

## REDISCOVERING THE HISTORICAL GARDENS IN THE BANAT COUNTY

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**Received:** 30 August 2023; **Accepted:** 17 November 2023; **Published:** 30 December 2023

**Abstract:** The study of non-historical monument gardens aimed to inventory and assess their current state compared to the original. These gardens were researched in detail, following the steps used for historical parks and gardens. Unclassified gardens were categorized using newly established criteria based on collected information. While there's less data about these gardens compared to historical ones, the primary goal of redevelopment is to recreate their era's ambiance while preserving existing landscape, dendrological, and architectural values.

**Keywords:** case studies, classified historical gardens, non classified historical gardens, historical garden research

### Introduction

In the Banat region, there are various architectural-landscape ensembles, some of which are not categorized as historical gardens but hold local significance due to their architectural elements, vegetation, or historical context. These gardens, despite their smaller scale, contribute to the region's landscape culture and can be considered valuable visual and ecological assets.

In this paper we examine not only gardens listed as historical monument but also castles, mansions, and their associated gardens that

may have the potential for monument status. The selection criteria included architectural coherence, condition, historical and stylistic analysis, as well as the natural heritage value. The research involved a comprehensive examination of old documents and family archives, specialized literature, maps, and postcards to piece together the history of these properties (Archives of the National Heritage Institute, 1974; Hungarian National Archives in Budapest; Timiș Real Estate Registration and Advertising Office; Office of Registry and Real

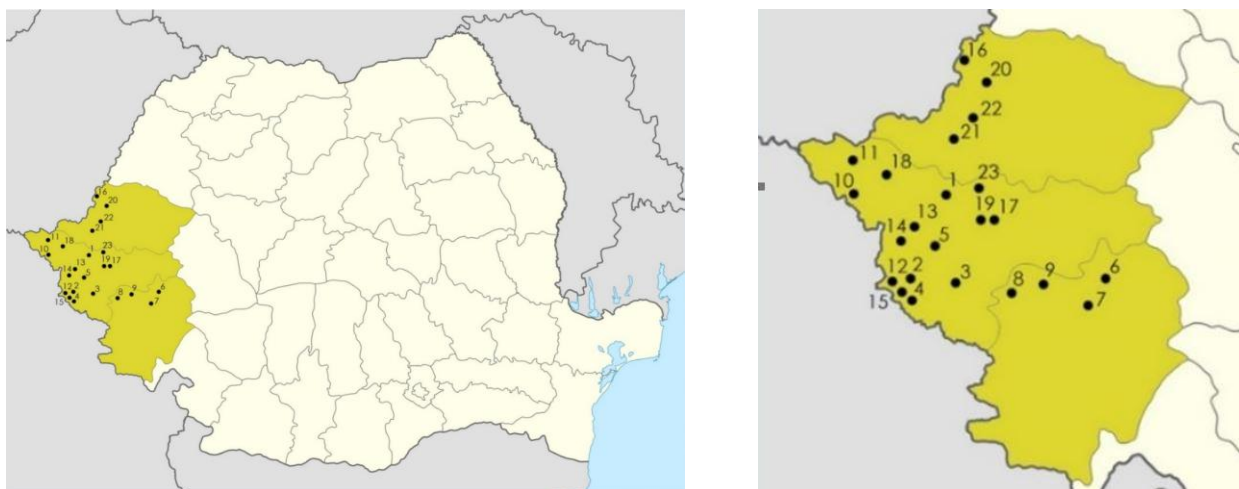
Estate Advertising Arad). Visual materials, including postcards and maps (Horváth H., 2010; Horváth H., 1998), helped provide insights into the historical landscapes. Cadastral records, military topographical maps, and historical maps from the Arcanum Digiteca military surveys, were also invaluable for understanding the development of the sites (Borovsky S., 1896). In total over 40 sites were visited, and 33 mansions/castles and gardens were selected for in-depth study. Among these, 10 were listed as historical monuments, while 23 remained unclassified, spanning across Arad, Timiș, and Caraș Severin counties.

The primary focus of this research was to reveal architectural elements and landscape arrangements that contributed to the historical and cultural significance of these gentry

residences, regardless of their official classification. In some cases, valuable information was extracted from the work of Bicsok Zoltán és Orbán Zsolt (Bicsok Z. & Orbán Zs., 2015). During the site visits, a total of 23 gardens related to nobiliary residences were identified, with 16 in Timiș County, 4 in Caraș Severin County, and 3 in Arad County.

