

LATE RENAISSANCE GARDEN ART IN THE CARPATHIAN BASIN

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Abstract

The aim of the article was to find, scientifically define and locate the most frequent occurrences of the Late Renaissance garden units of the Carpathian Basin. This article - as partial result of a research work entitled "Castle Garden Inventory in the Carpathian Basin" and conducted by teachers and students of the Faculty of Landscape Architecture and Urbanism of Szent István University, Budapest - aims to identify through historical research, on-site visits and assessments the current status of 148 Late Renaissance residency gardens located in seven different countries of the Carpathian Basin (Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, Ukraine, Romania, Croatia and Slovenia). Based on the archival and literary sources as well as the field studies carried out, we defined the spatial distribution of Late Renaissance residential gardens, we delineated six very characteristic Late Renaissance garden units and we defined the most typical Late Renaissance garden features for the region. At the same time, we explored and documented still existing values of garden history at some locations from the Renaissance era.

Keywords: garden history, landscape renewal, Renaissance garden, environmental art, Eastern Europe, historic garden, castle garden, Carpathian Basin, landscape architecture

1. Introduction

Background

As far as the Carpathian Basin is concerned, we have very little processed data on Late Renaissance garden history. However, the era is of great garden-historical significance as the Battle of Mohács in 1526, ending with the victory of the Turks, caused a major break not only in the history of the region, but in its culture and landscape, as well. In the course of the 16th and 17th centuries a huge part of the Carpathian Basin, namely Western Hungary, Upper Hungary and Transylvania, became

the last bastions of the spiritual and material heritage and that of the continuity of Christian European culture. (Köpeczi, 1986; Kovács, 2003). In the areas torn apart, the fulfilment of humanistic ideas was overshadowed by the struggle for survival. It is no coincidence, therefore, that the cinquecento garden art created by King Matthias Corvinus - and also praised by Bonfini - was discontinued in the Carpathian Basin in the 15th century. Although the decline of the garden culture in the entire Carpathian Basin is evident in the period following the reign of Matthias, we can still encounter examples of it, according to Emich (Emich, 1886) "pompous parks

at the Nádasdy and Rákóczi estates such as Kolozsvár, Sárospatak and Pozsony, Sopron, Moson counties” in the landscapes spared by the Ottomans.

Objectives

The main objective of the research is the thorough and systematic literature review of the Late Renaissance (17th century) garden culture of the Carpathian Basin, the synthesis and supplementation of the contemporary garden history of the area, based on archival sources. In the study the spatial location, the characteristic elements and functional units of the explored gardens are complemented by garden memories found during site visits and field work.

Renaissance garden art in the Carpathian Basin and Hungary

While in most countries outside Italy this Renaissance idea spread only at the beginning of the 16th century, the style appeared very early in the Carpathian Basin - and thus in Hungary: at around 1470. The launch of the style was underpinned by Hungary's strong political, dynastic and cultural ties with Italy - the dominant factor of which having been the marriage of King Matthias to Aragonian Beatrix in 1474. What followed as a direct consequence of the matrimony was the influx of notable Italian painters, sculptors and architects of the early Renaissance to the Hungarian Royal Court. (Dercsényi, 1951; Szakáj, 1959)

The first Hungarian Early Renaissance building was the Royal Palace of Buda. Its designer, the Italian Camiccio Chimenti, furnished it with special features such as the hanging garden, the main garden built between 1479 and 1484, or the New-World Garden (with mazes, walk porches, shape-trimmed trees and bushes). This first, early period of the Renaissance in the Carpathian Basin told about the royal court and its immediate surroundings, and it lasted until the death of King Matthias in 1490. (Herczeg, 2000) Beside the Buda Castle the Royal Palace,

Visegrád had a famous garden, rooted in the Middle Ages and renewed in a Renaissance style by King Matthias, but totally destroyed during the Ottoman invasion. (Szikra, 2003) The renewal of the Visegrád castle garden has been finished in several etapes during the 20-21st centuries.

