

## La conservazione del patrimonio industriale: approcci teorici e sperimentazioni territoriali nel caso di Anina (Romania)

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*La città di Anina, posizionata nel sud-ovest della Romania, presenta un territorio profondamente trasformato dall'attività mineraria sviluppata con continuità per oltre 200 anni (1790-2006). Oltre quarantacinque testimonianze materiali di quest'attività industriale sono state riconosciute per il loro valore patrimoniale, prima della chiusura della miniera nel 2006, e, dunque, salvaguardate in base agli strumenti rumeni di tutela. Nonostante questa iniziativa, unica nel contesto rumeno, il patrimonio costruito di Anina presenta gravi segni di degrado materiale per la mancanza di una strategia generale mirata alla sua manutenzione, conservazione e valorizzazione. Allo stesso tempo, la comunità si è significativamente contratta con la dismissione delle industrie. In questo contesto, a partire dal 2014, varie associazioni culturali sostenute dall'amministrazione locale, hanno avviato il progetto culturale Anina, miniera dell'idee (2014-2018) mirato alla rivitalizzazione territoriale post-industriale attraverso la valorizzazione del patrimonio culturale. L'iniziativa rientra in quel sistema bottom-up sviluppatosi negli ultimi anni, grazie al quale esponenti della società civile promuovono, alla scala locale e regionale, strategie e progetti di intervento per la salvaguardia del patrimonio culturale, specialmente nei territoriali fragili a rischio di scomparsa. Con uno sguardo al più ampio contesto nazionale, l'articolo racconta queste esperienze attraverso il caso studio di Anina, dal processo di riconoscimento dei valori del sito fino alle esperienze di progetto per la conservazione e valorizzazione.*



# The Conservation of the Industrial Heritage: Theoretical Approaches and Territorial Experimentations in the Case of Anina (Romania)

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On February 5<sup>th</sup>, 1990, the National Salvation Front<sup>1</sup> issued a decree concerning the establishment of the National Committee for Historical Monuments, Ensembles and Sites (*Comisia Națională pentru Monumente, Ansambluri și Situri Istorice*, Ro), an institution focused on the research, protection and preservation of cultural heritage in Romania<sup>2</sup>. One of its first initiatives was drafting a new List of Historical Monuments<sup>3</sup> supplemented by an act proposal that clearly stating the heritage value

1. National Salvation Front (*Frontul Salvării Naționale*, Ro) was a political organization created during the first weeks after the December 1989 fall of communist regime in Romania. It facilitated the political transition from communism towards a free democratic political system and society. Subsequently, it became the main political party during the 1990s that governed the country in the first years of political, economic, and social-cultural shifts.

2. Decree n. 91 from February 5<sup>th</sup>, 1990 concerning the establishment and functioning of the National Committee for Historical Monuments, Ensembles and Site signed by National Salvation Front's president Ion Iliescu (*Decretul 91 / 1990 privind înființarea și organizarea Comisiei Naționale a Monumentelor, Ansamblurilor și Siturilor Istorice, din februarie 1990, semnat de Ion Iliescu președintele Frontul Salvării Naționale (FSN), 5 februarie 1990*, Ro). This was not the first institution established in Romania to coordinate the preservation practice at national level. It is the previous commission, whose functioning started in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, did not have a continuous activity, culminated with its 1977 abolishment.

3. The List of Historic Monuments and Sites represents a protection tool at territorial level, that illustrates the variety of cultural heritage objectives recognized for their patrimonial value, in base of the adopted legal framework. Currently, the list is structured in four major categories i.e., archaeological sites, architectural monuments, public monuments, and funerary and monumental elements considered of national and/or regional heritage value. The first such list for the current Romanian

of industrial architecture and sites dating previously to the Second World War, among many other acknowledged values<sup>4</sup>.

This initiative appeared after a long period of territorial transformations occurring during the communism (1945-1989), that had marked the country's transition from an agrarian-based economy to an industrialised one, with direct effects on the built environment and on the country's social and cultural structure. More precisely, the period between the dissolution of the Department for Historical Monuments (*Direcția monumentelor istorice*, Ro) in 1977 and the end of the communist regime was characterized by massive demolition, as part of what was known as the “systematization” process<sup>5</sup>. It was focused on modernizing city centres, increasing urban density and urbanizing rural areas, with no official interest directed towards the preservation of built environment from 1977 on. The earthquake from March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1977, produced major damages to the historic centre of Bucharest giving space for the perfect pretext to better justify the mass demolitions, overlapping with Ceaușescu's intention to build an emblematic socialist capital<sup>6</sup>. This phenomenon and its destructive effects were described by historian Dinu Giurescu as «The Razing of the Romania's Past», in a report drafted during the late 1980s and published in 1991<sup>7</sup>. Invasive interventions in historic centres led to the loss of a significant part of the country's built heritage, replaced by new radical urban reconstruction projects «of a complete different scale and style, often in a totally changed urban setting» as historian Giurescu argued<sup>8</sup>. To

territory was compiled in 1955, being followed by a series of updates in 1980, 1992, 2004, 2010 and 2015. All versions of the list can be consulted on the Heritage National Institute site (*Institutul Național al Patrimoniului – INP*, Ro), the official body within the Ministry of Culture, responsible with the administration, research and preservation of cultural heritage in Romania; <https://patrimoniul.ro/monumente-istorice/lista-monumentelor-istorice> (access April 6<sup>th</sup> 2020).

4. IOSIPESCU 1990, p. 16.

5. *Sistematizare* (Ro), translated as “systematization”. The concept was used from the 1930s in Romanian city planning context, first by Cincinat Sfințescu (1887-1955), in a period in which he tried to theorise the planning field such as the rural planning, defined as rur-urbanism, the city planning defined as urbanism and the territorial scale planning, defined as super-urbanism. See MACHEDON, SCOFFHAM 1999; PASCARIU 2010. During the communist period, the city planning practice was known as systematization - urban or territorial systematization and it was transformed in a political instrument of re-organization of the national territory. For the nation-wide systematization process during 1945-1989, see the research of geographer Per Ronnas. RONNAS 1984, p. 21.

6. Nicolae Ceaușescu (1918-1989) was the general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party during 1965-1989 and, thus, the second political leader during the socialist period in Romania. It is said to have been strongly influenced by his visit to North Korea in 1971 as concerning the use of the urban space at a grand scale. The event is captured through archival films in the documentary «The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceaușescu» directed by Andrei Ujică în 2010. For further references concerning the impact of the year 1977 on Bucharest's development see also GIURESCU 1991; CINA 2010, pp. 240-267; IOSA 2011.

7. GIURESCU 1991.

8. *Ivi*, p. 39.

be sure, the case of Bucharest remains a major reference point in this sense, becoming famous for the Party's invasive interventions i.e., the construction of a new political and administrative ensemble known as the House of the People (*Casa poporului*, Ro). Similar interventions took place in other major Romanian cities such as Craiova, Iași, Piatra Neamț or Brăila. If Bucharest received a wide scholarly interest concerning these aspects, the research on other urban centres has started only recently, in a fragmented manner<sup>9</sup>.

Considering the fact that the urban trauma was so vividly perceived during the last decades of the communist regime, the 1989 political shift brought hope for the preservationists, who used this moment to bring back the patrimonial issue on the official agenda. Thus, as previously mentioned, a series of initiatives in the early 1990s were directed towards defining the legal framework for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage, trying to cover in a rush the physical emptiness left by recent demolition. Among these, a national surveying and recording campaign focused on drafting the List of Historical Monuments, an already existing preservation tool that had been drastically "simplified" given the official definition of the historical monument<sup>10</sup>. During the 1990-1992 survey campaign, Anina – a former coal mining town with a continuous industrial activity since 1773 until 2006 and an integral part of the industrial setting of Mountainous Banat, was listed with a total of nineteen historical monuments and sites. From this perspective, Anina's case can be considered as a privileged one, since its heritage value was officially acknowledged before the mine's closure in 2006 – a rare, if not unique example in Romania. Currently, the total number of forty-five objectives, listed and protected, single out Anina as one of the few (former) coal mining towns to be acknowledged for its industrial legacy on the basis of its history, technological development, scientific value, architecture and territorial transformations, following the guidelines stated in the Nizhnyl Tagil Industrial Heritage Charter<sup>11</sup> (fig. 1).

