its rectangular masonry piles and roughly pointed arcades, and its 1820 organ adorning the Western side. Turning towards the altar the perspective is dominated by the round chancel, protecting the 18th century wooden pulpit and dominated by a 15th century Christ, one of the most valuable pieces of gothic art in the church. The church displays very well the characteristics of the Transylvanian Gothic architecture: a hall-church having balanced proportions between its dimensions, with terracotta ribs adorning the barrel vault to match the gothic appearance. Outside, the short volume of the church with its high, pitched roof seems to be squeezed between two towers built upon the choir and the west end of the nave.. The church’s interior and its exterior display quite clearly the rationale of the building process meant to meet the requirements and constraints of each of its construction phases. One can notice the witnesses of the former presence of a 13th century portal or the proof of two bays of the northern aisle being demolished at the west end of the church, with the remains of the Romanesque rounded arches or the position of the earlier access marked by the arcade that still projects outside the Southern wall of the church.

Historians agree about a first masonry basilica having been built before the Tartar invasion of 1241. An oval palisade surrounded the church, which obviously did not protect it from its destruction in 1241. In late 13th century the church is rebuilt in the same Romanesque style, as a nave and two aisles basilica with a square choir and, as archaeological research has proven in the summer of 2009, a round altar apse. With some differences in appreciating certain interventions, like the sequences between the two towers or the presence of the sacristy from the very beginning or later, historians like G. Oprescu, V. Vătășianu, I. Fabritius-Dancu, T. Sinigalia, P. Niedermaier, H. Fabini or M. Schnabel agree, nevertheless, upon the following phases in the evolution of the church: Early Period (14/15th century), the nave increases in height and the fortification of the church begins; Intermediate Period (16th century), the basilica is transformed into a gothic hall-church and the two towers are completed; Late Period (17/18th Century), baroque transformations added to the church (the SE vestibule, the present-day sacristy, the oval altar window, some of the buttresses). The interpretations of the Dealu Frumos-Schönberg archaeological and architectural features received from arch. H. Fabini the background of a typological analysis of about fifty-nine Saxon Romanesque churches in SE Transylvania, out of which twelve have the same proportion of naves, choir and apse, and four churches (within a 8 km. radius) display the same disposition of two towers at both ends of the nave.

Recent research being performed under the aegis of “Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urbanism of Bucharest – The Chair for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage – brought the following answers to the dilemmas as to the history and evolution of the church:

1. The hypothesis of a round altar apse was confirmed though the 2009 research campaign being conducted by archaeologist PhD. Marcu-Istrate,
2. The early disposition of apses at the end of the aisles was confirmed by the presence of an old niche at the East end of the North aisle.

3. No proof has been found, since the typological analysis did not show precedents and structural constraints make it difficult to conceive the hypothesis of an early tower over the choir, since the initial phase.

4. The hypothesis of the building of the West tower in late 13th was not proved by the archaeological research and architectural analysis of the tower’s basement and upper stories.

5. The existence of the sacristy since the initial phase (mid XIII-th century) seems difficult to accept as a vertical crack is visible between the sacristy and its adjoining East tower.

6. There are strong proofs for an evolution of the interior from a flat ceiling to a vaulted space.

7. There are material testimonies for 3 phases of roofing according to the defensive constrains.

The Citadel

Paradoxically, the citadel history has fewer dilemmas, several inscriptions or documents discovered making the evolution of the fortification, except for its initial phase, more precise. Historians agree – based on typological analysis and similar cases in the vicinity - that the rectangular fortification having square towers three storey high and one slope roof at the corners belong to early 1500 hundred. Very soon after the precinct becomes too small for the defensive needs of the community, in 1521 an extension towards the South is made and capped by a pentagonal tower at its East end and a smaller Italian style bastion at its West end. An inscription about this can be seen on the first storey parapet on the pentagonal tower at the SE corner of the citadel. On the opposite side, another extension was made in mid 17th century, 6,00 meters towards the North with respect to the initial defensive wall. Half of this extension is taken by a two storey pitched roof building called “Neubastei / The New Bastion or Neuehaus/ The New Haus”, which uses for its interior facade the foundation of the earlier defensive wall. The name and some architectural features like the chimney on the first floor or the widely spanned accesses on the ground floor level and on the first floor (with marks of a former exterior wooden gallery) make us believe that the building, having had also a defensive function, was used initially also for storage and later on for secular purposes (school, for example). The roof structure dates back to its initial period, showing great skills in carpentry. A new tower at mid distance between NE and NW corners was added, increasing the defensive function of the North area. Historians agree that the date being painted on this tower, 1647, represents the year of this Northern extension to the citadel.

In 1728, since the danger of being besieged decreased, the North East vaulted entrance, protected by a portcullis, is blocked, whereas a new pedestrian entrance is built nearby. Since 1744 the roofs of the church are covered with tiles instead of shingles, and from 1759 on people are allowed to erect storage rooms adjoining the curtain wall on condition that roof is covered with tiles. By the end of the 18th century, the citadel loses its defensive role retaining only its religious and community life function. In 1914, half the Southern curtain wall and part of the pentagonal tower are demolished to make room for
a community centre, with a large and well equipped Gemeindesaal/Community Hall, designed by a young architect from Sighisoara/Schäsburg, Fr. Balthes (Professor Sergiu Nistor, PhD: The Village History, the Evolution of the Citadel and of the Evangelic Church)

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Since 2003 The University of Architecture and Urbanism "Ion Mincu", Bucharest, Romania is granted a lease for the fortress to rehabilitate it as a Study Centre in Vernacular Architecture.

The church is used by the local community.

The multifunctional hall is used by the UAUIM but also, upon request, by the local community. In the upper floors students’ accommodation was organized.

The School across the street was also granted to UAUIM by the local community. The first floor was transformed, with the help of the local community, into a museum of ethnography while the ground floor is used for students’ accommodation.
ANNEX 4

Suggested readings prior to the workshop

Gaborit, Pascaline,
European New Towns: Image, Identities, Future Perspectives
http://www.amazon.com/European-New-Towns-Identities-Perspectives/dp/9052016712/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1458836450&s=8-1&keywords=population+architecture+identity
Politics & Social Sciences: Anthropology: Cultural: Depopulation

Were New Towns mainly utopias? Will they become pilot innovative cities? More than 30 years after their creation New Towns are facing numerous challenges in terms of social cohesion, urban planning, regeneration, sustainable development and identities.

This book aims to identify different paths for adapting to current challenges and to address the fundamental issues of image and identity of territories. It will examine the capacity of current New Towns, in a time of demographic stagnation and economic crisis, to manage their transition to maturity (becoming «Mature Towns»), to be viewed as pilot and habitable cities.

In this way it develops an in-depth analysis of New Towns’ development and proposes key elements and approaches of interest for urban planners, researchers and professionals interested in territories’ identities and the development of cities.

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Strohmeier, Klaus Peter
Innovation and Urban Population Dynamics: A Multi-Level Process
Avebury, January 1st 1992

This comparative overview of urban population changes in Europe covers the last two centuries and identifies a sequence of progressive stages of urban development which one set of cities has gone through while others are just entering it. More in-depth analysis based on recent data reveals similarities as to subsequent concentration and deconcentration trends in the urban systems of economically advanced countries like France, Germany, Sweden or Italy, while others, like Turkey or the Eastern European urban systems are still in the concentration phase. The position of national urban systems in an urban life cycle is closely correlated with the respective
countries’ position in Europe’s first and second demographic transition. The impact of the second transition (ie the de-institutionalization of traditional family life and the emergence of new, modern life styles and household types) on recent and future urban development is analyzed. A theoretical and empirical approach of multi-level analysis is developed deriving assumptions on macro-spatial changes from the analysis of dynamic micro-behavioural processes.

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Hospers, Gert-Jan, Reverda, Nol
Managing Population Decline in Europe’s Urban and Rural Areas
Springer (first published December 11th 2014), English

There is no way around demographic change: the future of many developed countries is characterized by shrinking and ageing population. This development implies many challenges for Europe’s urban and rural areas. Demographic change is getting on agenda of academics, policy makers and many other stakeholders. In particular, population decline is discovered as a relevant topic.