## 2. Materials and methods

After visiting the 23 gardens (**Fig. 1.**) associated with various castles and mansions, whether officially designated as historical monuments or not, we were able to form a comprehensive understanding of their present condition in relation to the historical information and documents (Hegedüs N. M., 2018) we unearthed during our research.



**Fig. 1.** Gardens not officially classified as historical monuments visited on-site:

- (1) Carani-Timiș-Saurau Féger; (2) Rudna-Timiș - Residence Nikolics; (3) Folea-Timiș - Residence Beniczky; (4) Livezile-Timiș - Gyertyánffy Residence; (5) Șag-Timiș-Rónay Residence; (6) Zăgujeni-Caraș Severin - Jakabffy Castle – Juhász; (7) Delinești – Caraș Severin – Bródy Residence; (8) Ghertenis-Caraș Severin-Hollósi Manor Park; (9) Valeapai-Caraș Severin-Athanaszievich Castle Park; (10) Comloșu Mare – Timiș – San Marco Manor Park; (11) Sânnicolau Mare – Timiș – Nákó Manor Park; (12) Foeni –Timiș-Mocsonyi mansion park; (13) Beregsau Mic-Timiș-Damaszkin István Castle Park; (14) Cenei-Timiș-Uzbasich Manor Park; (15) Giera-Timiș- Park of the Gyetyánffy István mansion; (16) Grănicerii-Timiș-Csávossy Castle Park; (17) Izvin-Timiș-Park of the Ottlik Péter mansion; (18) Pesac-Timiș-Zichy Manor Park; (19) Remetea Mare-Timiș-Ambrózy Castle Park; (20) Șimand - Arad - Kintyig Castle Park; (21) New Arad-Arad-Nopcsa Castle Park; (22) Zimandu Nou-Arad-Kintzig Castle Park; (23) Murani-Timiș-Manaszgy Barco Manor Park

The primary goal of our study was to highlight historical values that are at risk of disappearing, both in terms of their landscaping and architectural significance. Our aim is to reintegrate these discovered values into the architectural and landscape history of the region, preserving them as historical artifacts

We classified these gardens based on various criteria inspired by a range of sources (Fejérdy T., 2014; Fekete A., 2012; Fekete A., 2004; Marcus R., 1958; Milea A. P., 2088) that considered both their current and historical worth. We compiled an inventory of the gardens, drawing on written and visual information collected over time and cross-referenced this data with their current state. This information was verified through site visits, leading to a photographic documentation that compared their current condition with their historical appearance, reconstructed using historical information, military maps, and historical images.

### Classification criteria

Our classification structure was divided into three main categories, each with its own set of subcategories. The classification of properties was made based on the following criteria:

- I. General data:
  - Current function
  - Current owners
  - Past owners
  - The time of construction
- II. Architectural, artistic and urban planning value:
  - Valuable buildings, included in the list of historical monuments
  - Adopted landscape typology
- III. Memorial-symbolic value

### Case Study

By understanding the real estate classification criteria used to evaluate architectural and landscape values, we successfully documented the cases we studied. However, owing to a lack of sufficient information and historical documentation to validate all the criteria listed and the fact that some of these gardens no longer exist, our focus shifted away from the original intent of inclusion in the list of historical monuments. Instead, we utilized this methodological framework as a basis for their general classification, adapting it based on the information gathered during our research.

#### I. General data

In this category we considered the general information about the building, where the accumulated information regarding the current function was taken into account, the identification of past and present owners (**Table 1.**), and a classification of the buildings was carried out according to the criterion of age, which was correlated with the date of the construction of the castle/mansion, because no exact data were found about the start of the landscaping of the gardens. Therefore the age criterion was divided in the following way:

- the building built before 1775 – being considered of exceptional value;
- the building built between 1775-1830 – being considered of very high value;
- the building built between the years 1830-1870 - being considered of high value;
- the building built between the years 1870-1920 - being considered of medium value;
- the building built between the years 1920-1960 - being considered of low value;
- the building built after 1960 – being considered to have zero value (**Table 2.**)