9. As concerning Bucharest transformation during the 1980s the following bibliographical references are indicated: IOAN 2007; CINA 2010; IOSA 2011; PANAITESCU 2012; TULBURE 2013. The only published research on the modernization of the historic centers at national level during the socialist years is the PhD thesis of historian Liliana Iuga (CEU Budapest). Her research approached this argument by analyzing the case studies of Cluj Napoca (Transylvania) and Iași (Moldova). It also represents one of the first attempts of considering the impact of preservation within the systematization process during the 1970s and 1980s. IUGA 2016.

10. During the socialist years, a major attention was dedicated to the archaeological sites of Dacian or Roman origins, to the ethnographic legacy, and old Romanian Art. Basically, those elements that could have been used in the party's propaganda for the strengthening of a (pure) Romanian national identity and that could have proved the long lasting existence of Romanians within the current borders. This attitude was in line with the 1970s and 1980s approach on "making history". VERDERY 1991. INP Archive consulted online [www.cimec.ro](http://www.cimec.ro) (access April 6<sup>th</sup> 2020).

11. Further additions to the list were made in 2004, 2010 and 2015, because of an expansion of the surveyed territory.

	Limita intravilanului Town administrative limits		Construcții Buildings		Ansambluri urbane protejate (LMI 2010) Protected urban areas
	Circulații principale Main roads		Monumente de arhitectură (LMI 2010) Protected Historic Monuments		Zone de protecție ale monumentelor Historic Monuments' buffer zone
	Cale ferată simplă Oravița-Anina (patrimoniu) Oravița-Anina single railroad (historic monument)		Monumente de arhitectură (ruine) Historic Monuments (ruins)		Geoparcul Anina Anina Geopark

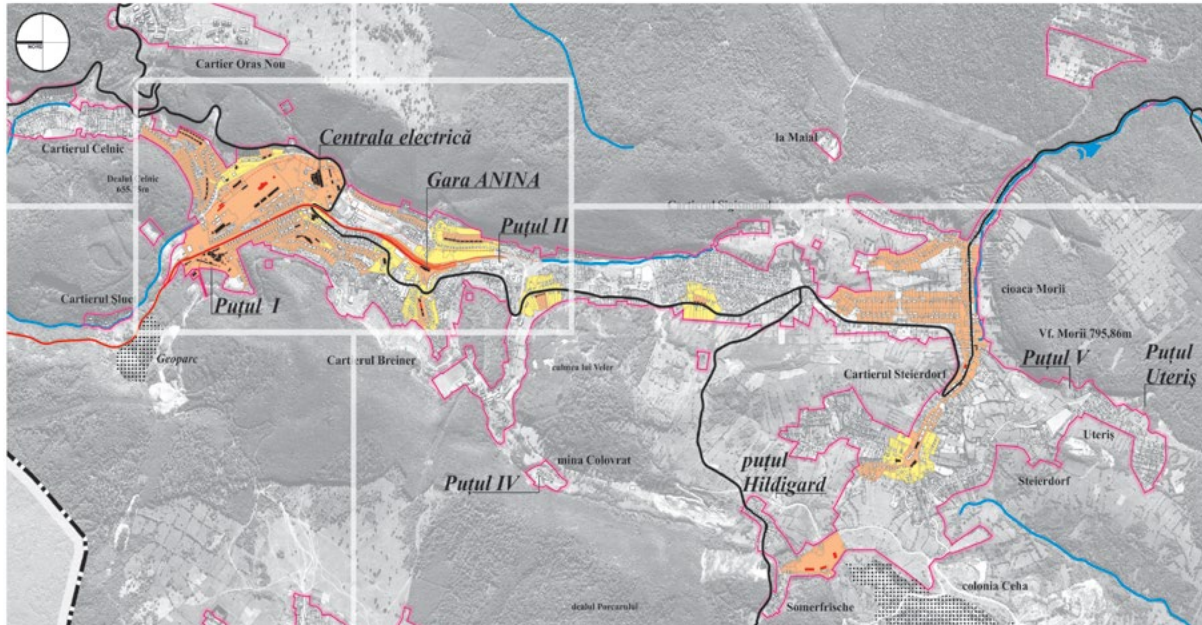


Figure 1. Anina's administrative territory with the marking of the 45 historical monuments and sites currently listed: (pink) Anina's administrative limits; (black) historical monuments listed and protected; (red) historical monuments demolished; (orange) residential areas and sites protected for their patrimonial value. Source: Anina Masterplan, 2014, elaborated by arch. Marius Barbieri in collaboration with arch. Oana Tiganea and arch. Gabriela Pașcu for the protection guidelines of the historical monuments and sites (ȚIGANEA ET ALII, 2014, p. 50, [https://issuu.com/asociaaialbaverde/docs/anina\\_mine\\_of\\_ideas\\_\\_2014\\_](https://issuu.com/asociaaialbaverde/docs/anina_mine_of_ideas__2014_)).

Although it is generally stated that preservationist practices in Romania have been disrupted during the last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a closer analysis of the realities on the ground demonstrate a certain continuity in what concerns concept elaboration, research and listing procedure of what has been perceived as cultural heritage<sup>12</sup>. This brings forward for debate the more complex issue of continuity/discontinuity in reference to the 1945-1989 period, when dealing with the analysis of the built environment either from a planning or preservationist perspective. Commonly, the communist period is perceived as a disruptive historical period that abruptly interrupted the pre-1945 development of the architectural practice, with direct reference to the modern movement. The same applies to the preservationist practices, keeping in mind the 1977 abolition of the Department for Historical Monuments and its consequences. However, recent studies on the Romanian recent past demonstrate the manifestation of a certain continuity in both fields – continuity of information and good-practice in planning that surpassed the 1945 political shift, and the continuity of the preservationist activity after 1977<sup>13</sup>. The research of historian Liliana Iuga should be mentioned in this regard, as it tackles the relation between planning and built heritage as part of the urban reconstruction process in socialist Romania. She argues that preservation did play a role during the socialist years in the process of reshaping urban landscapes, based on an analysis of local realities, evidence extracted from the available archival documentation, as well as interviews with the professionals involved in this complex process during the 1970s and 1980s. So far, the above-mentioned study appears as a unique initiative in the Romanian context.

A similar analysis, less complex and with its limitations given the problematic access to archival materials, is proposed through the specific case study of Anina. It illustrates the manner in which various regional studies, developed sequentially, yet in a continuous temporal line during the last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, contributed to its official acknowledgement as industrial heritage site, a fact that allowed the further development of projects focusing exclusively on its preservation. One of the latest such projects is *Anina, Mine of Ideas (Mina de idei Anina, Ro)*, born in 2014 as bottom-up initiative and focused on the cultural heritage preservation and enhancement. From this perspective, the article intends to bring into scholarly attention new insights into the preservation activity in

The number of local objectives increased from thirty-four in 2004 to forty-five in 2015 historical monuments and sites listed, and, thus, officially protected. See INP, Historical Monuments' List for Anina, 1992: <https://patrimoniul.ro/images/lmi-old/lmi-caras-severin-1991.pdf>; <https://patrimoniul.ro/images/lmi-2004/CARAS-SEVERIN.pdf>; [https://patrimoniul.ro/images/LMI/LMI-2010\\_CS.pdf](https://patrimoniul.ro/images/LMI/LMI-2010_CS.pdf) (access April 6<sup>th</sup> 2020).

12. IUGA 2016, pp. 159-252.

13. ȚIGANEA 2013; MĂRGINEAN 2015; TULBURE 2016; IUGA 2016; MAXIM 2019.

20<sup>th</sup> century Romania through the specific notion of industrial heritage, looking at the activity of historians, archaeologists, and ethnographers rather than architects. What follows is a narration of the “patrimonialisation” (Fr) process traced by the author from early 1970s to present day, in order to understand and detail the process that gradually transformed Anina in one of the most listed and, therefore, safeguarded examples of industrial heritage in contemporary Romania. Furthermore, I will approach the way industrial heritage is tackled currently and its impact on the overall preservation practice in a setting dominated by the negative effects of deindustrialization.