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Kalaga, Wojciech, Kubisz, Marzena
Cartographies of Culture: Memory, Space, Representation
(Series: Literary and Cultural Theory Book 35)
Peter Lang GmbH, Internationaler Verlag der Wissenschaften;
New edition edition (July 27, 2010), English
http://www.amazon.com/Cartographies-Culture-Representation-Literary_Cultural/dp/3631609094/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1458836450&sr=8-2&keywords=population+architecture+identity

Nowadays the issues of space and place pertain more than ever to the ongoing discussion about personal/regional/national identities. The worlds of private archives of memory often exist independently of political and administrative divisions, while dominant ideologies are often capable of re-defining national archives of memory through selective representation of the past. The way we remember our past and our heritage inscribes the space we live in: the places we remember.
and the places we wish to forget, the monuments we pull down and erect and the museums we build are only some of the signposts on the landscape of our cultural memory. The essays collected in this volume examine the role of places and spaces in the formation of both cultural practices and the existential experience of modern individual.

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EU Policies and Projects

http://www.interregeurope.eu/ - current
http://www.interreg4c.eu/ - policies and projects up to 31st of december 2015
http://www.euromontana.org/
EU Statistics

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Romanian Case Study

Rata, Georgeta, Runcan, Patricia-Luciana (Social Issues)


http://www.amazon.com/Social-Issues-Georgeta-Rata/dp/1443856762/ref=sr_1_15?
s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1458836274&sr=1-15&keywords=depopulation

Social Issues presents some of the social problems with which Romanian society has been confronted after the fall of Communism. National and international forms of migration are analysed in five essays dealing with the unseen face of migration, urban depopulation in Romania, the socio-economic aspects of migration, demographic trends in Romania, and with human trafficking. The construction of identity in both physical and virtual spaces is analysed in eight essays with a focus on social integration, on the redefinition of identity, on the reintegration on the labour market, on the right to self-determination, on identity in the network society, and on stereotype, prejudice, and discrimination. The health state of vulnerable populations is illustrated by four essays on the institutionalised elderly, on residents of lignite quarry areas, and on patients with liver disease. The book will appeal to professionals in the field of social sciences and to decision-makers at all economic, political, and social levels. It will also appeal to all those interested in interdisciplinary approaches.
Sustainable Rural Development

Mihaela Hărmănescu, PhD architect
Lecturer, Faculty of Urbanism, Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urbanism, Bucharest, Romania
Models of sustainable recovery

Programmes
Strategies
Good practices
Intervention guides

.....

emerging from local culture which contribute towards sustainability of rural territory/settlements/landscape.

KEY ASPECTS

• the rural eco-economy
• heritage and rural landscape
• sustainability lessons from vernacular knowledge
• tourism
• resilience ?!
Vintilă Mihăilescu - sociology and anthropology romanian professor
Round table intervention entitled Between Tradition and Development, published in Urbanismul Magazine, 2009 – the issue of may 2009: „Village as cultural landscape”:

“I do not think that one could find peasants now, who have commitment and initiatives to build in an ecological manner and to have objectives related to sustainable development.

All these beautiful things are coming from two constraints: on one hand there are building regulations and on the other hand there are references, internalized models.

These models were organic, local, they were reproduced for centuries and they were defined in time based on local criteria, local needs, local mentalities. “
“At the moment, the constraints from the regulations side are weak and that is because the State is not efficient in imposing the respect of these rules. The models are not organic any longer. They didn’t grew here, they are not from that landscape, from that context but they are “imported” from other places.

Therefore, the level where something could be achieved is the intermediate level in between the State and the models. This level is a local level!
Models of sustainable recovery
Albergo diffuso

“scattered hotel” [loosely translated term]

Italy ’80, to start to use the renovated empty houses after Friuli earthquake (1976).
• referring to a broad and elastic model providing accommodations to tourists in small villages and towns
• favoring small old towns and villages and ancient formation of rural core or mountain settlements, while not excluding the validity of solutions related to individual significant presence in different contexts urbanized.
• The rooms usually are situated in a number of different buildings near each other and do not necessarily have to be on the same property

Source: http://www.alberghidiffusi.it/ - Giancarlo Dall'Ara
Albergo diffuso

Guidelines for an albergo diffuso:

- For the purpose of **protecting** the **historic architecture**.
- Zero tolerance for “any new building that interrupts the **integrity of the landscape**
- Must **maintain the original use**, form and materials of the original structure
- Replacement **materials** must come from the **local area**
- As much as possible **retain traces of life** uncovered in the building as this is a symbol of village life
- Furnishings should keep with traditions of the area and be made by **local artisans** to maintain **authenticity**
- Use **local material** to reflect the colors and textures identified with the particular village
- Maintain the minimalist concept in bathrooms to not betray the
- Vital to the concept is **not to add new construction**

Source: [http://www.alberghidiffusi.it/](http://www.alberghidiffusi.it/) - Giancarlo Dall’Ara
Albergo diffuso Lauco – Carnia Friuli Venezia Giulia, Italia

• 700-800m altitude, Dolomiti Mountain
• Model of sustainable development,
• 2006, 8 structure hotels in 3 villages,
• Theme: Original holiday in authentic places
  • Includes different touristic activities (biking, schi, trakking, etc)
• Restauration and renovation principles
  - Mantain the original function, do not divide the interior, do not transform in museum, etc.

• benefits for local development and comunity

source: http://www.albergodiffusolauco.it
Albergo diffuso - Corippo, Switzerland

Corippo lies in the Verzasca valley, Monte del Corgell is the mountain's name above the village. **Corippo is the smallest municipality in Switzerland.** Despite this, it possesses the trappings of communities many times its size such as its own coat of arms and a town council consisting of three local citizens. A town council is a democratically elected form of government for small municipalities. A council may serve as both the representative and executive branch. The village has maintained its status as an independent entity since its incorporation in 1822.

Source: [http://corippo.blogspot.ro](http://corippo.blogspot.ro)
Albergo diffuso - Corippo, Switzerland

PROJECT STRATEGY TO VALUE THE LANDSCAPE, BUILD HERITAGE, AGRICULTURE AND TOURISM

AGRICULTURE MANAGEMENT CONCEPT to value the fruit trees of core settlement and traditional cultivation of cereals.

3 phases:
1st_ intervention of a few houses and the multifunction area (restaurant)
2nd_ increasing the number of beds by collaborating with community
3th_ different programme activities: photography, architecture, geography

Source: http://corippo.blogspot.ro
Tradition as a source for innovation

ALPINE SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

Teritorial development

Source: Modelli di insediamento alpino. Progetti urbanistici modello | Qualità esemplari specifiche. Costruire al passo coi tempi e in sintonia con il luogo nel paesaggio extraurbano. © Comunità di Lavoro delle Regioni Alpin
Tradition as a source for innovation

2. VRIN (VAL LUMNEZIA), Switzerland

a village in the Alps


Area: 71.2 km² – 39.3% agricultural use 7.4% - forest / 0.5% - construction and infrastructure 52.9% - non-productive – river, mountains.

To counter the brain drain and to ensure the village economy in a long run, Vrin trusts on his own qualities and strengths
**Tradition as a source for innovation**

Community reaction from:

- depopulation due to migration after the second war (500 in 1970, 270 in 2000)
- increasing tourism in areas with easily accessibility and new by architecture ‘heidi chalet’

RESULT: FROM LOCAL TO REGIONAL AND NATIONAL STRATEGY
Tradition as a source for innovation

Pro Vin Foundation (1979), architect Graubunden

3 Phases:

1st_1979-1985 REABILITATION OF THE “HOUSE FROM MARKET” (NEW REGLEMENTATION)
Define settlement quality – local specificity

2nd_1986-2003 PRESERVATION BY DESIGN
New members: architect Gion Caminada, agricultural economist Peter Rieder who are developing new economic model taking in consideration social and cultural aspects of the valey: Renovating old houses and new insertion

PROJECT: Valey is a country: Every village has a different function to have a integrate benefit

3rd_2004_ DECENTRALIZATION OF POWERS – to have an holistic approach and clear reglementation for the valey
Tradition as a source for innovation

Architect Gion Caminada (born in Vrin, carpenter)

Inovation source for structural system: blockbau | strickbau

The developments hows how the reward of a functioning rural economy looks like

http://www.architekturclips.de/vrin/
Tradition as a source for innovation


Architect
Peter Zumthor
Tradition as a source for innovation

3. BAUKUNST / „ARS AEDIFICANDI IN VORARLBERG LAND, AUSTRIA

• ‘60 - ’80 „Vorarlberger Bauschule“ (Bau= building; Schule= school)

• 1984 born of „Vorarlberger Baukünstler“ (Baukunst = science / art of building, Baukünstler = (about) artists builders)


• Define regional identity through wood architecture then passive architecture

• Architecture found here in its essential steps in relation to administration, urban planning, construction control institutions and those related to fire safety, a constructive understanding and intelligent innovations for new developments.