The second period of the Hungarian Renaissance comprises the decades following the death of Matthias, with Mohács marking its end in 1526. In this period the Renaissance lifestyle spread and struck root in the lives of noble courts of the Carpathian Basin. The third and the longest Renaissance era is the one following 1526 and lasting till the end of the 17th century (in the eastern regions even the beginning of the 18th century), the Late Renaissance. The research primarily focuses on this period, since the Renaissance doctrines spread in the Carpathian Basin most extensively during this era, those being prevalent not only in the noble families, but also in the manor houses of small nobles as well as bourgeois families. (Kovács, 2003)

While in the first two periods the spiritual movement developed mainly thanks to the Italian and Western European relations, the Late Renaissance bears the marks of the isolation and different cultural impacts caused by the Turkish occupation - resulting in specific forms of local characteristics: in this period the garden memories are particularly rich and interesting in Transylvania, Western and Upper Hungary.

The two distinguished Hungarian garden history researchers, Raymund Rapaics and Imre Ormos hold offer opposing views when considering the impact of the Ottoman Empire, which had grown due to centuries of conquest, on the development of garden culture. (Rapaics, 1940; Ormos, 1967)

While Ormos clearly stands up for Turkish influence, Rapaics argues that “... the Turks had no direct impact on Hungarian horticulture. It is a misconception that Turkish prisoners or Turkish armies brought flowers to uninhabited parts of Hungary. Even the Transylvanian ambassadors visiting

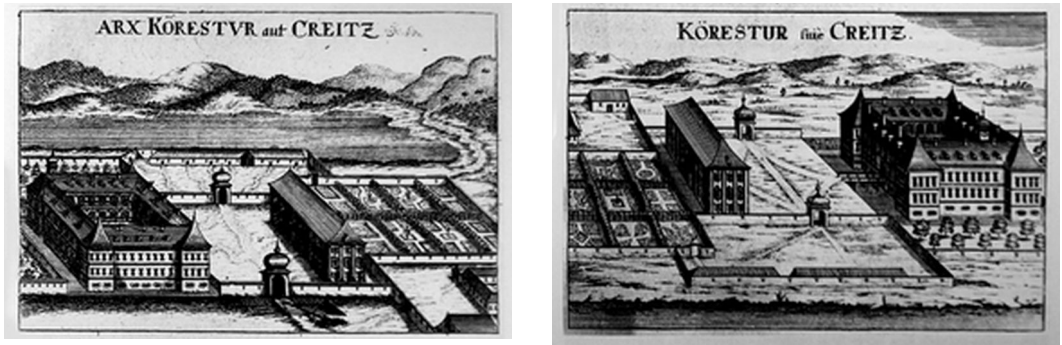


Fig. 1. Graphical representation of the Nádasdy castle from Sopronkeresztúr (Deutschkreuz, Austria) and the compartmented Renaissance gardens beside the castle building.
Gravures of M. Greischer, 1680. (Stirling, 1996)

the Turkish Sublime Porte could not lay hands on such things". (Rapaics, 1940) This statement by Rapaics is also supported by Lajos Csérer (Csérer, 1929) who writes, based on Anna Bornemissza's diary of 1672, that the princess orders Tamás Gyulai to "send pomegranate and orange saplings", but Gyulai replies that he cannot comply on account that those should be brought from overseas, from Asia Minor, making them too expensive. It is certain that the 17th-century Transylvanian gardens had their place by Turkish standards as well. It comes down to us via the Turkish traveler Evlija Cselebi, amongst others, who in the accounts of his Transylvanian and Hungarian travels from 1660 to 1664 clearly portrays the landscape features of many settlements and the horticultural habits of those living there. In his visit to Megyesvár (Medias, RO) in 1661, as a guest of Princess Anna Bornemissza, he enjoyed a lavish reception, of which he reports: "she threw a party in a garden akin to that of Irem, a rose grove resembling paradise and by language impossible to tell or describe". (Cselebi, 1985)

During the Turkish occupation, the patronage of Hungarian culture and science was primarily associated with the Nádasdy and Batthyány families in the Western Hungarian parts, as illustrated in Figure 1.