*Mountainous Banat: An Industrial Open-Air Museum and a Bottom-Up Initiative for Heritage Protection*

The theme of industrial heritage is rather new to the Western experience in the theory and practice of preservation, dating back only to the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Its institutionalisation and acknowledgement at international level culminated with the establishment of TICCIH – The International Committee for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage in 1973<sup>14</sup>. During the 1980s, in a setting of cultural and social isolation strengthened by the dictatorship of Nicolae Ceaușescu, the Romanian TICCIH correspondent and representative was historian Volker Wollmann, researcher at the History and Archaeology Institute from Cluj-Napoca, who specialized in the research of mining technical history in Transylvania and Banat<sup>15</sup>. The direct contact with his international peers established through TICCIH events, pushed Wollmann towards the approach of the mining history also from the perspective of its tangible legacy, backed up by archival documentation<sup>16</sup>. Moreover, in 1986, when in Romania there was little interest for the preservation of cultural heritage, Wollmann argued at international level the patrimonial value of the mining tangible testimonies from Zlatna

14. The organization was founded on the occasion of the First International Congress on the Conservation of Industrial Monuments in Ironbridge (UK), May 29<sup>th</sup>-June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1973.

15. Volker Wollmann (1942 -) is a Romanian historian of German origins from Transylvania, who graduated in 1964 the Faculty of History and Archaeology from Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj Napoca. As an early career researcher and employee of the History Museum from Reșița, Wollmann started to investigate the mining tradition of Mountainous Banat especially from a technological perspective. Wollmann maintained the interest on this argument after he obtained a researcher position in 1967 to the History and Archaeology Institute from Cluj Napoca (Romanian Academy). His PhD research during the 1980s focused on the mining activity from Dacian and Roman times in Transylvania. He emigrated in Germany during late 1980s. The historian published one of the first post-1989 territorial survey of the Romanian industrial legacy from all branches, considering also the 1945-1989 industrialization process. Developed in seven volumes, his work became an encyclopedic narration of the tangible industrial traces acknowledged or not for their patrimonial value in contemporary Romania. WOLLMANN 1973, 1975, 1979, 1986, 1996, 2010-2019.

16. BODEA, WOLLMANN 1986.

(Transylvania), a documented gold mine from Roman times with a continuous activity until the communist period<sup>17</sup>.

His work on the mining tradition in Romania is not unique, but rather corresponds to the period 1970s and 1980s, when historians and archaeologists working for regional history museums started to approach this argument. In a political and ideological setting that promoted the re-writing of the national history with emphasis on the Dacian and, occasionally, Roman antiquity, generating an exaggerated concern with Dacians and the origin's myth<sup>18</sup>, the industrialisation, and more specific, the technical history of mining settlements directly linked with Dacian and Roman traditions appeared as a "safe" research argument. Moreover, just like anthropologist Katherine Verdery argues, due to a series of political circumstances, historians were privileged during this period, as the product of their work was by definition "indigenist", as they were writing the history of their own land (territory)<sup>19</sup>. To this should be added the fact that in 1974 a process of decentralization of the preservation practice was initiated, through the establishment of Regional Offices for the National Cultural Heritage within the regional history museum<sup>20</sup>. Thus, mainly historians, archaeologists and ethnographers started to be interested in this argument, even though not in a continuous and prioritizing manner. The architect Irina Iamandescu argues that some regions generated a wider activity in the field of industrial heritage than others, among which one can mention Caraș-Severin (Mountainous Banat region), Timiș, Maramureș, Bihor, Cluj and Sibiu, all contributing to the unofficial drafting of a wider territorial survey of historical monuments and sites<sup>21</sup>.

Therefore, in an area like Mountainous Banat (Caraș-Severin Region), where traces of the pre-industrialization activity defined by antique mining techniques were present and where the modern industrialization boosted from late 18<sup>th</sup> century generating an entire "industrial-constellation" at territorial level, the research of technological history appeared appealing, as it results from the variety of studies published during the 1970s and 1980s. In this sense, a reference point remains *Banatica* journal (1971-on going), edited and published by the History Museum of Mountainous Banat from Reșița, with historian Volker Wollmann being among the main figures of the editorial team<sup>22</sup>. The

17. *Ivi*, p. 159.

18. VERDERY 1991, p. 217.

19. *Ivi*, pp. 219-223.

20. Law n. 63 from 1974 concerning the protection of cultural heritage in the Socialist Republic of Romania (*Legea nr. 63 / 1974 privind ocrotirea patrimoniului cultural național al Republicii Socialiste România*, Ro).

21. IAMANDESCU 2017, pp. 68-69.

22. «*Banatica*», <http://www.banatica.ro/> (access March 30<sup>th</sup> 2020).

focus was directed towards the non-ferrous and ferrous mining techniques from Dognecea, Sasca Montană, Bocșa Montană and Anina; on the railway infrastructure developed at territorial level due and linked to the pre-1945 industrialization; on the metallurgical activity in the area and, nonetheless, on the «active fight for social justice» of the miners' communities<sup>23</sup>. Meanwhile, the main industrial centre from Mountainous Banat, Reșița, with a steel industry developed consistently since late 18<sup>th</sup> century, remained a strategic key element within the intense socialist territorial industrialization. From this perspective, Reșița's industrial architecture was approached in the official literature more as an expression of socialist modernization praised for its aesthetic values, although this was the result of the value of already existing industrial facilities<sup>24</sup>.

What can be noticed, especially during the 1970s and 1980s, is the attention given to the long-lasting technical and technological tradition of this industrialized area, although the official narratives were deprived from inconvenient historical details linked with the presence of the Habsburg Empire and international investment capital, the intense colonialization of Banat that resulted in multi-ethnic communities, and the fact that, during communism, the pre-existing industrial facilities continued to be exploited before further extensions were built<sup>25</sup>. Thus, it can be noticed a certain approach of the industrial legacy which privileged its technological and scientific value<sup>26</sup>. Such an official recognition was sustained also by the establishment of several technological museums during the 1970s such as Reșița Steam Locomotive Museum (1972); the technological museum of the Reșița Machinery Construction Plant (mid-1970s) or Anina Coal Mine geological and mining technique museum (mid-1970s).

In 1991, the History Museum of Mountainous Banat published a monography entitled *About the Coal History. Anina 200 (Din istoria cărbunelui. Anina 200, Ro)*, celebrating the 200 years of intense industrial activity in Anina<sup>27</sup>. It was authored by the same researchers that during the 1970s and 1980s had published extensively in «Banatica» journal regarding the industrial history of the entire region, Anina included. However, the study's timeline stops in 1948, the year when the communists

23. This last argument was widely used in the socialist propaganda, especially in reference to the industrial communities dating from the pre-1945 period. Writing about the pre-1945 fight against the capitalist domination was a strategy allowing the communist propaganda to build a narrative that could give credibility to the communist long-lasting tradition on Romanian territories before the 1945 rise to power. TISMĂNEANU 2003.

24. ADLER *ET ALII* 1964; SOLOMON 1965.

25. ȚIGANEA 2013; ȚIGANEA, DI BIASE 2016.

26. The scientific value of the party's ideology represents another leitmotiv widely used during the 1970s and 1980s in the socialist propaganda, justifying in this manner the main decisions and directions taken at political, economic, social, and cultural level. VERDERY 1991; BOIA 2011.

27. FENEȘAN *ET ALII* 1991.

nationalized the means of production, triggering the intense and centralized industrialization process. It is important to stress that this monography also approaches the intangible aspects of the industrial legacy from Anina, bringing forward the social and cultural value of its multi-ethnic mining community, something that previous 1989 was difficult to state in the public discourse. The publication of this volume coincided with the first post-1989 recording national campaign with the purpose of drafting a new List of Historical Monuments. During this process, the regional proposals came from the newly funded Directions for Culture which initially were supported by the regional history museums, and considered to be the official entities capable of recording their “own territory”<sup>28</sup>. Nineteen monuments and urban areas were listed in Anina, among which the Shaft n. 1 (still functioning at the time); the power plant (still functioning at the time); the railway station; other social and cultural facilities, and a variety of residential areas from the mining colonies. During this campaign, a record number of no less than 220 entries were listed in Mountainous Banat, while in other regions the category of industrial heritage objects was lacking entirely. Architect Irina Iamandescu argues that this territorial disparity is due to the lack of specialised personnel within the regional history museums at that moment, as well as to the lack of interest in the industrial and technological history before 1989<sup>29</sup>.