• RESULTS: STRONG ECONOMY, NATALITY, STRONG DEVELOPMENT
 Tradition as a source for innovation
Baukunst / „Ars aedificandi in Vorarlberg Land, Austria

It believes that the future of these areas should not be seen only in terms of agricultural development but as a social and economic system. Case studies from Switzerland, Austria where there is intense political development of rural areas: agricultural and forestry policies, to promote tourism, nature and landscape protection, regional planning, regional policy and transport, financial, but they are adapted to the cantons and communes particular needs.

http://cooplan.ro/arhiva/arta-de-a-construi-in-vorarlberg/
Ecomuseum

• ‘IN SITU’ MUSEUM
• A private, non-profit facility where plants and animals can be viewed in a natural outdoor setting. (Source: AGRENV) Terminology source: http://www.eionet.europa.eu

• France, ’70 – Georges Henri Riviere, Hugues De Varine

• “a dynamic way in which communities preserve, interpret and manage their heritage for sustainable development. An Ecomuseum is based on a comunity agreement (Declaration of Intent of the Long Net Workshop, Trento 2004)

Source: http://www.icomos.ro/av/pdf/UNIVERSUL%CIVILIZATIE%C0%83%82%80%80RURALE30303.ppt
Ecomuseum

*Dynamic way* means to go beyond the formal aspect of an ecomuseum, beyond a simple set course, designed on paper; it is about designing real actions, able to change our society and improve our landscape. Community means a group with:

- **GENERAL INVOLVEMENT;**
- **SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES;**

- Interchangeable roles: public officers, representatives, volunteers and other local actors are all playing a vital role in an ecomuseum.
- The long-term goal is to contribute to the awareness of the local value, but also to suggest recommendations to improve the existing solutions and to avoid common errors.
- Thereby, it would be necessary to collect data concerning the efforts that were taken by the population in the past, and to contribute to the restoration and repair of the buildings that sustained damage from the bad use.

Ecomuseum

**MUSEUM**
- Artifacts
- Buildings
- Visitors

**RURAL Museums and Collections**
(All closed and low visibility - deposits of goods)

**LIVING MUSEUM**
- Artifacts
- Buildings

Visitors of
**ASTRA National Museum Complex Sibiu**

**ECOMUSEUM**
- Heritage
- Territory
- Community

Sibiu Regional eco-museum is among the few in the world that aims to meet the criteria of a "true" eco-museum

Regional Ecomuseum Sibiu

• Mărginimea Sibiului (Săliște – Galeș și Gura Râului) a land with Romanian specific.

• Valea Târnavelor (Biertan, Moșna, Valea Viilor) villages with Saxon architecture and UNESCO sites

• Valea Hârtibaciului (Chirpar -Săsăuș) a land with an aging population and low economic development

Source: http://www.icomos.ro/av/pdf/UNIVERSUL%20CIVILIZATIEI%20RURALE30303.ppt
Regional Ecomuseum Sibiu

- 2007 Each household (of the 29 selected in 2007) looks like a small museum itself, the custodians and guides are locals themselves.
Visiting households in Sibiu area allows tourists to know the traditional way of life with sustainable economic development by supporting agriculture (revitalization of cultures that have characterized the region - vineyards on the Târnavei river, organic products, in line with European standards), livestock (by the development of competitive channels) and by revitalizing rural traditional occupations.

Source: http://www.icomos.ro/av/pdf/UNIVERSUL%20CIVILIZATIEI%20RURALE30303.ppt
Non-agricultural rural economy

• Mărginimea Sibiului
  Gura Râului, Săliște

 ROUTES:
• "The water cycle in civilization"
• "Circuit of traditional crafts"
• a circuit presentation of old technologies (oil of clothes, etc) in households of people, crossed by the old village pond.

Source: http://www.icomos.ro/av/pdf/UNIVERSUL%CIVILIZATIEI%CIVILIZATIEI%20RURALE30303.ppt
Ecomuseum routes from Sălişte-Galeş and Gura Rîului

SĂLIŞTE – GALEŞ

1. Casa de locuit – atelier tamplărie si sculptura in lemn
2. Casa de locuit – atelier si spatiu comercial desfacere produse din pielearie, Proprietarul Ioan Cunțan,

3. Moara – nu este inclusă la dorința proprietarilor
Moștenitorii nu doresc redeschiderea ei sau deschiderea unui muzeu.

4. Atelier de dogarie, casă de locuit – a acceptat intrarea, ulterior răzgândindu-se renunțând la meserie Strada Tabacarilor nr. 32


6. Casa veche din barne / str. Memorandistilor nr. 3- proprietar Alexandru și Lucia Irimie. Casa este datată, după inscripția de pe rama ferestrei de la fatada, din anul 1841.).

7. Palarier Ilieș Virgil – singurul producător de pălării din sudul Transilvaniei -Galeș nr.43, tel. 0269/553 431

8. Moară pe apă – proprietar Mănie Dumitru Galeș, nr. 189 – singura moară funcțională pe apă din sudul Transilvaniei

Gura Rîului

1. Prima casă de zid de pe ulița mare – proprietar fam. Silviu Oancea – Gura Rîului nr. 955- datată după o inscripție 1864


3. Instalație tradițională pentru producerea uleiului de bostan – proprietar fam. Petru Bârza – Gura Rului nr. 1057

4. „Pavilonul de joc” – construcție de lemn unde până nu demult se organizau duminica sărbătorile locale
Non-agricultural rural economy

Valea Târnavelor- Biertan - first pharmacy in rural areas

ROUTE OF MEDICINAL HERBS
Non-agricultural rural economy

Valea Târnavelor- Mosna-traditional farming valley is famed Moșna since XVI century

ROUTE FARMING

Source: http://www.mosnaecomuseum.com/enindex.htm
Non-agricultural rural economy

Valea Târnavelor-
Valea Viilor - Wine Country vineyards are preserved only in the courts of households and home gardens.

ROUTE proposes traditional households visited while preserving traditional occupations related to farming and animal husbandry.

Non-agricultural rural economy

- **Valea Hârtibaciului (Chirpar - Săsăuș)**
  - In Săsăuș, one of the few Romanian villages in the highlands Hârtibaciului, proposed an eco-museum circuit for an informed public: "Heritage in Danger";

- **Hartibaciu Valley is the land - from Sibiu - most concerned by depopulation, local heritage is in danger of destruction, emigration Saxons after their homesteads were taken over by gypsies. In their culture heritage notion missing.**
The rural eco-economy

ECO- ECONOMIC PRADOX – rural regions both hold potentially high ecological value and show persistently low levels of economic activity and welfare.

Kitchen and Marsden (2009) accordingly focus on the development of the ‘rural eco-economy’. The eco-economy ‘consists of complex networks of webs of new viable businesses and economic activities that utilise the varied and differentiated forms of environmental resources in more sustainable ways. These do not result in a net depletion of resources but provide cumulative benefits that add value to the environment’ (p. 275).
Paradigm of Development
PARADIGM OF DEVELOPMENT:
ECONOMIC GROWTH, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

This project is funded by the European Union

Viva East presentation on Valea Hartibaciului, 2014
WHAT MEAN HERITAGE RURAL AREAS?