**Table 1.** General data about the property

	<b>Current function</b>	<b>Present owners</b>	<b>Past owners</b>
Carani-TM Saurau Féger	No function	Private	Claudius Florimond Mercy; 1780- count Johannes Saurau; 1805 - 1870 the Spanish Lo Presti family from Fontana d'Angioli (1804); 1870 -1874 count János Barinyai; Until 1931 Oskar Feger; It was nationalized and transformed into CAP, operating thus until 1989; After 1990, it was claimed by the descendants
Rudna – TM Nikolics residence	Home	Private Maria and Willie Radermacher	The Nikolics family-János III Nikolics and Todor Ivankovics; János III Nikolics; János IV Nikolics; János VII Nikolics; Peter IV; Fedor I Nikolics; Alexandru Lighezan; The Romanian state
Folea – TM Beniczky residence	No function	Private dr. Maria Goga	George Beniczky
Livezile –TM Gyertyánffy residence	Unknown function	Private Cristian M.	Familia Gyertyánffy-Lukács Gyertyánffy; László Gyertyánffy; Mária, Elisabeta and Gabriela Gyertyánffy; Statul Român; Maria Bogoiu
Şag – TM Rónay residence	No function	Unknown	Ronay family; Mihai Acxel de Zombor and Valentin Watz; Olah Miclos; Mihail Oexel; IAS- farm Olaru
Zăguzeni – CS Jakabffy – Juhász castle	No function	Private	Jakabffy Kristóf; Imre and Gyula Kopal; Jakabffy Elemér; Hermine von der Heydte; Juhász family
Delineşti – CS Bródy residence	School	Local admin.	Aristides Manziarli; Emilia Cretin Manziarli; Pia and Aristia Manziarly; Bródy family
Gherteniş-CS Hollósi mansion	No function	Unknown	Hollósi from Gertenyes
Valeapai-CS Athanaszievich castle	No function	Private	Athanaszievich family -Marcel and Emil Athanaszievich; Daughter of Ioana Athanaszievich and Count Baich de Vărădia; Ambrozy Béla; The Riesz family - Petru Riesz
Comloşu Mare – TM San Marco mansion	Town hall	Local admin.	brothers Cristofor and Ciril Nako; count Ioan Nako; Mileva Nákó; The Romanian state
Sânnicolau Mare –TM Nákó mansion	House of culture- Museum	Local admin.	Nákó Kristóf and Cziril; Nákó Kálmán
Foeni –TM Mocsonyi mansion	House of culture	Local admin.	Mocsonyi family
Beregsau Mic-TM Damaszkin István castle	No function	Private Mucsalov family	Damaszkin-Simon family; Iván Mucsalov; The Romanian state
Cenei-TM Uzbasich mansion	Home	Private	Uzbasich family
Giera-TM Gyetyánffy István mansion	No function	Unknown	Gyertyánffy family

Grănicerii-TM Csávossy castle	Non-existent	Unknown	Csávossy family
Izvin-TM Ottlik Peter mansion	Horse stud	Horse stud from Izvin, Under the National Directorate of Forests Romsilva	Ottlik Péter
Pesac-TM Zichy mansion	No function	Unknown	Unknown
Remetea Mare-TM Ambrózy castle	No function	Private	Baronii Ambrózy; Bozsák Francisc; (UJCOOP)Federal Coop
Șimand – AR Kintzig castle	No function	Unknown	Unknown
Aradul Nou-AR Nopcsa castle	School	Local admin.	László Nopcsa; General Berthelot
Zimandu Nou-AR Kintzig castle	Cultural events	Private	Baron Kintzig
Murani-TM Manaszy Barco mansion	Home	Private	Manaszy family

**Table 2.** The construction age of the building

	Before 1775	1775-1830	1830-1870	1870-1920	1920-1960	After 1960
Carani-TM Saurau Féger	•					
Rudna – TM Nikolics residence		•				
Folea – TM Beniczky residence				•		
Livezile –TM Gyertyánffy residence		•				
Sag – TM Rónay residence						
Zagujeni – CS Jakabffy – Juhász castle		•				
Delinesti – CS Bródy residence			•			
Ghertenis-CS Hollósi mansion		•				
Valeapai-CS Athanaszievich castle			•			
Comloșu Mare – TM San Marco mansion		•				
Sânnicolau Mare –TM Nákó mansion			•			
Foeni –TM Mocsonyi mansion	•					
Beregsau Mic-TM Damaszkín István castle		•				
Cenei-TM Uzbasich mansion						
Giera-TM Gyertyánffy István mansion			•			
Granicerii-TM Csávossy castle						
Izvin-TM Ottlik Péter mansion				•		
Pesac-TM Zichy mansion						
Remetea Mare-TM Ambrózy castle		•				
Șimand – AR Kintzig castle						
Aradul Nou-AR Nopcsa castle		•				
Zimandu Nou-AR Kintzig castle				•		
Murani-TM Manaszy Barco mansion	•					