At the same time, the Transylvanian Principality was living its golden age when Gábor Bethlen, I. György Rákóczi and I.

Mihály Apafi were the ones who financed the flourishing period of the country. The gardens of Mihály Apafi and his wife Anna Bornemisza at Ebesfalva (Dumbraveni, RO), Küküllővár (Cetatea de Balta, RO), Székely (Sacueni, RO), Radnót (Iernut, RO) and Fogaras (Fagaras, RO) were also famous for their time in the independent principality of Transylvania in the 17th century. Their gardener, Péter Háji planted fruit trees in Ebesfalva and Fogaras, and built an ornamental garden: "rosegrove, lilies, reseda, pansy, lily of the valley, larkspur blossomed under the shadowy linden trees, and in the cypress groves and all over streamlets watered the flower beds; the Radnót princely garden was also magnificent, the 1667 accounts speak of a cost of 400 forints" (Biró, 1943)

The principality taken over from Prince Gábor Báthory owed its economic upswing to Gábor Bethlen's consistent country-building policy. The economic development of Transylvania, the great fortune of prince György Rákóczi I., who succeeded Bethlen, as well as the love of gardens felt by Zsuzsanna Lórántffy, Rákóczi's wife - allowed the spread of gardening in the eastern part of the Carpathian Basin. Famous from this time are the princely trellis, the two-storey summer house and the fruit preserve of the gardens at Porumbák (Porumbacu de Sus, RO), Görgényszentimre (Gurghiu, RO) and Fogaras (Fagaras, RO). Its rules are also based on the responsible thinking of a good farmer;

such as the martial statute, which states: "Nobody should dare fell or trim a fruit tree. Anyone refuting this order shall be beaten up. Damage to the vineyards is forbidden. Do not take there a horse ... because the one who does so will first be struck thrice, the second time will cause his deprivation of everything, the third occasion will get him killed." (Köpeczi, 1986)

With regard to periods of history of style we can state that the fact that there are many places in the Carpathian Basin where Renaissance still rules at the turn of the 17-18th centuries - is also attributable to the Turkish rule.

2. Research methodology

Description, analysis and comparison from the viewpoint of garden history requires a systematic and explicit approach. Our research approach is based on the principles of case study research. (Brink, 2016) So each site is considered as a case study and analyzed separately before a comparison is made. In the analysis we used an explicit analytical framework in order to be able to compare different sites with different geographical, economical and architectural contexts by different owners. Methods of data collection: comprising first of all a quantitative investigation of the existing archival (primary and secondary) sources and materials - descriptions, statements, land registrations, inventories, which incorporate qualitative aspects, methods - resulting in a first overview per case.

The research was conducted in four phases:

(1) Identification of all Renaissance sites (settlements, residences) in the study area, by examining and mapping of their spatial / geographic location.

(2) Determination of three fundamental types, based on the data of the researched locations:

- Type A: sites where the garden is not only mentioned but described specifi-

cally with its parameters;

- Type B: sites where the garden is just mentioned, the existence of one or more gardens is present, but no description of its delineation can be found;
- Type C: sites where there is no word about a garden, apart from a building; these latter ones are not relevant to our research, so we will not deal with them further.

(3) Investigation and analysis of type A sites, according to the elements and functional units found in the descriptions, as follows:

- the research of the distinct, clearly separable garden units, elements and functions of the era;
- the denomination and definition of the particular garden units and elements used in Late Renaissance (based on Hungarian and international literature);
- the investigation and the analysis of the locations of the individual garden units and their elements in the study area;
- the analysis of the frequency of each typical garden unit and its element;
- the search in each case for still existing ancient garden units or items, or any traces or memories of them.