VILLAGES MINOR HISTORIC CENTRES

Individual UNITS of settlements that have given birth to ORIGINAL LANDSCAPE typical of a civilisation deeply rooted in the territory

Viva East presentation on Valea Hartibaciului, 2014
Socio-cultural units within a territorial network linked by culture history, traditions, and/or natural elements

LINKS
- Culture and Territory
- Local Identity vs Global Heritage
- Conservation vs Transformation
- Normative vs Operational Planning

CONSERVATION AND VALORISATION from a spatial perspective and SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Viva East presentation on Valea Hartibaciului, 2014
LOCAL COMMUNITIES must lead based on active participation and a clear METHODOLOGY where diagnostics, specific proposals and results in the short, medium and long term are implemented.
It addresses both the physical landscape and the social landscape (socio-economic) of a given territory, both tangible and intangible assets and their relationships.

It is a structural process organised by projects. It identifies in a sort of hierarchy: integrated components, intervention priorities, demonstrative projects, etc.

It could be implemented in time. It does not need to be immediately a “final and complete Plan”. The various parts can be articulated and complete with subsequent additions and amendments.

It is flexible. It is not a plan "hard" and "normative", but above all works "multiscale scenario". However, if useful or necessary, some specific areas or projects or parts of projects may be subject to normative planning or design rules.

It is also flexible in time as it is also conceived as a process. It has to be verified through monitoring on the state of implementation of the projects and on the effects produced by the interventions, with any necessary corrections during implementation.

It is a strategic planning process (shared, participatory, concerted, communicative).
Lessons

?
Lessons from vernacular heritage to sustainable architecture

Lessons from vernacular heritage to sustainable architecture

Questions

• How to provide rural development scenarios for Dealu Frumos settlement?

• Which are the possible development solutions?

• How to value settlement ‘built culture’?

.... a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy? (Horizon2020)

.......
Thank you!
Planning instruments for sustainable development and protection of cultural landscapes in Romania

Spatial planning for minor historic centres – Valea Hârtibaciu

Viva East presentation on Valea Hartibaciului, 2014
INFORMATION – CONSULTATION - PARTICIPATION

Methodology Approval Order no. 2701/2010 – to approve

The Methodology for informing and consulting the public on the development or revision of urban and territory development plans

- PATJ – County Development Strategy
- PATZ – Local Territorial Development Plan
- PUG – Local Development Strategy
- PUZ – Urban zonal development plan
- PUD – Urban detailed development plan

a. Preparatory phase - announced plans elaboration – technical specification

b. Documenting - the elaboration of background studies

c. Elaboration of the proposals that will be the subject of consultation

d. Final proposal development – integrating the comments

e. Application of transparent decision: draft executive decision of counselors
INFORMATION – CONSULTATION - PARTICIPATION

- Professional associations
- Local Cultural Associations
- Schools
- Pensions owners
- Arts and crafts
- Bio-agriculture entrepreneurs
- Tourism operators
- B&B owners
- Restaurators
- Folk groups

County Council strategies
- PATJ
- PATZ
- PUG
- PUZ
- PUD

Local development strategy
Local development plan

- Mass-media
- Regional Development Ministry
- Regional Development Agency
- Nature 2000 sites managers
- County Council
- Local Action Group
- County Direction
- Ministry of Culture
- Evangelic Church
- Orthodox Church
- Public and Private Museums
Key challenges regarding the development of rural historic centers in Romania:

- The development of a new architecture of buildings and/or the rehabilitation of existing buildings, close to minor historic centres, it often does not respond to the historical, spatial or planning character of the historic centre.

- Insufficient maintenance of historic buildings and surroundings whose owners often have no financial capacity and proper knowledge about conservation and maintenance.

- Traditional Transylvanian Villages are remote and isolate from the main access roads; as result appropriate road infrastructure has to be built in order to insure access with the respect of landscape

- The law No. 422 / 2001 republished, for protecting cultural and historic heritage, is producing low effects in rural areas. The following deficiencies was registered in rural area: lack of sanctions stipulated for the inadequate interventions on private own buildings, registered assemblies of urban or rural constructions; the Rural Public Authorities are reluctant to enforce the law due to relationship within the community or lack of knowledge; the reduced capacity of decentralized public services of the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs to respond to the infringement of the law in rural area; lack of financial tools to support private owners.

- Following decentralization processes rural local governments are progressively made responsible for designing and carrying out development interventions, however their decision-making powers, their capacity to assume new responsibilities and to propose and conduct actions on the territory, as well as their financial autonomy, remain very limited.
Case study – Valea Hartibaciului, Sibiu County


The settlements in the Central Region in the Context of Polycentric Development, ADR, December 2010


Tourism Master Plan for Sibiu County, County Counsil, January 2010

Local Development Plan for Hartibaciului Microregion, elaborated by the Local Action Group in 2009

PATJ Sibiu – 2011, PATJ 2013
Valea Hârtibaciului – population and employment

- Natural growth is negative, the balance of migration is also negative.

- Active population in terms of size over inactive population, is low if to compare with average Romania (Valea Hârtibaciui 31.12% ; Romania average 46.4%).

- Active population in terms of size over inactive population, is low if to compare with average Romania (Valea Hârtibaciui 31.12% ; Romania average 46.4%).

- Reducing the number of entrepreneurs - in Valea Hârtibaciului in 2010 there were 12 entrepreneurs per 1000 inhabitants. The indicator is very low when compared to the country's Central Region 29.44 entrepreneurs / inhabitants or to EU statistics of 42 entrepreneurs / 1000 inhabitants.

- All these aspects have negative impact on the investment attractiveness of the area.
Valea Hârtibaciu – Mobility and environment

- The region offers the chance to experience authentic rural life and enjoy the diversity of the landscape.

- Within the region you can find "unchanged" forests, meadows and pastures (24.75% of the region surface).

- The residents and tourists can also enjoy a wide biodiversity, in particular avifauna (80% of the surface covered by protected areas Natura 2000).

- Hârtibaciu River, regularized almost all over his length, runs through the area for 89 km and flows into Cibin River.

- There have been discovered small depth underground waters both mineral (Plover Bai) and thermal (Bârghiș).
Valea Hârtibaciu – Tangible and intangible heritage

- On the territory of Valea Hartibaciului there are around 150 historical monuments.

- Customs and traditions represent intangible heritage which can be valued through the complementary resources such as museums and cultural centers.

- These resources can be potentiated by adopting some measures to increase awareness of population and support the traditional crafts. Revitalization of traditional crafts can be accomplished by supporting and founding specialized arts and craft schools in the area (Agnita, Nocrich, Rosia and Iacobeni).
PATJ SIBIU
MEDIU

PROBLEME SI DISFUNCTIONALITATI

2011

www.cjsibiu.ro
Local Territorial Development Plan for Valea Hartibaciului, Sibiu County

Restructuring urban-rural relationship in the context of territorial cohesion

Dichotomy of centre-peripherality acquires other meanings around this context, the centre becomes itself a “periphery”, both by relating to departmental level and at national level.

The causes of this isolation are given by the strong character of the rural settlements in Valea Hartibaciului basin, by the weak economy and especially by the lack of connection with neighbouring territorial units, the roads and rails communication routes are tangent to the region.

Territorial unit type schedule: we started from the premise that this goal can be achieved by restructuring the relationship between urban and rural areas, which otherwise had been achieved by capturing the interrelated mechanisms between the two residential areas.
ANALIZA STRATEGICĂ DE MEDIU PENTRU PLANUL DE AMENAJARE A TERITORIULUI ZONAL VALEA HĂRTIBACIULUI, JUDEȚUL SIBIU

INFRASTRUCTURĂ EDUCATIONALĂ ȘI SANITARĂ
SITUAȚIA EXISTENȚĂ
STRUCTURA FONDULUI FUNCIAR ȘI PRESIUNEA ANTROPICĂ ASUPRA FONDULUI FORESTIER

[Map showing forest structure and human pressure on forest land with pie charts and legend]
ANALIZA STRATEGICĂ DE MEDIU PENTRU PATZ VALEA HÂRTIBACIULUI, JUDEȚUL SIBIU.