**Table 3.** Architectural and landscape value of the analyzed cases

	Valued buildings, included in the list of historical monuments	The adopted landscape typology			
Carani-TM Saurau Féger	TM-II-m-A-06192.				■.□.
Rudna – TM Nikolics residence	TM-II-m-B-06278		◇2.□.		
Folea – TM Beniczky residence				◇1.	
Livezile –TM Gyertyánffy res.					
Sag – TM Rónay residence				◇1.	
Zagujeni – CS Jakabffy Juhász castle	CS-II-m-B-11228		◇2.◇3		
Delinești – CS Bródy residence				◇1.□.	
Ghertenis-CS Hollósi mansion					◇3.
Valeapai-CS Athanaszievich castle	CS-II-m-B-11223				◇3.
Comloșu Mare–TM San Marco mans.	TM-II-m-B-06208			◇3.	
Sânnicolau Mare –TM Nákó mansion	TM-II-m-A-06287				◇3.
Foeni –TM Mocsonyi mansion	TM-II-m-A-06226				■.◇1.□
Beregsau Mic-TM Damaszkín István castle					◇3.
Cenei-TM Uzbasich mansion	TM-II-m-B-06197			◇1.	
Giera-TM Gyertyánffy István mansion					
Grănicerii-TM Csávossy castle					
Izvin-TM Ottlik Péter mansion			◇2.		
Pesac-TM Zichy mansion					
Remetea Mare-TM Ambrózy castle	TM-II-m-A-06276			◇4.□	
Șimand – AR Kintzig castle					
Aradul Nou-AR Nopcsa castle	AR-II-m-B-00568				
Zimandu Nou-AR Kintzig castle		◇4.			
Murani-TM Manaszy mansion	TM-II-m-B-21014.			◇4.□	

The age criteria were correlated following the date of construction of the castle/mansion since no exact data was found about the start of the garden arrangement around the constructions.

## II. Architectural, artistic and urban planning value:

The architectural, artistic and urban value of these buildings was determined primarily by considering their presence on the List of Historical Monuments, after which their association with a specific historical era was taken into account, as they are representative of an author or of a specific style (the ■ symbol was used to mark this category). The second subcategory analyzed the landscape typology adopted as follows: valuable landscape components (the symbol □ was used to mark this category) and representativeness within a

program or specific typologies (the symbol ◇ was used to mark this category) (**Table 3.**). This evaluation was realized based on the position of the castle/mansion in relation to the studied land.

## III. Memorial-symbolic value

When determining the memorial-symbolic value, the belonging of these buildings to certain personalities of noble rank was taken into account. The classification of these buildings is followed by a photographic documentary that encompasses all the accumulated visual information. This collection includes historical maps and contemporary maps, vintage images, and images of the current situation. In some of the studied cases we have the opportunity to observe the evolution over time of these castles/mansions and their related gardens.



These gardens represent the artistic creations of noble families who were the driving force behind the establishment of both the castles and the gardens. In many instances, these nobles played a pivotal role in shaping the development of the localities where they erected their residences.

All the gardens and mansions we've examined hold significant historical and geographical importance. However, in most cases, we cannot discern a coherent landscape plan due to the disappearance of garden features over time. The original garden layout can be reconstructed in some cases through historical maps and vintage images.

Although there's undeniable evidence of a typology for these facilities in relation to the castle, the precise plan of the gardens is no longer discernible. In most cases, the only remnants of the vintage parks are tall vegetation found in specific areas on the site, lacking a clear, logical pattern, serving as a testimonial glimpse into what these landscapes once were.

#### ■ **Representativeness for a historical era, author or style.**

Most of the studied gardens were made during the neoclassical style, belonging to the broader landscape style. However, we also identified gardens from the baroque and neobaroque periods. The classification of gardens in these stylistic periods cannot be achieved by examining the current condition due to their degradation or disappearance. It can only be accomplished through the analysis of photographs, postcards, cadastral maps or the description of these gardens in various specialized articles and books. It is known from the written documents and specialized articles studied that many of these gardens were designed by specialists brought from

outside the country, especially by Austrian craftsmen and architects.