(4) Documentation and interpretation in a European context (Creighton, 2009; Fekete, 2004; Fekete, 2006; Fekete, 2007; Fekete, 2008; Fekete, 2012; Fényes, 1851; Gy.Dávid, 2006; Herczeg, 2006; Hobhouse, 1992; Hunt, 1996; Hyde, 2016; Lazzaro, 1990; Marczali, 2001; Morgan, 2016; Sárospataki, 2014; Steenbergen, 1996; Strong, 1984; Szabó, 2000; Szafranska, 1989; Toman, 1995; Tüdős, 1998) of the results of archival research, analysis and fieldwork.

3. Results and discussion

The aristocratic gardens of the period in question were of a mixed character, merging the concepts of the vegetable and ornamental garden. If we classify the various garden types



Fig. 2a. Political map of central Europe nowadays (detail) with the designated study area
 Source: Prepared by the author

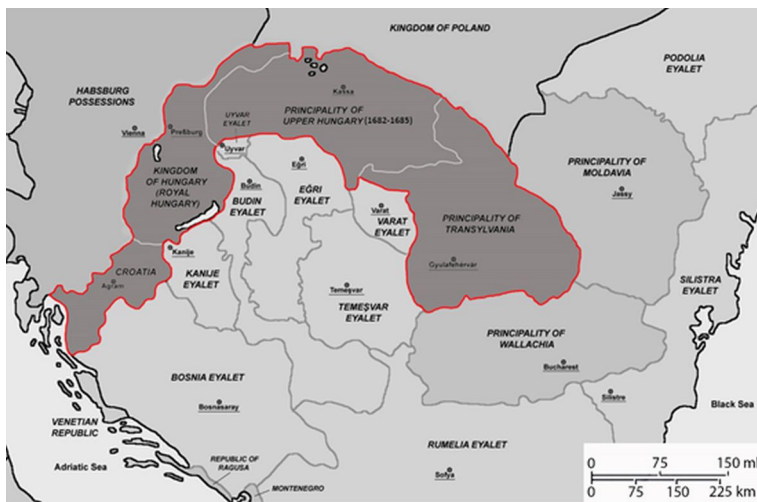


Fig. 2b. Map of Central Europe in the middle of 17th Century, showing clear the expansion of the Ottoman Empire and the borders of non-occupied territories (Transylvanian Principality, Upper Hungary and Western Hungary)
 Source: Prepared by the author using as source the Encyclopedia Britannica, 1998

according to the plant species found in them, the gardens of the late Renaissance period should be considered vegetable-flower gardens, geometrically compartmented garden with some built elements. As early as the beginning of the sixteenth century the compartment – in which the flowers were planted in regular order and with geometrical precision – became the central

part of ornamental gardens throughout Europe. Because of the “cultural lag” this garden motif, like many others, also appeared in Eastern Europe after a century’s delay. The distribution of the compartments was at once science and art, and horticultural handbooks taught in this era the design of the compartmented garden.

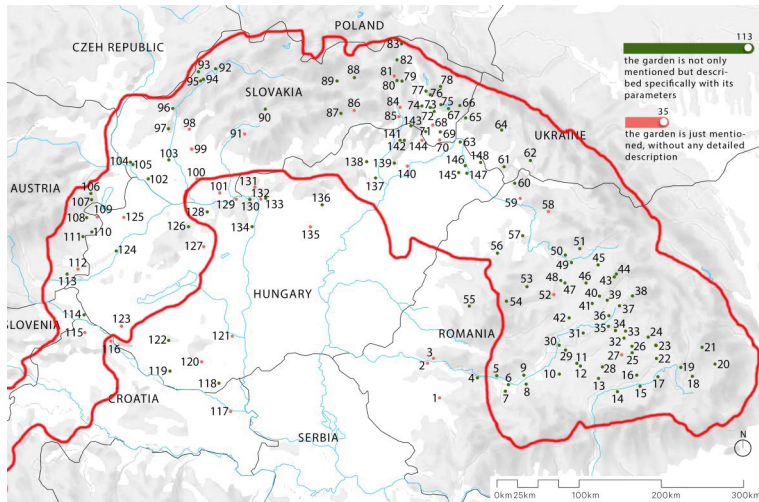


Fig. 2c. Location map of the investigated late Renaissance gardens, prepared by the Author. The comparative analysis of the spatial distribution and the political map of the Carpathian Basin in the 17th Century

Identification of Late Renaissance gardens/sites – spatial distribution

The study area is located in Central and Eastern Europe, illustrated in Figure 2a.