INFRASTRUCTURILE TEHNICE ALE TERITORIULUI
ANALIZA STRATEGICĂ DE MEDIU PENTRU PÂTZ VALEA HÂRTIBACIULUI. MORFOLOGIA GENERALĂ A TERITORIULUI
Local Territorial Development Plan for Valea Hartibaciului, Sibiu County

Restructuring urban-rural relationship in the context of territorial cohesion

"The type of document that in some Member States is considered to be a plan, decides in which way the implementation of a scheme or of a policy is proposed. For example, this can be land use plans which determine how development will take place, or provide rules or guidelines for the type of development that corresponds to a specific area or determine the criteria to be considered for further development."

Environment Report
Local Territorial Development Plan for Valea Hartibaciului, Sibiu County
p.5, feb 2012
Local Territorial Development Plan for Valea Hartibaciului, Sibiu County

PEOPLE

Another subject that deserves attention is: to remove the preconceptions related to the geodemographic population structure and not labeling the region through the significant contribution of the Gypsy population, the situation in the field confirming their opening towards social inclusion actions.

High percentage of the rural population, the positive values of demographic balance and migration, the increase of population involved in the service sector may also constitute some positive parts of the human resources.

It is envisaged to strengthen the role of the urban center Agnita through diversifying the economic activities and increasing their quality, and modernization of communal centers Nocrich and Rosia, which can become towns in the future.
Agnita’s Declaration:

1. Increase the quality of life within Hartibaciului Microregion, by improving the social, economic and ecologic sectors. The main goal is to create an attractive and stimulating environment for the inhabitants and especially to provide youth the opportunities and reasons to remain in the region.

2. Preservation of cultural traditional landscape, a key element of the European natural and architectural heritage, that contribute to human wellbeing and strengthens the regional identity.

3. Promoting organic agriculture in Hartibaciului Microregion, biodiversity conservation of animal breeds and varieties of typical plants for the region and promoting the local products.

4. Increase economic attractiveness of Hartibaciului Microregion, especially supporting and promoting crafts, services and processing the products in the region.

5. Developing Hartibaciului Microregion as a target area for sustainable agrotourism, thereby creating a new and important economic sector in the region.

6. Interconnection of Hartibaciu Microregion with other regions in the country and abroad to strengthen rural areas.
“Every new step is a challenge for its initiators, but also for the various local stakeholders involved. Spatial approach, specific to the geography of the region, braided with the temporal perspective requires practical solutions, without which things would remain concocted and arranged ’on paper’ ”.

Environment Report
Local Territorial Development Plan for Valea Hartibaciului, Sibiu County
1.3. Etapizarea procesului de planificare
p.13, feb 2012
Legal and institutional framework

Technical goal argument

- A few information on PEOPLE
- Some weak spatial date, few analysis

Heritage Values

- Individual concern and collective interest?
- The force of proposal

The force of proposal

Political will

- Lack of interest in PLANNING
- Low awareness of the benefits of spatial approach

Active entities in the local community

Weakly connected spheres
Changes in attitudes and modes of operation
Cooperation between experts from various sectors

relevant and accessible information

Technical goal argument

Political will leadership

cooperation between decision makers in that territory

opportunity to dialogue and participation

Active entities in the local community

decisional transparency

Cooperation between local actors
- Business systems, agreement on shared values ...
Talking it into existence

Planning instruments: both constraints and setting the priorities


Objective Technical Argument

Leadership Political will

Territorial Cultural System

Active Entities from Local Community

Territorial and urban planning / Law 350:
The central public authority has the task of defining through Government Decisions the areas that have to be protected as cultural landscape!

Programs Ressources Energy

- National Plan for Rural Development
- Social Entrepreneurship Funding Programs
- Cultural projects Grants
- Private sources
Confronting Wicked Problems: Adaptating Architectural Education to the New Situation in Europe


“Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urbanism - Bucharest Romania

Lecture on Depopulation as a Wicked Problem
Phd(c) Adrian Ibric - 30th of April 2016

“Substantial reduction in the population of an area”
(Oxford UK/US English dictionaries)

“to cause a country or area to have fewer people living in it”
(Cambridge University Advanced Learner’s Dictionary & Thesaurus)

“to greatly reduce the number of people living in (a city, region, etc.)”
(Merriam-Webster)
Is DEPOPULATION a problem?

Local?
Regional?
National?
Transnational?
European?
International?
Is DEPOPULATION a problem?

Demographical?
Social?
Economical?
Political?
Concerning Security?
Environmental?
Urbanistical?
Architectural?
Cultural?

WHAT KIND OF PROBLEM?

image source: http://scaa.usask.ca/gallery/kids/depopulation/
A phenomenon that has accompanied the human society from the beginning

**CONTEMPORARY CAUSES**

**WHY DOES IT CONTINUE TO HAPPEN?**

social & economical
- the search for a better lifestyle, immigration/emigration, birth/death rates

environmental - climate changes

conflicts - civil wars, conquests

political - neglecting of the issue, lack of preventive policies

educational - lack of knowledge
Lecture on Depopulation as a Wicked Problem - Phd(c) Adrian Ibric - 30th of April 2016

statistics instruments: BIRTH RATE
Statistical instruments such as birth/death rates do not always share a clear view on the wicked problem of depopulation, especially when taken into consideration alone.

They should be analyzed according to the political and social economical environment, together with such criteria as infrastructure and health levels, as well as climate issues (change, natural disasters etc).

However, from a continental point of view, striking differences come up.
AREAS AFFECTED BY CONTEMPORARY DEPOPULATION

rural areas - villages in both rich and poor countries

urban areas - towns and even cities in which the economy has halted (like mining and industrial towns)

both - especially in countries with low income, affected by war or natural calamities

NO DEPOPULATION, the opposite:

Big cities. The bigger the city, the more people it attracts.
*Does that mean it will be a better lifestyle?*

Villages and towns with comprehensive population sustainable growth programs
Confronting Wicked Problems: Adapting Architectural Education to the New Situation in Europe
2nd Wicked Workshop on Architectural and Urban Sustainability 18-24 April 2016 - “Ion Minucu” University of Architecture and Urbanism - Bucharest Romania

Lecture on Depopulation as a Wicked Problem - Phd(c) Adrian Ibric - 30th of April 2016

File: Population change by component (annual crude rates), EU-28, 1960–2014 (*) (per 1,000 persons)

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gnd)
RURAL DEPOPULATION EFFECTS

Aerial view of Dealu Frumos Village, Sibiu County, Romania
image source www.zborpestetansilvania.ro
Confronting Wicked Problems: Adapting Architectural Education to the New Situation in Europe
2nd Wicked Workshop on Architectural and Urban Sustainability 18-24 April 2016 - “Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urbanism - Bucharest Romania

Lecture on Depopulation as a Wicked Problem - Phd(c) Adrian Ibric - 30th of April 2016
LOCAL:

- continued economic decline (both a cause and an effect)

- loss of people means loss of skills and local practice and experience

- decline in heritage status and protection eventually leads to loss of heritage

- loss of local culture - loss of local identity

GLOBAL:

- overcrowded urbanization in the big urban centers

- conflicts
Confronting Wicked Problems: Adapting Architectural Education to the New Situation in Europe

2nd Wicked Workshop on Architectural and Urban Sustainability 18-24 April 2016 - “Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urbanism - Bucharest Romania

Lecture on Depopulation as a Wicked Problem - Phd(c) Adrian Ibric - 30th of April 2016

Panoramic view of Dealu Frumos Village, Sibiu County, image source: cristi comsa photography - http://www.panoramio.com/photo/67583409
THE ROLE OF THE ARCHITECT

- Protecting the heritage (both material - built/planned - and immaterial)

- Finding solutions for the built environment in depopulated areas

- Get educated in EU Instruments

- Learning new instruments to design

- Getting involved in making policies and strategies

- IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES AS PROJECT MANAGERS
  or PART of MANAGEMENT TEAMS or COMMUNITY MANAGERS
List of all EU funding programs and grants managed by the European Commission and the EU - Updated 2014-2020

Rural development 2014-2020: Country files and Overview of the 118 different Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) for 2014-2020

THE EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (ENRD)

Romanian Government EU Funding Ministry Official Website

Gallery of Implemented EU Projects in Romania

National Federation of Local Action Groups in Romania
Cooperation, collaboration and community engagement - Interregional Europe
Projects implemented until 1st of dec 2015
New Projects and opportunities 2016-2023
This Survey was especially conducted at the beginning of this lecture, having the audience asked to put down a spontaneous word or expression regarding/related to each of the two:

1. depopulation (general)

2. depopulation (effect)

The results were both very diverse and defining.