Anina, an integral part of Mountainous Banat, continued to attract the specialists’ attention during the 2000s, when a variety of initiatives focused on its industrial heritage such as the 2002 International Workshop on Industrial Archaeology organised by TICCIH Romania and Association for the Industrial Archaeology and the 2003-2005 research project *The Industrial Heritage of Mountainous Banat: European Value and Integration Potential (Patrimoniul Industrial al Banatului Montan – valoare europeană și potențial de integrare, Ro)* initiated by UAUIM Bucharest. It was the first time in the post-1989 context when the idea of an open-air museum of industrial heritage appeared at regional level<sup>30</sup>. This proposal came as a response to the nation-wide closing of the mining activity done without a long term scenario for post-industrial revitalization or, even more, without a nation-wide strategy for the acknowledgement, safeguarding and enhancement of the industrial heritage.

Indeed, other important post-industrial sites such as Jiu Valley or Maramureș mining basins saw their mining activity closing during the post-1989 period with a peak reached in 2006, while the effective end of the mining activity at national level occurred ten years later. The closing of the mining activity came with only short-term initiatives coordinated mainly by local administrations, owners of the derelict industrial sites, towards the territorial reclaim understood uniquely through actions of

28. IAMANDESCU 2017.

29. *Ibidem*.

30. DERER ET ALII 2005; GRAF 2005, pp. 40-55.

dismantling, demolition, and scrap recycling. In most cases, the *tabula rasa* approach towards the derelict industries occurred at a faster pace than the studies developed in the field and the sites' patrimonial acknowledgement. At the time of their nation-wide closure in 2006, only Anina received a wide national acknowledgement of its patrimonial value. Despite this, Anina continued to face most of the issues common to the former mining areas affected directly by the deindustrialisation, with effects from an economic, social, and cultural perspective. In the absence of any official revitalisation strategies in the future directed from a top-down perspective, the built environment was abandoned and became subject to material decay.

During the last 15-20 years, preservationist initiatives in Romania were rather bottom-up, being the result of the activity of various NGOs interested in the protection and enhancement of cultural heritage, directly involving the local communities. They appeared gradually as a direct response to various internal and external threats to the survival of the built environment and communities. In all cases the initiative came from the members of the civil society – initially from members of the local communities who managed to involve different specialists in the field of cultural heritage, urban planning and/or territorial governance from Romania and abroad<sup>31</sup>. Consequently, their presence and activity on the different sites attracted the interest of various local and regional actors interested in the topic and in the site's promotion and further potential for reconversion. Moreover, in all cases the local community was involved in various cultural projects in order to stress the necessity of a placed-based initiative that could generate solutions for addressing the community's problems through cultural entrepreneurship developed in former industrial spaces<sup>32</sup>. From such initiatives we mention those that received a wider interest and participation from the wider public and that influenced the overall national movement: Paintbrush Factory independent initiative which since 2009 is gathering

31. Roşia Montană – *Save Roşia Montană* (2011 - ongoing) at the initiative of Albus Maior NGO, represents the first such initiative that managed to attract national and international interest due to the direct threat on Roman galleries in a scenario of reopening the gold mine exploitation. Despite the legal and political difficulties, Roşia Montană is the first Romanian mining area that appears in 2016 enrolled in UNESCO tentative list for its cultural landscape of universal value, even though the emphasis was put on the Roman tangible remains of mining activity. Other such initiatives of the civil society focused on the former mining settlements, one can mention Baia Sprie non-ferrous mine – *Greencreation Workshops* (2009-2014) at the initiative of local architect Edmund Futo; Brad gold mine – *About men and mine in Brad* (2014-2016) at the initiative of PACT Cultural Association; Petrila coal mine – *Start-up Petrila/Planet Petrila* (2011-ongoing) at the initiative of local artist Ion Barbu; Anina coal mine – *Anina, Mine of Ideas* (2014-2018) initiative of Alba Verde and PACT Cultural Associations. <https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6082/> (access April 7<sup>th</sup> 2020).

32. In 2016, the project *Shrinking Cities in Romania* coordinated by architect Ilinca Păun-Constantinescu (UAUIM Bucharest) enlarged this territorial survey of the bottom-up Romanian initiatives and presented them together with an overall image of urban shrinking phenomena in Romania as part of the national exhibition hosted by the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Bucharest (MNAC). PĂUN-CONSTANTINESCU 2019, vol. 2.

ideas, events and projects of cultural organisation within the spaces of the former brush plant from Cluj Napoca<sup>33</sup>; Carol Factory project of reconverting the Hesper plant in Bucharest through a business plan based on cultural events that opened the industrial space to the wider public; NOD Makerspace project that converted a former industrial plant from Bucharest in a coworking space<sup>34</sup>; Ambasada as a multi-cultural and coworking space organised in the former hat factory from Timișoara since 2016; or the contemporary art centre *POMPAdau* in Petrila in 2014 through the conversion of the former pumps station of the coal mine, used for theatre festivals and civic and cultural initiatives of the local community<sup>35</sup>.

In 2016, a first national attempt to draft a macro-territorial strategy of economic, social and cultural revitalisation of the former industrial areas through the enhancement of the cultural heritage was established<sup>36</sup>. The initiative coming from the prime minister's cabinet, brought together representatives of both the private and the public sector, already involved in various projects focusing on the enhancement of cultural heritage. This event implied the necessity of an official institutional recognition, followed by the debate and discussions between the representatives of the civil society and those of the government. However, due to political instability, the event unfortunately remained as a unique and isolated initiative in Romania. Among the actors involved in the local post-industrial realities that were invited to attend were also the coordinators of the cultural project *Anina, Mine of Ideas*.

The cultural project *Anina, Mine of Ideas*, sustained and financed by the Romanian Architects Chamber and the local administration started in March 2014, when a group of specialists – architects, urban planners, sociologists<sup>37</sup> – sketched a first project proposal, as at the time they were closely collaborating with the local administration with the purpose of drafting *Anina's* Masterplan. Initially,

33. <https://fabricadepensule.ro/en/about/> (access June 8<sup>th</sup> 2020).

34. <https://nodmakerspace.ro/> (access June 8<sup>th</sup> 2020).

35. ROTARU 2014, pp. 15-29.

36. Community revitalization and economic innovative development through the enhancement of the communities' unused heritage (*Revitalizare comunitară și impact de dezvoltare economică inovatoare prin valorificarea patrimoniului comunitar nefolosit*, Ro), Victoria Palace Romanian Government, April 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The initiative was coordinated by the Chancellery of the Prime Minister (Prime minister - Dacian Cioloș, leading the technocrat government during 2015-2016) in collaboration with the Romanian Ministry of Economy, Commerce and Business Environment; Ministry of Culture and Ministry for the Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue. Press released: [shorturl.at/dgGU4](http://shorturl.at/dgGU4) (access January 27<sup>th</sup> 2020).

37. The project was coordinated by arch. Marius Barbieri and arch. Oana Țiganea during the 2014-2017 editions, and arch. Oana Țiganea and arch. Gabriela Pașcu for the 2018 edition. In the project were involved historians, archaeologists, photographers, geographers, city planners, architects, designers, sociologists and anthropologists from Romania, Italy and UK. Moreover, during the five years, the project managed to attract the support of various regional and national entities interested in the architectural preservation, both from public and private sector.

the goal was to organize an interdisciplinary workshop that would address the issue of post-industrial revitalization through cultural tourism, tackling the idea of an open-air museum of industrial heritage and that of a Coal Mining Museum in the Shaft n. 1 from Anina. What followed were five years of continuous visits in Anina, backed up by archival research and bibliographical documentation, a restoration project for Shaft n. 1 Ensemble, a spatial photographic recording of Anina's industrial landscape, discussions with the local administration and community, and a series of cultural events such as exhibitions, guided tours and video-mapping projections in the urban space. Throughout the project, the aim shifted towards generating tools that could fill the gap between the theoretical approach and the local reality in matter of knowledge sharing and projects' implementation (fig. 2).

Different from other similar initiatives, the project benefited from the fact that Anina was already listed and safeguarded for its heritage values. Due to this fact, it was possible to approach for a first time in the Romanian context the notion of industrial landscape as a living organism, subject of transformations and main generator of a sustainable post-industrial revitalization strategy. Moreover, the project focused on the idea that decoding the main features of this industrial landscape, it could assign to the local community a new (post)industrial identity, triggering further local initiatives focused on the embracing and enhancement of the local heritage.

