

Introduction

Based on the cooperation of TU Wien with Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urban planning in Bucharest, architect and planning students of TU Wien are invited to participate in a Summer School and to either participate in architectural Design Workshops, EU project Development Workshops and Cultural Heritage excursions. Dealu Frumos/Schönberg is situated exactly in the centre of Romania and part of the county Sibiu/Hermannstadt.

Objectives

My concept is the development of a touristic farm in Dealu Frumos that would encourage the tourism. That would also be helpful for the church in Dealu Frumos that was recently restaurated and could become a touristic objective like for example "Biertan". I needed to see the village, the church and meet the people responsible with a farm in the area to see if they have profit from what they are doing or if they would like to change their business or if they want to sell. Also to see the traditional building types of the area.

Tour Report

We've met at 11am at the Austrian Consulate in Sibiu where we heard presentations from Sebastian Bethge about the restoration of the fortified churches and Hana Derer about the history of the saxon civilization in Romania. After that we visited the evanngelic church in sibiu, it was under renovation but we could climb the tower to get a few photos with Sibiu. The next day we visited the village museum (Astra Museum) in Sibiu where we've learn more about the saxon and romanian traditional building types. In the afternoon Milan Racek thought us to paint with earth colours and we've painted some houses that we saw in the morning. The next day we where on our way to Dealu Frumos but on the way we stopped to see the churches from Hosman, Nocrich, Altana, Pelisor, Veseud and a artist society where they made traditional pottery. The next morning we've met the Koreans at Dealu Frumos and Koji Harashina presented us all the landscape development of Japan. We had the honor to get a tour of the fortified church in Dealu Frumos by Liviu Gligor, the architect that did the restoration of the church. The Koreans presented us their Smart Farming idea that they wanted to apply in Romania. The next day we went to Apold where we visited another church that was completely restaurated and in good shape. After that we went to Sighisoara (Schassburg) where we visited the historical center. The next destination was Birtan one of the UNESCO protected fortified churches in Transylvania. At noon we had lunch at a bio farm in Mosna where we also visited the church and after that a brick factory in Apos. The next morning was the road back home.

Informations about what we've visited

Austrian Consulate: In addition to Austria's consulate in Sibiu, Austria has three other representations in Romania. These representations include an embassy in Bucharest consulates in Constanta, and Timisoara.

The Fortified Churches Foundation: was established in autumn of 2015 on the basis of Romanian foundation law. As an expert institution we have the long-term objective of preserving and maintaining the religious and cultural heritage of the Evangelic Church of Augustan Confession in Romania. To do so, a large number of activities that go beyond the fields of construction and preservation are intended.

The Evangelic Church is one of the most impressive buildings in Sibiu. It was raised in the 14th century on the location of an old Roman church dating from the 12th century. The building is dominated by the seven level tower with the four towers on the corners, a mark showing that the city had the right of condemnation. With a height of 73.34 meters, the tower is the tallest in Transylvania.

Located in the center of Romania, The `ASTRA` National Museum Complex is the most important ethno-museum institution in Romania. It was created under the auspices of the Transylvanian Association for Romanian Literature and Culture of the Romanian People – which was an institution founded in 1861. The `ASTRA` Museum – formerly known as the Association Museum - opened its first exhibition on the 19th of August, 1905. The museum was founded out of the Transylvanian people's desire to define their own ethno-cultural identity within the Austro-Hungarian Empire multiculturalism and having as background the cultural emancipation of all peoples from the centre and south-east of Europe.

The Fortified Evangelical Church of Hosman, Sibiu County, was built in the 13th century. The church is on the historical monuments list 2010

Nocrich (German: Leschkirch; Hungarian: Újegyház) is a commune in Sibiu County, Romania, in the region of Transylvania. The commune is situated between Agnita and Sibiu. It is composed of five villages: Fofeldea, Ghijasa de Jos, Hosman, Nocrich and Țichindeal. Nocrich and Hosman have fortified churches.

Nocrich Scout Centre exists because of all the scouts and volunteers who had a soul stirring mission: to build a place in the heart of Transylvania where everyone is empowered to manifest and discover themselves through educational, cultural and social activities and programmes.

The Fortified Evangelical Church in Alțâna, Sibiu County, was built in the 16th century, on the site of a much older Romanesque basilica. The church is on the historical monuments list 2010.