In the first case, as most popular terms came up memories, poverty and loss (3 times each), from 32 options (!).

In the effects case, loss of identity/heritage came up 3 times, seconded by decay and disappearance as well as opportunity (2 times each).

Interestingly, the effects were split in two points of view: a larger majority founded depopulation to be followed by loss, (heritage, identity, socially, roots, decay, abandon etc) but a rather significant minority chose a positive approach (opportunity, opening, multi-culturalism, adapt, learning) while others went neutral (transformation, change).
Next: Examples of Projects and Strategies
GROUP 1

Alexandru Baciu
Daniela Bucchi
Annalisa Stella
Andrei Teacă
Sarah van der Giesen

Issues
. Great potentialities of the village: landscape, architectural heritage, agriculture, adaptable community and cultural strength
. Presence of a central core with the fortified church
. Lack of a centre for social, public and educational activities and life

Vision
. Education as a tool to make local people more conscious and responsible of the village and its heritage - material and not material -
. Create an educational mobile tool that can bring knowledge through an informal way - play, music, theatre...
. Revitalising the core of the village - public spaces, fortified church, school and former stock building -

Design
. Bringing cultural activities in the centre of the village with a temporary mobile van - theatre, market, library, concerts
. Occupying the surrounding public spaces
. In a long term view the vacant buildings and spaces that surrounds the square will host new permanent functions (school, theatre, library, museum...). The mobile van leaves the village and travels to other villages as an adaptable model that spreads knowledge

Addressing Sustainability
. Involving local people and resources
. Taking care and revitalising of the existing heritage (material and not) in a long term view
. Using sustainable materials and approach for architectural design (temporary, flexible, recycling)
Unfolding Agora
Territorial analysis

- Sighișoara
- Mediaș
- Dealu Frumos
- Sibiu
- Făgărăș

Cities
Villages
UNESCO Heritage
River
Road
Strategies

Economical growth

Social

Spatial

Use the existing
New landscape design
Limit the speed in the centre

Renewal Centre

Connecting people and villages
Create a space for interaction
Education through exposure

Children
Local population
Passengers

Mobile education for

Wi-Fi/Laptops
Theatre
Market
Library
Plays/Sports
Craft

Education
Cultural exposure
Revitalizing the centre

From Current situation

Educational tools

Public space

Renewing and revitalizing
temporary mobile van brings cultural activities: theatre, library, concerts, market
occupying public spaces
new permanent functions
into the buildings

in the church

in the former storage

in the school

3 new permanent functions
into the buildings

a new compound
Public space

Cultural centre
Creating a network
Depopulation of the rural area is a sensitive subject that involves many levels of analysis and comprehension regarding social, economical, political and spatial aspects. Analyzing and balancing all these issues resulted in identifying the central cause of this phenomenon: lack of money that leads into poverty, lack of initiative, degradation, loss of identity and eventually leaving the villages.

The vision of the project – “It all starts with money” – addresses change by stimulating the income of the villagers in order to help them improve their lifestyle and raise their initiative. Money as the main actor is the factor that generates change into their lives, being the one thing that can really mobilize them. In order to help them gain money, the proposal is based on an idea, called: Zero Kilometer Bazaar (0KMB) – local (periodical) bazaars with products made by the villagers with their own means that are sold at the source of production: the village itself. In this way, the great potential of the rural area becomes the main focus and the strategy that we apply relies on local resources that are not exploited yet.

The innovative part of the bazaars is bringing new products in each village that could be easily implemented using the existing means; in order to accomplish this, educational programs for the villagers will help them understand the process of growing new plants (lavender), exploit new products that come from the animals that they already herd (leather) or reactivate old lost traditions such as weaving. By starting the economical strategy we address other important issues: we create local identity for the village, revive the lost traditions, emphasize the sense of community and create a common purpose.

The 0KMB starts at a small scale in Dealu Frumos with the revival of the civic center and the central bazaar located in the church courtyard and the square in front of it. The square will expand in a linear way along the village as the project evolves, being located on the green strips along the road. After this local business starts growing, the villagers reinvest the profit in their own village, in order for the profit to grow: creating a communal production space, restoring the building of the old shop and converting it into a restaurant with accommodation spaces.

The project is growing step by step by expanding it outwards to other similar villages using Dealu Frumos as a stimulating example. This way we create a network of villages by bringing communication and interaction. The promotion of the 0KMB would be made following the touristic path of historical citadels that links important cities from the surrounding area. This would define areas of villages, that are also linked in between.
CONTENT:

ISSUES

O KMB

PROJECT PHASES
ISSUES:

- Centralization of the economy
- Dropping of the economy
- Zero KM economy
- Where does the money come from?
- Disfunctional relationships between different ethnicities
- Do I belong here?
- Lack of initiative
- Lack of communication and accessibility among the villages
- Family - school - education problems
OKMB: LOCAL SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

- MONEY
- RAISE INCOME
- ATTRACT PEOPLE (PREVENT PEOPLE FROM LEAVING)
- STOP DEPOPULATION
LOCAL SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

IT ALL STARTS WITH MONEY

GENERATE INCOME FOR VILLAGERS

ATTRACT MORE PEOPLE

FIGHT DEPOPULATION

PERIODICAL LOCAL/ TRADITIONAL PRODUCTS MARKET

PROUDNESS

INTERACTION

RAISE INITIATIVE

RAISE IDENTITY

BETWEEN VILLAGERS

WITH OUTSIDERS

NETWORKS OF AREA/VILLAGES

0KMB:
OKMB: LOCAL SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY
OKMB: LOCAL SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

PRODUCTION
STORAGE
EXCHANGE

SUSTAINABLE: PEOPLE
PLANET
PROFIT

COMMUNITY FEELING & INTERACTION
NO TRANSPORTATION
RAISE INCOME
OKMB: LOCAL SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Sustainable: People, Community feeling & interaction, Planet, No transportation, Profit, Raise income
THE PHASES:

1: EDUCATION & ENTHUSIASM
2: PROMOTION
3: BAZAAR OPENING
4: LOCAL INVESTMENTS
5: SPREADING & NETWORK
PHASE 1: POTENTIAL "INNOVATIVE" PRODUCTS

EASY TO APPLY AND LEARN:

TOOLS & CONDITIONS ARE THERE

KNOWLEDGE IS NOT OR FORGOTTEN
PHASE 1: POTENTIAL “INNOVATIVE” PRODUCTS

EASY TO APPLY AND LEARN:

TOOLS & CONDITIONS **ARE THERE**

KNOWLEDGE IS **NOT OR FORGOTTEN**

PHASE 1: EDUCATION
PHASE 1: POTENTIAL “INNOVATIVE” PRODUCTS

EASY TO APPLY AND LEARN:

TOOLS & CONDITIONS ARE THERE

KNOWLEDGE IS NOT OR FORGOTTEN

PHASE 1: EDUCATION

MEAT PRODUCTS
(SALAMI, SAUSAGES)

LEATHER PRODUCTS
(SHOES, BAGS)

TEXTILE PRODUCTS
(CARPETS, PILLOWS)

BAKERY PRODUCTS
(BREAD, CAKE)

LAVENDER PRODUCTS
(SOAP, PERFUME)
PHASE 1: INVOLVE INHABITANTS DURING CONSTRUCTION PHASE

(TEMPORARY JOB OFFERING, VOLUNTEER)
PHASE 1: RAISE ENTHUSIASM

INVOKE INHABITANTS DURING CONSTRUCTION PHASE

(TEMPORARY JOB OFFERING, VOLUNTEER)