### *Anina Industrial Landscape: Representation and Heritage-Based Interpretation*

In a very specific manner, Anina's landscape represents the direct result of the industrial activity developed during a relatively short time span (approximately 200 years), if one puts this information into the broader context of the earliest traces of human life dating back to the Palaeolithic discovered in the nearby Cave with Bones (*Peștera cu Oase, Ro*)<sup>38</sup>. In the perception of its inhabitants, Anina's territory is not associated directly with its industrial past, but rather with the values of its natural landscape: clean air, water, greenery<sup>39</sup>. This perception was and still is promoted by the majority of the touristic guides of the area, which are oriented towards natural sights located in Anina's mountains, such as Nerei, Carașului or Minișului Gorges, the caves Buhui or Plopa, lakes Marghițaș

38. The Cave with Bones (*Peștera cu Oase, Ro*) is located between Cave Plopa and Cave Ponor, in the karst system of the Miniș valley, and within the administrative territory of Anina. Human bones have been discovered here during the archaeological excavation campaigns carried out between 2002 and 2005. These are considered as the oldest remains of the modern man in Europe. <http://cronica.cimec.ro>, (access March 17<sup>th</sup> 2017).

39. This statement is based on the results of the sociological study initiated as part of *Anina. Mine of Ideas (Mina de idei Anina, Ro)*, second edition, July-August 2015, and coordinated by sociologist Simona Zărnescu.



Figure 2. Posters detailing the project *Anina, Mine of Ideas* presented at the National Biennale of Architecture in Romania, 2018 edition: (left) photographic recording method of the industrial landscape, (right) cultural initiatives within the local community and project's results. Winner of the section *The Architectural Event and Street as a Scene* dedicated to the cultural projects and initiatives focused on the promotion and enhancement of the built environment (*Anina, Mine of Ideas* 2018).

On the next page, figure 3. General view towards Anina railway station (1863), listed as historical monument of national interest, and the railway infrastructure that supported the production process in Anina (Andreea Ionescu, *Anina, Mine of Ideas* 2016).



and Buhui, etc<sup>40</sup>. Among the touristic sights that testify about the industrial past, the best known are the railway Anina - Oravița (1847-1863) and Anina railway station (1863), both listed as historical monuments of national interest<sup>41</sup> (fig. 3).

The industrial history of Anina began in 1773 when Austrian colonists established the first workers' settlement in Steyrer-Dorf (the village of the people from Styria) later Steierdorf, in an overall setting of industrialization process of the peripheral areas of the Hapsburg Empire<sup>42</sup>. They came here as logging workers specialized in making lump charcoal, which was needed to fuel the ferrous and non-ferrous foundries in Oravița, Ciclova, and Sasca<sup>43</sup>. Pit coal – of one of the highest calorific values in Europe – was accidentally discovered here in 1790, with direct consequences on the industrial development of the area and the community.

A first industrialisation phase is considered during 1790 and 1846, when private entities and individuals were stimulated in coal extraction and underground prospect activities. During this period, the settlement continued to develop around Steierdorf, arriving in 1846 up to 837 inhabitants and a total of 145 permanent dwellings and several temporary ones (barracks)<sup>44</sup>. The systematic and constant exploitation of the area's natural resources occurred only since 1846, when the Banat Mining Office was created to stimulate the overall coal mining activity in the region as a direct request for pit coal in the river steam transportation on Danube. However, only with the arrival of StEG (*Staats Eisenbahn Gesellschaft, D.*), a French-Austrian society with mixt capital and responsible for the railway infrastructure development in the Hapsburg Empire's peripheral areas, started the centralisation of all industrial sites and activities in Mountainous Banat<sup>45</sup>. In this scenario, Anina remained the pit coal

40. The lakes found on the administrative territory of Anina, lake Mărghitaș and Buhui are artificial ones, created at the end of 19<sup>th</sup> - early 20<sup>th</sup> century in order to cover the necessity of industrial water for the coal mining exploitation process (Buhui Lake) and to satisfy the mining community's leisure time (Mărghitaș Lake). BOTOȘĂNEANU, NEGREA 1968; SENCU 1978.

41. The mountainous railway Anina-Oravița was the first railway on the current Romanian territory. With a total length of 33,4 kilometers and a difference in altitude of approximately 340 meters, it displays a variety of engineering works such as viaducts and tunnels acknowledged for the heritage value and, therefore, protected. The railway was built to connect Anina with Baziaș, a Danube harbor, in order to facilitate the pit coal transportation needed for the river steam transportation. Starting with 1869, the railway was opened for travelers and mail post transportation, contributing directly to the further development of late 19<sup>th</sup> century tourism in Mountainous Banat. The railway currently represents one of the main touristic attractions of the entire area of Mountainous Banat, as it offers a direct sensorial experience immersed in the cultural landscape of the region. FENEȘAN ET ALII 1991; IAMANDESCU, PANASIU 2005, pp. 24-26.

42. FENEȘAN ET ALII 1991, pp. 5-50; MOSOROCEANU, MUNTEANU 2015, p. 5.

43. FENEȘAN ET ALII 1991, pp. 5-50.

44. *Ibidem*.

45. Between 1855 and 1920, the entire industrial activity of Mountainous Banat region, Anina included, was under the

provider for Reșița Steelworks, the main industrial nucleus of interest of the entire Banat region. In addition to mining, the iron and steel industry also developed – Anina Ironworks (1858-1927) and the Bolt and Screw Factory (1872); as well as logging, construction materials; energy - the thermoelectric plant (1898); railroad and railways infrastructure; commerce, and tourism. During the StEG period (1855-1920), new waves of settlers (Germans, Austrians, Hungarians, Czechs, Italians, and Slovaks) were brought here either as unqualified workforce (miners, steelworkers) either as specialised labour (engineers and administrative personnel), generating different dwelling typologies and, consequently, different cultural facilities that were corresponding to the community’s structure and organisation i.e., engineers’ casino, miners’ casino, the hospital, churches and cemeteries, schools, and the theatre<sup>46</sup>.

By the end of the First World War, the settlement was presenting a rather dispersed territorial configuration with several nucleus of interest: Steierdorf, Sigismund, and Anina. From the three, Anina started to become the largest one due to the development of the industrial valley in close connection to the mining exploitation and, consequently, the further enlargement of the surrounding residential areas. Just like for the rest of the Romanian territory, its industrial boom occurred after the end of the Second World War, whereas Romanian workers (from Maramureș, Moldova, and Transylvania) were settled here during the socialist era. At the peak of the town’s territorial and industrial growth its population reached 14,063 residents in 1966<sup>47</sup>. Anina was also upgraded to town status as it fit the criteria for a small mono-industrial town, attracting new interventions focused on its modernization and urbanisation i.e., a new administrative centre, collective dwellings for the miners, and new social-cultural facilities such as open-air cinema or open-air pool garden<sup>48</sup>.

Since the discovery of pit coal in 1790 until the mine’s closure in 2006, the opening of a new operating gallery or an extraction shaft implied using specialized labour force for both the execution

administration of StEG (*Staats Eisenbahn Gesellschaft, D.*), the Imperial Royal Privileged Austrian State Railway Company. StEG was a company with Austrian and French capital, founded in Vienna in 1854. Its contribution at regional level was that of a centralized development of all industrial branches with great impact on Banat’s territorial transformation, economic growth, and social and cultural development. Moreover, its impact was felt also in other Romanian regions such as Walachia, contributing to its railway infrastructure development and manufacturer for main iron-built structures from late 19<sup>th</sup> century. GLIGOR 2004, WOLLMANN 2010, GRAF 2011.

46. POPA, ZABERCA 1991, pp. 126-135.

47. Source: National Institute of Statistics; *Tempo* online database.

48. In the 1950s, when Romania’s entire territory was reorganized to fit the requirements of the communist state, a “small-sized town” meant a settlement of 10,000 to 30,000 residents. In 1952, Anina fulfilled this quantitative criterion of urban assessment, meaning its population reached over 10,000 residents, and it was granted urban status in base of the Decree No. 331 of September 27, 1952 on the Administrative Reorganization of the Popular Republic of Romania. RONNAS 1984, p. 77.

of these works and the subsequent mining activity. The workforce used to live in the vicinity of the workplace, with easy and direct access, enjoying living conditions that would favour its temporary or permanent establishment in the area. Specifically, each extraction shaft in Anina was closely related to the workers' colonies that, in most cases, were named after the shaft: Reitz Shaft and Colony, Thinfeld Shaft and Colony, Uterisch Shaft and Colony, and so on for the total of nearly eleven shafts identified on Anina's territory. The "shaft" and the "colony" became one single spatial entity, whose evolution and transformation over time became a key to reading and interpreting the current landscape of Anina (figs. 4-6).