#### □ **Valuable landscaping components**

This criterion was based on the study of valuable visual landmarks, such as vantage points within the garden and outside it. For example: chapels, churches, representative buildings of the locality, etc., neatly located in relation to the position of the castle. It is also important to take into account the position of the construction concerning the surrounding environment, in most cases, these castles and mansions are strategically situated from an urban point of view in dominant positions, thus offering distinctive perspectives to and from the locality or area where they are located.

All these visual landmarks and valuable landscape elements are components of the landscaping. They give a certain character to the landscape, the locality and the place. These castles are visibly positioned at a higher elevation compared to the general built-up background of the locality, such as in the case of the castles from Carani, Delinești, Remetea Mare or Murani. In other cases, they are strategically situated in visual contact related to other architectural elements, like the visual connection between the castle and the village church, or between the castle and the chapel of the noble family. Such examples can be found in the case of the Rudna, Delinești and Foeni castles.

#### ◇ **Representativeness within a program or typologies**

The current planimetric typology was examined, more precisely the nature of the landscaping in accordance with the position of the castle. Thus, we can distinguish the

following typologies of spatial organization:

◊1. The approximately central positioning of the castle in relation to the relatively rectangular land, thus having a vegetal surface of a significant size both in front and behind the castle. This typology is observed in the castles/mansions of Delinești, Folea, Cenei, Șag and Foeni.

◊2. Positioning the castle/mansion closer to the main boundary of the land, with a vegetal surface in front of the construction and with two or more sectors of landscaping of a different character behind it. The primary rear garden serves as a decorative vegetable garden in the immediate vicinity of the mansion, followed by a garden of a different character and function (agricultural or leisure) with annexed spaces and very little decorative vegetation. This typology is observed in the case of the castles/mansions in Rudna, Zăgujeni and Izvin.

◊3. Positioning the castle/mansion very close to the main property boundary, in

the immediate vicinity of the street. This arrangement allows a large space for the decorative garden of the mansion, which also serves as the main access to the interior, this being the main facade of the mansion. This typology observed in the case of the castles/mansions in Zăgujeni, Valeapai, Gherteniș, Comloșu Mare, Beregsau Mic and Sânnicolau Mare.

◊4. Positioning of the castle/mansion centered on a land area of a larger size than those mentioned earlier, with an irregular planimetric shape. The centrally positioned construction is surrounded by high vegetation in abundance, both in front and behind it and to the side of the construction. This typology is exemplified by the castles/mansions in Remetea Mare, Zimandu Nou and Murani

When granting the qualification based on the criterion related to memorial-symbolic value, the ownership of the buildings by certain personalities of noble rank was considered (**Table 4.**)

**Table 4.** The memorial-symbolic value of the property (based on Lendvai M., 1911; Hungarian National Pocket Book, 1888; Nagy I., 1858; Reiszig E.,)

Carani-TM-Saurau Féger	Claudius Florimund Mercy, Contele János Saurau, Lo Prești de la Fontana Da Angioli, Groful János Barinyai. (Barinai Kempelen).
Rudna – TM – Nikolics residence	Nikolics noble family
Folea – TM- Beniczky residence	Beniczky noble family
Livezile –TM- Gyertyánffy residence	Gyertyánffy noble family
Șag – TM- Rónay residence	Rónay noble family
Zăgujeni – CS- Jakabffy – Juhász castle	Jakabffy noble family
Delinești – CS- Bródy residence	
Gherteniș-CS- Hollósi mansion	Hollósi de Gertenyes noble family
Valeapai-CS- Athanaszievich castle	Athanaszievich noble family <sup>1</sup> Ambrózy noble family
Comloșu Mare – TM- San Marco mansion	Nákó noble family
Sânnicolau Mare –TM- Nákó mansion	Nákó noble family
Foeni –TM- Mocsonyi mansion	Mocsonyi noble family
Beregsau Mic-TM- Damaszkín István castle	Damaszkín noble family
Cenei-TM- Uzbasich mansion	
Giera-TM- Gyertyánffy István mansion	Gyertyánffy noble family