SPREAD THE WORD
PHASE 1: RAISE ENTHUSIASM
PHASE 1:

RAISE ENTHUSIASM

CENTRAL SPACE / GATHERING POINT
LIGHT WOODEN STRUCTURE
360° ORIENTATED
MULTIPLE USAGES
PHASE 1: RAISE ENTHUSIASM
PHASE 1:

EASILY & QUICKLY (DE)MOUNTABLE:

- 2X TABLES
- 2X FRAMES
- 1X SHADING

RAISE ENTHUSIASM
PHASE 2:

PROMOTION

NEXT WEEK

BAZAAR

Dealu Frumos
Schönberg
PHASE 2: PROMOTION

LOCAL TOURISM FROM THE CONNECTING ROADS
PHASE 3:

OPENING THE BAZAAR
PHASE 3.1: CENTRAL BAZAAR
PHASE 3.1: CENTRAL BAZAAR
PHASE 3.1:

CENTRAL BAZAAR
PHASE 3.1: CENTRAL BAZAAR

“INNOVATIVE” LOCAL PRODUCTS
PHASE 3.2: EXPAND IN THE STREET

CITADEL: “INNOVATIVE” PRODUCTS
STREET: TRADITIONAL LOCAL PRODUCTS
PHASE 3.2: EXPAND IN THE STREET
PHASE 4: LOCAL INVESTMENT

EXISTING SITUATION

POVERTY

DECAY

NO INITIATIVE

FUTURE SITUATION

OKMB

EARNING MONEY

REVITALIZATION

( LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS FOR RENOVATIONS )
PHASE 4: LOCAL INVESTMENT

CITADEL: "INNOVATIVE" PRODUCTS
STREET: TRADITIONAL LOCAL PRODUCTS
PHASE 5:

SPREADING & NETWORK

0 KM Bazaars

Stejarisu

Ruja

1st period

Dealu Frumos

Agnita

Merghindeal
PHASE 5: SPREADING & NETWORK

EVERY VILLAGE CITADEL HAS ITS OWN SPECIFIC “INNOVATIVE” PRODUCT
PHASE 5: SPREADING & NETWORK
PHASE 5: SPREADING & NETWORK
Softening the Wall

a personal approach in overcoming borders


The first stage of the project, Issues, consists of a sensitive approach over the transparent situation in Dealu Frumos and a whole collection of personal experience in other similar places. Starting like this, the project slowly developed by creating a structure for growing and becoming architecture, looking for an appropriate way to address the problematic of rural depopulation, sustainability, reactivation and rural development. The simple personal observation by interacting with the village and by looking up in history, led to discovering a big cloud of important issues.

Given this fact, Dealu Frumos can be considered a case-study for representing a big number of similar villages in Romania that are fighting with the same - poverty, lack of integration, vacancy of the space, poor education, a bad infrastructure and a lack of interest from the outside.

The trigger for the architectural response to these issues is the first hint the village offered since the very beginning – a closed big citadel, the symbol of a heavy history, being touched by oblivion and ignorance, a bar like a loud clue to vitality in the centre of the village; darkness in the night.

This is the picture of an abstract bubble – a citadel that cannot be entered. So the project evaluates its potential and envisions, in the second stage, Vision, a new future scenario for reacting to local issues by engaging the most important actors here – romanians, saxons, gipsies and the university of architecture. Since people are the best local resource here, the project focuses on making small changes that can generate a general growth in terms of, first, education and, second, people relating to people, economy and sustainability.

By developing a long-term strategy, the main proposition here is stimulating the growth of the community in 4 important stages which can be resumed to approaching, opening, entering and communicating. This theoretical process also approaches the importance of the fact that Dealu Frumos is a milestone in a network of similar villages. So, in the third stage, Design, by looking first at the big picture, then zooming in and out again, this vision implies transforming the historical, the symbolic heart of the village, into the core of an important education and leisure oriented civic centre.

In terms of sustainability, this scenario is a sensitive expression of a flexible way to invite the best local resources – people - to participate at triggering their potential and relating history, economical efficiency, education, school in much more than in only one village.

DEALU FRUMOS . APRIL, 17-24, 2016
softening the walls
Dealu Frumos, a case study
softening the walls
Dealu Frumos, a case study

Irina Gudana
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DEPOPULATION OF RURAL VILLAGES

How to address it?
SOCIAL AND BUILDINGS SUSTAINABILITY PERSPECTIVE

How to envision the future of these places?
EDUCATION AS TOOL

What about Dealu Frumos case study?
DIRECT - EXPERIENTIAL APPROACH:
1. ISSUES

- Poverty
- Integration
- Landscape
- Participation
- Vacancy
- Tradition
- Public Space
- Shops
- Heritage

PRIVATE
PUBLIC
GREY TOWN
DEGRADATION
IF
HOW?
the role of the citadel > closeness

integration > participation
poverty > education
vacancy > reuse
infrastructure > network

SUSTAINABILITY
2. VISION

network

general strategy

case specific
2. VISION network
METHODS AND TOOLS:
read and understand the village as living body highlighting potentials and opportunities to address local weaknesses and problems

1- SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY:
ACTORS (public and private bodies) :: associations, inhabitants, institutions, private owners....

how to make them active parts in the revitalization process?

2- BUILT ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY:
vacancy, land use, land development

how to exploit these spaces in order to make them accessible, increase urban decorum and not leave them to decay?

3- MAPPING the village to highlight tensions and spatial opportunities addressing needs and lackings

STRATEGY:
that is able to become site specific
2. VISION  case specific: spatial timeline

stage 1
Approaching

stage 2
Opening

stage 3
Entering

stage 4
Connecting
1. **Approaching**

*OUTDOOR PUBLIC SPACE*

- remove the fence and use furniture to soften the boundaries
- clean up green surfaces

**aims**
- the space become more porous and accessible
- increase of urban decorum
2. VISION strategy

1. Approaching

- **Outdoors Public Space**
  - Actions: remove the fence and use furniture to soften the boundaries, clean up green surfaces
  - Aims: the space become more porous and accessible, increase of urban decorum

2. Opening

- **Outdoors Private Space**
  - Actions: occasional events happening in the inner court of the citadel
  - Aims: temporary opening up spaces that are usually not accessible
2. VISION strategy

1. **Approaching**
   - OUTDOOR PUBLIC SPACE
   - actions: remove the fence and use furniture to soften the boundaries
   - clean up green surfaces
   - aims: the space become more porous and accessible
   - increase of urban decorum

2. **Opening**
   - OUTDOOR PRIVATE SPACE
   - actions: occasional events happening in the inner court of the citadel
   - aims: open up spaces that are usually not accessible

3. **Entering**
   - INDOOR PRIVATE SPACE
   - actions: organize workshops in the dismissed and vacant buildings
   - aims: involve the local inhabitants in educational activities (DIY design with reuse of materials, arts&crafts workshops..)
1. **Approaching**
   - **OUTDOOR PUBLIC SPACE**
   - Actions: remove the fence and use furniture to soften the boundaries, clean up green surfaces.
   - Aims: the space become more porous and accessible, increase of urban decorum.

2. **Opening**
   - **OUTDOOR PRIVATE SPACE**
   - Actions: occasional events happening in the inner court of the citadel.
   - Aims: open up spaces that are usually not accessible.

3. **Entering**
   - **INDOOR PRIVATE SPACE**
   - Actions: organize workshops in the dismissed and vacant buildings.
   - Aims: involve the local inhabitants in educational activities (DIY design with reuse of materials, arts&crafts workshops).