To provide the necessary workforce for the Crivina thermal power station (1975-1988), which used the area's combustible shale as fuel, colonists from the Czech Colony, Sommerfrische, Steierdorf and Sigismund – all component parts of Anina, were to be relocated to a newly built town (*Oraşul Nou*, Ro), six kilometres from Anina's centre. Luckily the 1989 December revolution stopped the planned demolition, blocking also any further experimentation and functioning of Crivina power station<sup>49</sup>. After 1989, the new town (*Oraşul Nou*, Ro) only partially built, quickly became a contemporary ruin, frozen in time, and still partially inhabited by a small community that keeps its memories alive. The tragedy of this neighbourhood of Anina is directly linked to the economic decline experienced by the settlement following the closure of the thermal power station in the early 1990s and the complete shutdown of the mine in 2006, emphasizing also how Anina is perceived from outside<sup>50</sup> (fig. 7).

From the perspective of internationally acknowledged definitions of cultural landscape, Anina's landscape can be considered as an "evolutionary" one, a direct result of the industrial, social and administrative activity of the community in response to the existing environmental conditions<sup>51</sup>. In other words, starting from coal exploitation as a main activity and as an engine of development of the local economy, the current territory of Anina was modelled on the principle of industrial production efficiency: the maximum exploitation, in an economically efficient way of the natural and human resources. All the connections and interactions between its different components were directly

49. Crivina power station represents one of the socialist utopian projects accomplished in the 1970s and 1980s, during Ceauşescu dictatorship. It determined a massive intervention in the area with major environmental impact, being speculated also to be one of the "scientific failures" of the regime. However, due to its rapid privatization process in the early 1990s, there is no access granted to the site nor to its archive in order to establish a more accurate narrative of this industrial settlement. The information gathered on this power station during *Anina, Mine of Ideas* is based on several interviews done in 2015 and 2016 with engineer Văcărescu, director of the Anina coal mine during the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s.

50. MERCE 2016.

51. UNESCO, Guidelines on the Inscription of Specific Types of Properties on the World Heritage List, Annex 3, 2008, <http://whc.unesco.org/fr/PaysagesCulturels/#2> (access April 1<sup>st</sup> 2020).

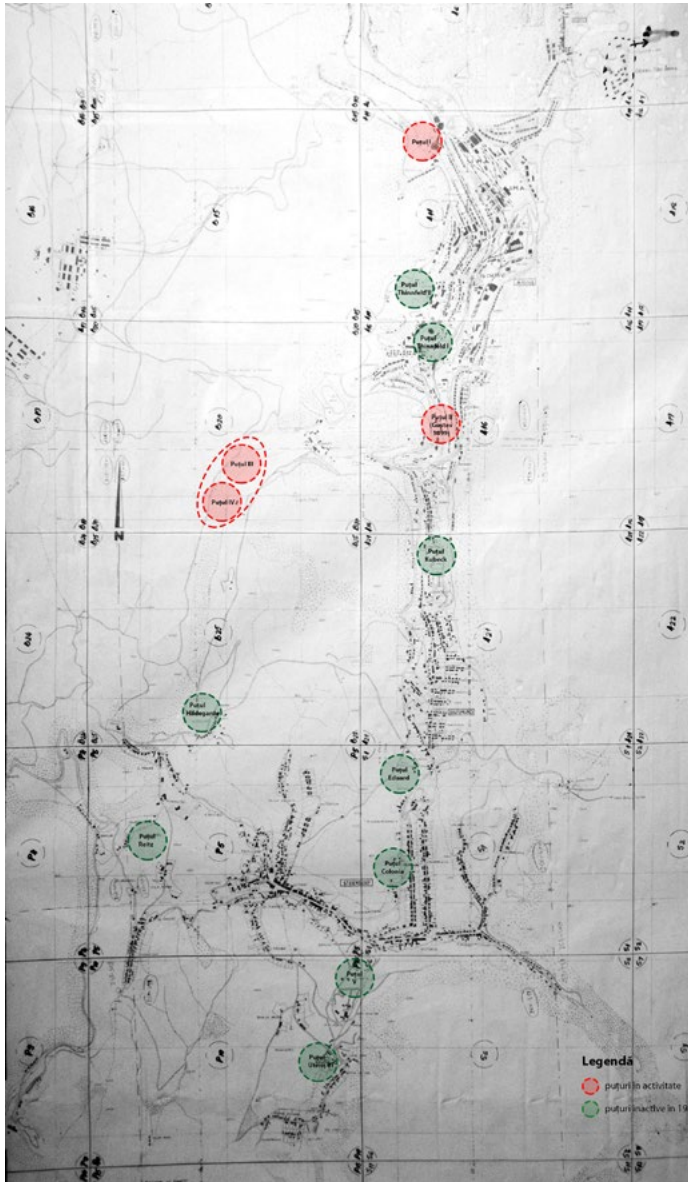


Figure 4. Anina's administrative territory as resulted in the 1980 masterplan and the indication of all identified exploitation shafts during the mine's industrial activity: (red) from north to south: Shaft n. 1, Shaft n. 2 and Shaft n. 4, the only three remaining; (green) other exploitation shafts documented through archival and bibliographical sources, but completely disappeared (TIGANEA, PAȘCU, *Historic Study of Anina. Anina Masterplan*, 2016).



Figure 5. Sigismund Colony planned to be developed in connection with one of the mine's exploitation shafts, dated 1877: (black) the exploitation site, (pink) miners' dwellings, (blue) property lots. Anina Mine Archive, 1877.



Figure 6. Shaft n. 2, previously Thienfeld II and the miners' colonies developed nearby (Teodora Ungureanu, *Anina, Mine of Ideas* 2016).

conditioned by this factor i.e., the technical and productive efficiency: the location and development of the industrial structures in Anina was directly conditioned by the existence of raw materials (pit coal, oil and bituminous shale, clay, wood, water, etc.), consequently influencing the further development of residential areas (workers' colonies), of socio-cultural nuclei and leisure areas. All these elements identified in this space were, and still are, supported by an infrastructure network (railways, roads, bridges, waterways, stations, etc.) meant to serve both the industrial production activity and the everyday life of the community. The principle of modelling and transforming the territory is common to all areas marked by industrial production, regardless of their profile, political and economic context. The mining activity developed in the underground generated a dual reality: one manifested tangibly aboveground in the settlement itself composed from the residential areas and a variety of social and cultural facilities, and another one, manifested underground – the miners' working place.

The physical connection between the two realms are the vertical openings such as shafts or raises used for the industrial flux, working flux as well as ventilation and water control, while the intangible connection was the miner himself. Thus, we could understand why Anina is spread on such a large surface, how it has achieved its specific spatial coherence – a mixture of both urban and rural built features, or how have we identified more “central” nuclei defined by socio-cultural functions<sup>52</sup>.

Starting from the close connection between the industrial space and the community, we chose to illustrate the characteristic elements of Anina's industrial landscape, trying to capture the complexity of its territorial transformations, the conditions that determined them and, finally, the current testimonies. Its interpretation from an industrial heritage perspective can become an integrated territorial planning tool contributing not only to the protection of local heritage values, but also to a balanced strategy of post-industrial development<sup>53</sup>. Thus, during the project “Anina, Mine of Ideas” one line of action was directed towards these pieces of landscape considered of greatest significance for the community and with a direct impact on the overall perception of the landscape. These were identified through a more complex methodology combining historical research, *in situ* observations and analysis, and direct interaction with local community.

52. Anina's administrative territory measures approximately 664,22 ha, while its population was counting 7 485 inhabitants in 2011. The two spatial nuclei that define the town's identity - Anina and Steierdorf – are located at approximately 10 kilometres, with a variety of other residential areas spread between them. The current administrative territory of Anina is composed from several neighbourhoods (Anina, Steierdorf, Sigismund, Uteriș, Celnic, Orașul Nou, Crivina and Brădet), defined by different architectural and urban features as resulted from the different industrialisation phases and, thus, extensions and transformations of the industrial territory.

53. Preliminary Texts of the Cultural Heritage Code (*Tezele preliminare ale Codului patrimoniului cultural, Ro*), Ministerul Culturii, Institutul Național al Patrimoniului, 2016, p. 42.



Figure 7. The New Town neighbourhood (Oraşul Nou, Ro)(Paolo Mazzo, *Anina, Mine of Ideas* 2016).



Figure 8. Anina, current view of the city centre developed in connection to Shaft n. 1 Ensemble (Maria Manda, *Anina, Mine of Ideas* 2016).