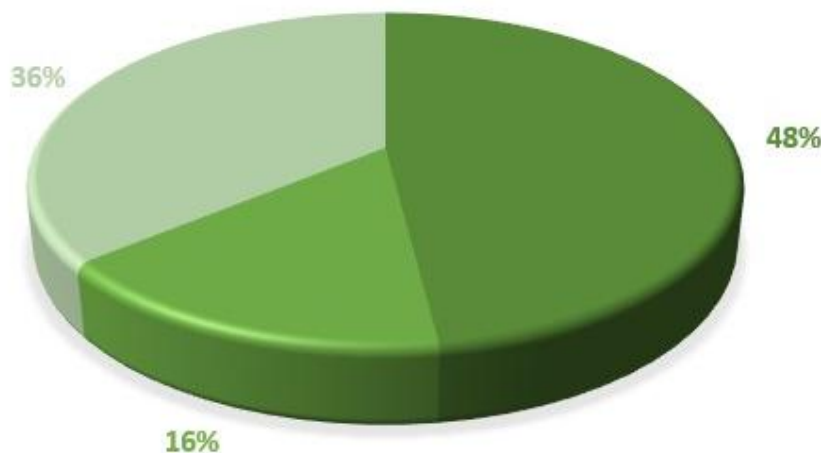
Grănicerii-TM- Csávossy castle	Csávossy noble family
Izvin-TM- Ottlik Péter mansion	Ottlik noble family
Pesac-TM- Zichy mansion	Zichy noble family
Remetea Mare-TM- Ambrózy castle	Ambrózy noble family
Șimand – AR- Kintzig castle	Kintzig noble family
Aradul Nou-AR- Nopcsa castle	Nopcsa noble family
Zimandu Nou-AR- Kintzig castle	Kintzig noble family
Murani-TM- Manaszy mansion	Manaszy noble family

### 3. Results and discussion

The gardens associated with the manor houses we studied, some of which have disappeared entirely, while others still preserve valuable architectural and landscape elements, represent historical treasures with significant documentation sources. These sources include books, articles, and vintage postcards, which offer a somewhat clear representation of the historical landscape designs.

Of the 23 sites we visited, 16 were established between 1775 and 1830, forming a distinct series within a specific historical-

geographical region and era. Each estate was once owned by prominent noble families, but today, they are mostly in private ownership, often by individuals unknown to the public or under the stewardship of the Romanian State, and used by local authorities. Through our study of these non-historical monument gardens, it became evident that none of these landscapes have survived entirely in accordance with the garden design of the original period.



**Fig. 2.** The original footprint of the historical currently existing garden (Hegedüs N. M., 2018): 48% there are no traces of the landscaping of the original garden; 36% landscaping with plant elements and existing built elements - only tall vegetation positioned in certain areas of the site - less than 50% according to the landscaping model of the original period garden; 16% landscape arrangements with plant elements and existing built elements and currently ~ 50% according to the landscape arrangement model of the original garden; 0% existing landscaping entirely based on the original period garden landscaping model

In a significant number of cases, approximately 48% of the unclassified gardens, there are no visible traces of the original garden. These gardens lack any signs of historical vegetation arrangements, alleys, access pathways, or ancillary constructions that would provide evidence of their original design. Here are some notable examples:

- Gyergyánffy Castle Park in Livezile: The park features a contemporary ornamental rear garden with no signs of historical vegetation or period design. It is laid out in a contemporary style and lacks any vintage architectural elements or vegetation.
- Csávossy Castle Park in Grăniceri: The study couldn't be conducted due to the wild vegetation, indicating the possible loss of this castle.
- Mocsonyi Castle Park in Foeni: The park has been deforested, and there are no traces of its original layout, as indicated on vintage maps.
- Hollósi Castle Park in Gherteniș, Damaszkín Castle Park in Beregsău Mic, and Zichy Mansion in Pesac: These parks have high vegetation, but it is in a wild and neglected state and doesn't necessarily adhere to historical landscape logic.

Another group, approximately 36% of unclassified gardens, still have evidence of the original garden, albeit in an advanced wild state. However, they contain less than 50% of the landscape and plant elements compared to the vintage garden model. Notable examples include:

- Saurau Feger Castle Park in Carani: A Baroque-style park with symmetrical alleys, now in ruins concealed by unkempt vegetation.
- Ronay Castle in Șag: The vintage park has been lost, and the site is overgrown

with nettles, with remnants of old trees on the boundaries.