4. **Connecting**
   - Actions: implement the reactivated spaces (in/outdoor and private/public) by adding small punctual interventions.
   - Aims: achieve a formal continuity of space, more uniformed architectural language (space branding).
2. VISION

- Ethnographic museum + forestry
- Theatre and multifunctional
- Outdoor amphitheatre
- Movie screening
- Workshops & atelier
- Bar & grocery
- Outdoor amphitheatre
workshops & atelier
theatre and multifunctional
ethnographic museum + forestry
bar & grocery
playground
movie screening
outdoor amphitheatre
3. DESIGN

materials & environmental sustainability
(reuse of wasted materials for DIY projects)

punctual interventions
to reactivate and connect the space by creating an homogenous architectural reading (branding)
3. DESIGN interventions: P1
3. DESIGN interventions: P2
3. DESIGN interventions: P3
3. DESIGN interventions: P4
By softening borders the project envisions possible future scenarios for similar communities to Dealu Frumos by addressing local resources and creating new activities.
Looking at Dealu Frumos, a few issues catch the eye. Low accessibility, bad services and a lack of education are all leading up to the main problem: the slow disappearing of this area’s century-old saxon culture also causing the depopulation which leads to the abandoning of a lot of houses. This loss tends to make blind to the beautiful things that it still has to offer: the landscape and the built Saxon heritage. We want to show the beauty of what this area still has to offer and enrich it with new initiatives, to create a new regional identity.

The project proposes the renovation of the main road that connects the villages in the region, along with adding a bicycle route. By bringing these villages together with one route, we can improve their intercommunication and unite them under one strong regional identity. This identity can be used to promote the area and attract tourists, which is a stimulation for services. Therefore, the masterplan does not only mean an improvement of the accessibility, but also for the local economy.

This approach aims to achieve a lot of goals that take sustenability into consideration, environmental ones especially, like respecting the context and the landscape through an appropriate choice of site and integrating the intervention with its morphology and reducing pollution and waste materials by using local available materials along with recycled ones.

On the smaller village scale, attracting tourists only solves half of the problem of the abandoned houses. Some will be used for public functions, but some are Saxon vacation homes, protecting therefore the cultural landscape by articulating spatial organization with the productive needs. One month per year, they’re in use. We propose to renovate the historical barns on these properties and rent them out to artists for a low price. By concentrating artist in different villages along the route, based on their techniques (painting, sculpting, etc.), each village has an own product by providing its own specific service. This creates an individual brand within the bigger, main identity. The artists stay and maintain the Saxon house the entire year.

Beside this, the Saxons can also decide to rent out rooms during the tourist season and organize workshops which have the purpose of teaching the interested tourists about their ways and traditions allowing practical constructive experience to facilitate empirical know-how.

Connecting the smaller and the larger scale, and integrating itself with the existing reality, the project connects, continues and empowers the Natura 2000 initiative. Adding something more to it by splitting the route into fragments with different pavements that, aside of the bicycle, facilitates more activities like walking, running, tracking, Nordic walking, rollerskating and dirt biking. To enhance the experience of the route, pavilions (from recyclable materials) are inserted at key points with perspective views. For a better interaction with the roads bridges that cross them are included.
STRONGER TOGETHER
WICKED WORKSHOP

DRAGOȘ PUȘCAȘU
RĂZVAN GHEORGHE
ANA-MARIA DĂSĂGĂ
CLAUDIA CAPELLI
MAURA HENKES
Loss of identity

Dealu Frumos has some great potentialities:
- Beautiful landscapes
- Traditional architecture
- Fortified church

But

Dealu Frumos has also some problems:
- Low accessibility: Public transports, infrastructures
- Degrading buildings: Many abandoned buildings, ruined buildings
- Lack of education: Unawareness about heritage, loss of knowledge of the way of living

What can we do?

We want to act on the past, on the present and on the future of Dealu Frumos:
- Reinforce what is left of the identity of Dealu Frumos: architecture, urbanistic, history
- Reinvent the identity of Dealu Frumos: new paths
Colinele Transilvaniei
PATH PROFILES
PATH PROFILES
PATH PROFILES
HOUSE ADAPTATION

FUNCTIONAL ADAPTATION

TOURIST HOUSE

first floor
ground floor

source: Urban reglementation for Valea Ariesului

SUSTAINABILITY:
*environmental sustainability -> using recycled materials (brick, tiles from the old building)
-> using local materials and local constructive types
-socio-cultural sustainability -> involving younger generations in constructive processes
-> understanding the value of the place and its dynamics
-socio-economic sustainability -> building strong and durable structures

HOUSE ADAPTATION

HOUSEHOLD LEGEND:
- house
- barn
- garden
- courtyard
- access

STRONGER TOGETHER
APRIL 23, 2016
Step 1
Regional authority

Build a bicycle path
Attract tourists

Step 2
Regional authority

Renovate the main road

Step 3
Saxon house owners &
Regional authority

Renovate the barns of
Saxons houses
Attract artists

Step 4
Regional authority

Invite artists

Wanted effect:
Use dynamics of tourism of artists
to attract new inhabitans and
fight depopulation

April 23, 2016
The challenge of addressing the wicked of depopulation in the Romanian villages has to be understood in all its different scales. It is not only a local phenomenon due to the fact that it spreads in a chain reaction from one area to the other.

Dealu Frumos has the quality of being the geographical centre of Romania, so it can easily become an example that could be extrapolated and used at a larger scale. Starting from this idea, we decided to generate interest by including it in innovative type of tourism - the SLOW TRAVEL.

The concept comes from Kevin Lynch’s theory of paths, nodes and landmarks and aims to generate a route with a very particular and coherent image. The landmarks would be the fortified churches which are very representative for Transylvania but at the same time they emphasize the particularities that each village possesses. More precisely, by triggering the lost crafts of the natives each village becomes a different experience along the path.

Another very important aspect has to do with the community acknowledging their heritage and participating in the entire process of revitalising the village. The specialists (the architects, the urbanists, the landscape designers) would organise workshops and present good examples of heritage buildings reuse could determine the people of the community to start investing and become more involved in the development of the village.

The main component of this infrastructure is the use of an alternative means of transportation which is the typical gipsy carriage, a non polluting vehicle. It can be easily adapted to be used during the entire year: it can be covered during spring and autumn or replaced with a sledge during winter.

The focus of the design process involves the reuse of the existing buildings by turning them into public functions such as small shops selling traditional products and souvenirs or coffee shops and small museums.

The whole process would happen simultaneously in all the villages along the path in order to activate the entire ittinerary.
Emigration of Saxons
- Loss of identity

Educated Population

Deal U
FRUMOS
1945

Abandoned Saxon Properties

Advanced state of decay of buildings

- No school in the village
- Diminished / lack of interest to work the land
- Lack of work places
- Diminished working force
CENTER OF THE COUNTRY
(SLOGAN)

DEALU FRUMOS
**Sustainability**
- Using the existing buildings
- Extending their lifespan
- Long-term awareness in all ethnic groups
- Non-polluting means of transportation

**Education**
- Workshops
- Community involvement
- Acknowledging the heritage guidelines for restoration

**Crafts & Traditions**
- Recovering the lost traditions
- Generating interest
- Economic growth
- Creating workplaces

**The Slow Path**
- Slow travel
- Enjoying the views
- Connecting through identity
- From citadel to citadel
Phase 1: Education through workshops

- Workshops
- Raising Awareness
- Education

Renovating with local techniques

Using the houses for accommodation
Phase 2: The SLOW PATH

Proposing a slow path between Sibiu and Sighisoara - experiencing the daily life of the village at a slow pace
Enhancing economy and tourism along the Hârtibaciu Valley
From citadel to citadel - connecting the dots
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

ROSIA
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

DAIA
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

HOSMAN
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

ALTINA
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots
from CITADEL to CITADEL
cnecting the dots

DEALU FRUMOS
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

MERGHINDEAL
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

RUJA
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

STEJARISU
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

NOISTAT
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

NETUS
from CITADEL to CITADEL
connecting the dots

BRADENI
from CITADEL to CITADEL

connecting the dots

APOLD
from CITADEL to CITADEL connecting the dots

SAES
enjoy the SLOW PATH
one village at a time

SUMMER

SPRING/AUTUMN

WINTER
Saxon house study

The rhythm of the alignment

Longitudinal section

The plan of the household

Architectural structure of the house
The challenge of addressing the wicked of depopulation in the Romanian villages has to be understood in all its different scales. It is not only a local phenomenon due to the fact that it spreads in a chain reaction from one area to the other.

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