A first landscape fragment that we have identified was the area defined by the Shaft n. 1 Ensemble and its *colony*. The shaft was opened for production in 1874 and became gradually, due to several technological upgrades, the main shaft of the coal mine. A clue on the central role played within the mining exploitation is given by its various names: Anina Shaft (1874), Hungaria Shaft (during the dual Austrian-Hungarian administration, late 19<sup>th</sup> century), King Ferdinand Shaft (1920s, after Romania's unification), Gheorghiu-Dej Shaft<sup>54</sup> (during the socialist years) and Central Shaft (early 1990s). The shaft functioned continuously from 1874 to 2006, illustrating visually a series of technological upgrades and overlaps that currently became acknowledge for their archaeological stratification<sup>55</sup> (figs. 8-10).

From the very beginning, the focus of future efforts from local administration was transforming the Shaft n. 1 Ensemble into a coal mining museum. Thus, starting with the first edition of "Anina, Mine of Ideas" project, the field activities were directed towards this industrial nucleus in order to accomplish all preliminary investigations needed to the preservation project i.e., in 2015, the geometrical and material survey was initiated together with the photographic recording using the photogrammetric method, and in 2016 was elaborated the historical study of the shaft's evolution and transformation within the larger setting of the colliery, together with the functional reconversion scenarios.

During the same year, besides a photographic tool using the Gigapan technology was proposed for the recording and monitoring of the ensemble. The main goal was the creation of a landscape observer in a digital Open Access format, that could record in real time the material transformations of the shaft and of the landscape fragment that it defines. Hence, such a photographic recording at an extremely high resolution was done and published online, becoming an analysis tool during the material decay survey. This digital tool was used also within the dissemination and information strategy, allowing the possibility to detail to the online viewer the industrial flux-line of the shaft, bringing details concerning the coal extraction process<sup>56</sup>. All the above-mentioned materials became the base of the preservation project concluded in 2017, that

54. Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej (1901-1965) was the first general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and, therefore, the first socialist leader during 1947-1965. After his death, the leader position was taken by Nicolae Ceaușescu. During the first socialist industrialization waves, the strategic industrial points nation-wide received *Gheorghiu-Dej* denomination to stress their role within the economic plans, e.g., Gheorghiu-Dej Mine (Anina), Gheorghiu-Dej Steelworks (Hunedoara during the early 1950s, followed by Galați during the early 1960s), and Gheorghiu-Dej chemic plant (Onești).

55. WATSON 2014.

56. This initiative was developed in collaboration with archaeologist Călin Șuteu, specialized in digital recording of archaeological monuments using a variety of photographic tools among which the Gigapan technology. The photographic recoding of Shaft n. 1 Ensemble can be consulted using the following link: <http://www.gigapan.com/gigapans/189555> (access April 7<sup>th</sup> 2020). ȘUTEU 2017.





On the previous page, figure 9. Anina, overlapping of the two metal structures of the shaft, considered as a rare example of industrial archaeology: the shaft structure directed towards the steam extraction machine that functioned during 1910-1985; one, overlapped at a 90 degrees angle on the historical structure, and oriented towards the electric extraction machine that functioned during 1985-2006 (Cosmin Scorcelof, *Anina, Mine of Ideas* 2016).

Figure 10. Steam extraction machine, 1910-1985 (Ovidiu Micșă, *Anina, Mine of Ideas* 2016).

attracted EU regional funding<sup>57</sup>. Despite its success, the project is in stand-by at the current moment due to bureaucratic issues, while the ensemble is left without maintenance. This fact is worsening any potential intervention due to the ongoing and aggravated material and structural decay, which already do not correspond anymore to the 2015-2017 analysis (fig. 11).

Due to its strategic position within Anina's territory and due to its role played in the mining local history, the Shaft n. 1 Ensemble proved to be an emblematic landmark for the town and, therefore, it remained a returning point during all initiatives and activities of the cultural projects: guided tours destined to the local and regional specialists in industrial heritage, photographic experiments using digital and analogue techniques, branding workshops and community maps done in collaboration with the children from Anina<sup>58</sup>.

The photographic surveying experiments developed on Shaft n. 1 were slowly extended to the other two remaining shafts in Anina's (post)industrial territory, which were not listed as historical monuments. However, as all three elements represent the only tangible testimonies of the underground activity, the project focused also on their study and recording, proposing a territorial connection among them defined by a cultural route. This idea was based on the previous proposal of transforming the entire Mountainous Banat area in an industrial open-air museum, but applied at a smaller scale, as that of Anina. Moreover, such a cultural route was already experimented on several occasions in 2016, 2017 and 2018, with the participation of architects, city planners, historians and artists from all over Romania, as the activity was promoted and sustained by the Romanian Architects Chamber. Other elements on which the project focused were on one hand the monumental industrial buildings on Anina's territory such as railway station, electric power station, and fire station, and on the other hand the minor architecture widely represented by the miners' colonies. The information collected, as well as the proposals were centralized in three publications that address the issue of industrial heritage in all its tangible and intangible manifestations, but explained and visually illustrated in such a manner that the local administration, local community and various actors interested in Anina, could understand it and, simultaneously, use it. The main purpose of these publications was to produce an accessible tool for the reading and understanding of a complex territory found in a process of constant transformation<sup>59</sup> (figs. 12-13).

57. *Program operational regional – POR 2014-2020, Fonduri structurale – Axa prioritară 5: Îmbunătățirea mediului urban și conservarea, protecția și valorificarea durabilă a patrimoniului cultural (Ro)*; <https://www.fonduri-structurale.ro/program-operational/1/programul-operational-regional> (access January 30<sup>th</sup> 2020).

58. These activities were developed in collaboration with "Il Giocatollo" NGO based in Brădet, one of the poorest and most isolated colonies from Anina. To which, as local partners we tried to involve the local schools, in order to have a wider impact on the new generation. MANDEA, UNGUREANU 2019.

59. The three publications can be accessed and consulted on the Issuu platform: <https://issuu.com/asociatiaalbaverde> (access June 8<sup>th</sup> 2020).



Figure 11. Proposal for a coal mining museum within Shaft n. 1 Ensemble, analysing during 2015 workshop of industrial heritage in Anina. This initial study, as an academic exercise, became the base for the further on restoration project elaborated by a large specialised team coordinated by arch. Marius Barbieri. From this exercises, the restoration project maintained the functional proposal scheme, the material decay survey and photographic recording, and the suggestion to approach the industrial ensemble in a conservative manner, preserving the most degraded part at ruin level while reconvertng the better maintained ones, with attention in preserving the visible tangible traces of the industrial production (Anina, *Mine of Ideas* 2018).

### Tipologii de locuințe / Types of housing

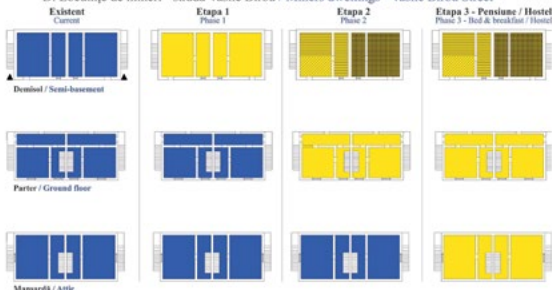
D. Locuințe de miner - strada Vasile Birou / *Miner housing - Vasile Birou Street*  
 Datare / Dating: sec. XIX, modif. 1900-1950  
 Cod LMI / Monument ID: CS-II-a-B-10961



081

### Recomandări de intervenție pentru locuințe Recommended interventions for miners' dwellings

D. Locuințe de mineri - strada Vasile Birou / *Miners dwellings - Vasile Birou Street*



### Recomandări de intervenție pentru locuințe Recommended interventions for miners' dwellings

Ilustrații pentru locuințe de miner - strada Vasile Birou  
 Illustrations of miners dwellings - Vasile Birou Street



121

### Tipologii de locuințe / Types of Housing

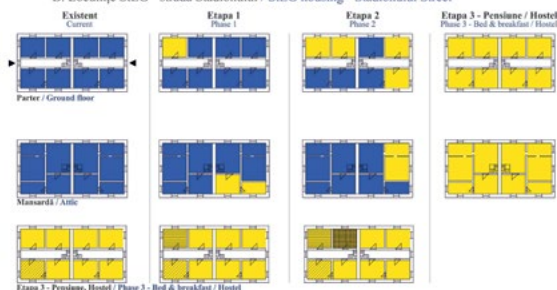
B. Locuințe StEG - strada Stadionului / *StEG housing - Stadionului Street*  
 Datare / Dating: sec. XIX  
 Cod LMI / Monument ID: CS-II-a-B-10956