- Bródy Castle Park in Delinești: The park is divided into two areas, one with tall vegetation and another in front of the building, resembling the period image. The latter is used as a school recreation park.
- Athanszievich Castle Park in Valeapai: There are traces of tall, wild vegetation behind the construction and in certain areas of the site.
- Nákó Castle Park in Sânnicolau Mare: The park was intensively restructured and now functions as an open-air theater, with traces of tall vegetation on the site.
- Kintzig Castle Park in Zimandu Nou: The park is spacious, well-maintained, and contains rare tree species, with evidence of tall vegetation reminiscent of the vintage park.
- Ottlik Péter Castle Park in Izvin: The park has new elements and architectural features, along with a field designed for horse riding and various annexes.
- Uzbasich Residence Park in Cena: The park's arrangement differs from vintage images, with an abundance of high and medium vegetation.

A smaller portion, around 16% of the unclassified gardens, still contain plant and architectural elements that resemble the original model. These parks have maintained their site structure according to the historical design. Examples include: Nikolics Castle Park in Rudna, Beniczky Castle Park in Folea, Jakabffy Castle Park in Zagujeni, Ambrózy Castle Park in Remetea Mare, Manaszy Barco Castle Park in Murani. These parks have preserved elements of their original layout and feature original structures like chapels and household annexes.

This segment of the analyses provides an inventory of manor house and castle gardens, both classified and unclassified as historical monuments. The study of unclassified gardens aimed to document their current condition compared to their original state, following a methodology similar to that used for classified historical gardens. However, it's important to note that the quantity of information available for unclassified gardens is significantly less than that available for historical monument gardens.

## Conclusions

Throughout history, humans have shown a desire to play the role of the Almighty, attempting to change and improve the environment, which is inherently perfect and not amenable to lasting human-made alterations. The natural environment operates differently; when left undisturbed, it persists and develops naturally according to its own rules. Man-made gardens, structured and restructured, are created based on human concepts, visions, and contemporary fashions. Over time, they may deteriorate due to natural factors and changing trends in landscaping (Vais D., 2008).

This research focuses on the historical gardens associated with castles and manor houses belonging to noble families in the Banat region. The research delves into the evolution of these landscapes over time, examining them from historical, architectural, and socio-cultural perspectives.

The research targets specialists in the field engaged in development and restoration projects for historical monuments. By gathering historical documents and cadastral maps, the study provides these experts with insights into the original historical parks and the possibility of restoring them. The aim of the study is to foster a positive appreciation of

historic gardens and monuments and addresses various stakeholders, including cultural heritage preservationists, local and national decision-makers, funding sources, planners, local communities, tourists, cultural institutions, and the commercial sector.

Case studies were conducted to analyze the current state and evolution of historic gardens in the Banat region. These studies followed a specific methodology, encompassing on-site research, archival investigation, and analysis of historical maps. The case studies, although diverse in terms of program and historical period (ranging from the 18th to the 21st century), revealed a relative stability in the state of the historic built heritage. Castles remained structurally unchanged, with only minor modifications to ancillary buildings in some cases.

The state of castles and their parks varies. Some are well-maintained and in constant use, while others have fallen into a state of advanced decay, both in terms of their built heritage and landscape.

Historical documents serve as a reliable source of information for specialists aiming to restore these parks. The study focused on historical gardens, which, although not classified as historical monuments, hold significant historical importance. The available historical and current information, while less extensive than that of listed gardens, is still valuable for understanding their past.

Rehabilitation or restoration of historic gardens should be preceded by thorough historical research. New interventions should complement and enhance the architectural ensemble, and the choice of the stylistic period should be informed by available historical data, ensuring the preservation of elements from different historical periods. The research provides a foundation for the rehabilitation of historic parks, considering historical context, regional trends, and the ensemble's new

functions. Flexibility is crucial, as gardens evolve over time, reflecting the ideas of different owners.

The ultimate goal of redevelopment is to evoke the atmosphere of the era in which the gardens were originally created while preserving existing landscape, dendrological, and architectural values. The techniques for rehabilitating historic gardens represent a complex subject, and the study suggests opportunities for further research and exploration. This research remains an ongoing theme, involving future interweaving in terms of historical documents, authenticity issues, restoration theories, and possibilities for the preservation and rehabilitation of historic gardens.

### Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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