Pelișor: The small towerless one-nave hall church in Pelișor was built in the 15th century and has remained almost unchanged until today. Only the nave was provided with a new stuccoed flat ceiling in the 19th century. In 1500 a polygonal curtain wall was built and endowed with four defensive towers, of which only the impressive gate tower with battlement walk survived the centuries. The assembly was strengthened on its western hillside with another wall with outer bailey built in 1600. The construction is still more than 10m high and preserves several defensive systems such as loopholes and embrasures.

The neoclassical white-golden altar consecrated in 1832 dominates the interior. The late Baroque organ however was moved to the evangelical church in Bucharest after restoration.

The first church of Veseud was built in 1494. The current church was built with the financial help of the faithful and the German Emperor Wilhelm I. The works lasted for 13 years (1863-1876). Its interior was endowed with an altar (17th century). The organ was built in 1867. Of the 2 bells, the largest was cast in the 15th century. The church is currently empty, the altar is at Cîsnădie, the organ at Cristian, the crystals and the bells at Sibiu.

Like most of the free communes of the "lordly county", Dealul Frumos had its own Romanesque basilica since the early 13th century. It had three naves, a square-planned choir and a semi-circular apse, but no belfry. The transformation of this basilica into a gothic hall church fortified with two defence towers was often used as an example of the evolution in the building of Saxon churches in Transylvania.

The village of Apold, Mureș County, Transylvania, is an ancient place first mentioned in an official record of 1309, with archaeological proof existing that it had been set up as early as the XI century, even before the settlement of the Saxons in Transylvania.

Sighișoara (Romanian pronunciation: [sigiˈʃɔara]; German: Schäßburg, pronounced [ˈʃɛsbøʁk]; Hungarian: Segesvár; Latin: Castrum Sex) is a city on the Târnava Mare River in Mureș County, Romania. Located in the historic region of Transylvania, Sighișoara has a population of 28,102 according to the 2011 census. It is a popular tourist destination for its well-preserved walled old town, which is listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

Biertan (German: Birtälml, Romani: Biyertan, Hungarian: Berethalom) is a commune in central Romania, in the north of the Sibiu County, 80 km north of Sibiu and 29 km east of Mediaș. Biertan is one of the most important Saxon villages with fortified churches in Transylvania, having been on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites since 1993. The Biertan fortified church was the see of the Lutheran Evangelical Bishop in Transylvania between 1572 and 1867.

Ecological Peasant Farm of the Schuster family in Moșna, Sibiu County

Moșna (German: Meschen; Hungarian: Muzsna) is a commune located in Sibiu County, Romania. It is composed of three villages: Alma Vii, Moșna and Nemșa. Moșna and Alma Vii have fortified churches. At the 2011 census, 84% of inhabitants were Romanians, 12.6% Roma, 1.8% Hungarians and 1.5% Germans.

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Solving our Flaws

After the first week we realized our concept had some flaws. We have spent our second week breaking true our problems. To be mentioned is that our main issue is that if we find a sponsor and our touristic farm will be built we still need to find tourists. The area is far away from every large city and also the tourist that would be interested in such a activity will more likely be from other countries like Austria, Germany, America and others. I went at Ocna Sibiului first to notice how the tourism is made there because this is a location that is about 12km away from Sibiu but it is heavily visited by tourist and it is fully booked the hole summer vacation. The advertisement was done just with the feedback of the people that went there in the first period. The initial investment was done on building the lakes with salty water that have healing effect. The Pensions where build shortly after that and they did their own advertisement that also brought new tourist to the area. I heard from a woman from Dealu Frumos that there is a spring that also has salty water in that area but our concept is not based on that. Ocna Sibiului is much closer to Sibiu and it is already developed so the potential would be very small. If Dealu Frumos will become a touristic center with our idea the potential in a future development in that direction will become possible and smart.

In the 2nd half of the week I went to another relevant touristic objective in the Sibiu area. That is Balea Lac in the Fagaras Mountains and the road that leads to it that is the so called "Transfagarasean". There I have noticed some traditional farms of sheep in a very important touristic area that where not accessible for tourist and I found this as a waist. When I was a child that area was barely populated and just a pair of tourist per day used to climb it. Now the huge new built parking place up there was full and some cars had to be parked on the street. That place was also advertised just true photos of the beautiful landscape made by the tourists. Then I figured out that even if our idea is touristic farming we can also include in our tourists vacation some excursions to see the beauty of Transilvania. Just not the citys and the largely populated area, just the more rural places that I personally find better and unique in Romania. As a conclusion we will solve our issue the same way that this two touristic areas did.

Happy Customers!