081

### Recomandări de intervenție pentru locuințe Recommended interventions for miners' dwellings

B. Locuințe StEG - strada Stadionului / *StEG housing - Stadionului Street*



### Localizarea tipologiilor de locuire / Location of the Housing Types



A. Locuințe StEG strada Urzicilor / StEG housing on Urzicilor Street  
 B. Locuințe StEG strada Stadionului / StEG housing on Stadionului Street  
 C. Locuințe minerale strada Mathias Hammer / Miner housing on Mathias Hammer Street  
 D. Locuințe minerale strada Vasile Birou / Miner housing on Vasile Birou Street

079

### Trasee turistice : Etapa I - Muzeu industrial în aer liber

#### Touristic Paths: Phase I - The Open Air Industrial Museum

<span style="color: red;">■</span> Monumente istorice Historic Monuments	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Traseul 1 - Traseul paturilor și a monumentelor Tourist path no. 1 - Mine pits and monuments path
<span style="color: red;">■</span> Monumente istorice - ruine Historic Monuments - ruins	<span style="color: blue;">■</span> Traseul 2 - Traseul ocupanților cu specific mineier Tourist path no. 2 - Mining residential areas path
<span style="color: pink;">■</span> Alte construcții Other buildings	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Traseul 3 - Axă verde a orașului Tourist path no. 3 - Town green axis



On the previous page, figure 12. Intervention proposal to different dwelling typology in a scenario of touristic functional reconversion. The proposals indicate the functional scheme, together with the possible interventions for the preservation and maintenance of the buildings as respecting the main construction features in matter of form, details and materials (ȚIGANEA ET ALII 2014, pp. 76-86, 117-122; [https://issuu.com/asociatiaalbaverde/docs/anina\\_mine\\_of\\_ideas\\_\\_\\_2014\\_](https://issuu.com/asociatiaalbaverde/docs/anina_mine_of_ideas___2014_)).

Figure 13. The proposal of a cultural route that would unify the different industrial monuments of Anina positioned between the railway station and shaft n. 1 ensemble, also representing the main nucleus of the settlement. In base of this proposal, the 2015 – 2018 edition of the project developed a series of cultural events and initiatives i.e., architecture and photography exhibition in the railway station, guided tours among the different colonies, and photographic workshops in shaft n. 1 and electric power station (ȚIGANEA ET ALII 2014, pp. 54-55; [https://issuu.com/asociatiaalbaverde/docs/anina\\_mine\\_of\\_ideas\\_\\_\\_2014\\_](https://issuu.com/asociatiaalbaverde/docs/anina_mine_of_ideas___2014_)).

Unavoidably, space is permanently under transformation. Yet, the more we manage to preserve those elements that give coherence, and monitor the efficiency of conservation, restoration, or transformation strategies, the higher the chances for Anina to preserve its authenticity. As Francesco Toso also stated in the first edition of the *Anina, Mine of Ideas* project, «the intention is not to preserve everything as it is, but rather to generate a series of controlled interventions that prevent the disappearance of material testimonies while improving the quality of the living environment, the sustainability and the level of re-appropriation of the place»<sup>60</sup>.

### *Hopes for the Future*

The fact that Anina's industrial legacy was already acknowledged for its heritage values and, therefore, listed and protected in base of Romanian legal framework, allowed its further exploration, enlarging the theoretical approach towards that of industrial landscape tackled from an interdisciplinary perspective. In the Romanian context, this approach was the first one in the recent years that has received national acknowledgement from various institutions<sup>61</sup>. Furthermore, it allowed the drafting of several revitalization scenarios and restoration projects offered to the local administration and community, filled with indications and recommendations on how to preserve elements of local authenticity. During the development of the project, in collaboration with Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning from Timișoara, were studied and drafted the restoration projects for the railway station, electric power-plant and fire station as projects within the restoration laboratories and diploma projects. In collaboration with the same partner were developed a series of studies concerning the variety of miners' dwellings, with direct reference to their functional adaptation to current life conditions from Anina. The variety of proposals were presented to the local administration and community through exhibitions and the projects' publications<sup>62</sup>.

Their implementation depends partially on the local administration's capacity of attracting funding, either in an institutionalized manner through EU programs, or through private investors interested in the area, and partially by the regional preservation bodies to maintain their monitoring and safeguarding.

60. Toso 2014.

61. Romanian Architects Chamber, Romanian Architects Union, Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning from Timișoara. 2018 event under the European Year for the Cultural Heritage.

62. The variety of elaborated projects and studies were developed under the academic guidance of arch. Gabriela Pașcu from Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning from Timișoara, member of the project's team and coordinator during its last edition in 2018.



Figure 14. Community mapping and discovering Anina from the perspective of the new generation (Maria Manda, Teodora Ungureanu, *Anina, Mine of Ideas* 2018).

Their successful implementation depends also on the local community's direct involvement in the decision-making process, strategy drafting, and acknowledgement of its social and cultural value. Thus, the local community could become a main driver in the post-industrial transformation and the last project's initiative proves it (figs. 14-16).

In 2018, the project was directed towards investigating Anina's collective memory by connecting the anthropological study with the photographic surveying, by connecting the people and spaces of Anina and giving a sense of their past, present and future identity to all landmarks of the industrial landscape

that have been previously identified. Thus, a variety of interviews were accomplished to members of the local community to record and interpret their perception of Anina from the past to the future, through its tangible industrial legacy. Simultaneously was accomplished the photographic survey of those involved in the project, positioned in direct physical connection with the built environment that define them. Furthermore, the sequence of photographic portraits was presented to the community itself in the occasion of several cultural initiatives in Anina (September 2018), transforming them in the main protagonists and “beneficiary” of the entire cultural project<sup>63</sup>.

Besides a deep feeling of depression and fragility caused by the effects of post-industrialization, doubled by a pessimistic view towards the future, the local community from Anina still identifies itself as a “mining” community that wishes to maintain its “mining spaces” since they are providing sense and purpose to their existence<sup>64</sup>. What is missing, like in great majority of post-industrial contexts, is the local initiative that could motivate and stimulate the community spirit. In this sense, probably, the case of Petrila (Jiu Valley mining basin) should be taken as further reference. In Petrila, the main activist for the preservation of the local mining identity is the local artist Ion Barbu, member of the local community, well-known Romanian political cartoonist and, who has developed numerous performing acts aimed at generating disputes, debates and attracting interest towards the local heritage<sup>65</sup>. Nonetheless, we believe that such bottom-up initiatives that dominate the Romanian context they have the capacity to influence each-other and become a prosperous background for any locally-driven attitude towards the preservation of local heritage.

63. The photographic experiment was coordinated by Paolo Mazzo and Samuele Piccoli, Italian photographers specialized in the industrial architecture recording, and members of the project’s team since 2016. The interview and field work were coordinated by the Italian anthropologist Michele Coletto, already familiar to Anina’s social reality from previous experiences, and the main coordinators of the 2018 edition, arch. Oana Tiganea and arch. Gabriela Pașcu; ȚIGANEA, PAȘCU 2019.

64. ZĂRNESCU 2017, pp. 171-176; COLETTI 2019.

65. PĂUN-CONSTANTINESCU 2019, vol. 2, pp. 22-31.



On this and on the next page, figures 15-16. Portraits of a former miner in front of his house and that of his wife, as part of the local memory recording campaign initiated in September 2018. The results of this recording campaign represent the argument of the project's third publication *Visiting the community (Vizită în comunitate, Ro)* and complete the previous photographic recording of the industrial landscape focused on the tangible aspects *Anina Industrial Landscape (Peisajul industrial Anina, Ro)*; [https://issuu.com/asociatiaalbaverde/docs/00\\_mina\\_de\\_idei\\_anina\\_\\_2017](https://issuu.com/asociatiaalbaverde/docs/00_mina_de_idei_anina__2017) (access April 7th 2020); [https://issuu.com/asociatiaalbaverde/docs/mina\\_de\\_idei\\_anina\\_\\_vizita\\_in\\_comu](https://issuu.com/asociatiaalbaverde/docs/mina_de_idei_anina__vizita_in_comu) (access April 7th 2020).



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