During the archival research 148 sites where we can state that there was a Late Renaissance garden were discovered. The mapping of the identified sites clearly shows their spatial location within the Carpathian Basin. The region being strongly influenced by the Ottoman Empire during the 16-17th centuries, it was very important to define the location of each investigated site related to the political map of the 17th Century, illustrated in Figure 2b, overlapped with the current country borders from the region, illustrated in Figure 2c.

The comparative analysis of the site locations and the political map of the Carpathian Basin in the 17th Century supports the hypotheses claiming that in the 16-17th Centuries Renaissance culture - and as part of it the garden culture - was missing or only existed to a very little extent, being sporadically present in the territories occupied by the Turks. In contrast, there were a large number of Late Renaissance residences, with their surrounding gardens,

in the unoccupied territories of the Carpathian Basin (Transylvanian Principality, Upper Hungary and Western Hungary).

Of the 148 locations identified, in 113 cases specific descriptions document in detail the existence of the garden, its units and elements ("type A"). In 35 cases the garden is only mentioned, that is, the existence of one or more gardens is referred to, but no specific description of them is to be found ("type B"). The geographical distribution and the names of the locations are represented in Figure 2c and Table 1.

Definition of Late Renaissance garden units

We defined a garden unit as a garden or garden section with independent denomination and function. We investigated and analyzed the frequency of occurrences and location of each garden unit. In the case of "type A" sites, we located a total of six characteristic garden units on the basis of the descriptions, and which occurred regularly in the examined Late Renaissance gardens. These were defined individually by the Hungarian and international literature.

Table 1. The list of investigated sites. The numeration marks the spatial distribution of the sites on the map from the figure 2c. Source: Prepared by the author

No	Hungarian (original) denomination of the settlement	Actual official denomination of the settlement and its location (country)	No	Hungarian (original) denomination of the settlement	Actual official denomination of the settlement and its location (country)
1	Lugos	Lugoj, RO	34	Kóródszenmárton	Coroisanm. RO
2	Lippa	Lipova, RO	35	Nagyteremi	Tirimia, RO
3	Odvos	Odvos, RO	36	Marosszentkirály	Sancr Mures, RO
4	Marosillye	Ilia, RO	37	Gernyeszeg	Gornesti, RO
5	Branyicska	Branisca, RO	38	Görgényszentimre	Gurghiu, RO
6	Kisbarcsa	Barcea Mica, RO	39	Nagyercse	Ercea, RO
7	Vajdahunyad	Hunedoara, RO	40	Mezőörményes	Urmenis, RO
8	Szászsebes	Sebes, RO	41	Mezőzáh	Zaul de Campie, RO
9	Algyógy	Geoagiu, RO	42	Gerend	Luncani, RO
10	Drassó	Drasov, RO	43	Paszmos	Posmus, RO
11	Szászcsanád	Cenade, RO	44	Nagysajó	Sieu, RO
12	Sorostély	Sorostin, RO	45	Kentelke	Chintelnic, RO
13	Borberek	Vurpar, RO	46	Búza	Búza, RO
14	Alsóárpás	Arpasu de Jos, RO	47	Gyeke	Geaca, RO
15	Fogaras	Fagaras, RO	48	Kendilóna	Luna de Jos, RO
16	Sáros	Soars, RO	49	Szentbenedek	Manastireni, RO
17	Komána	Com de Sus, RO	50	Kaplyon	Coplean, RO
18	Sepsiköröspatak	Valea Crisului, RO	51	Négerfalva	Negrilesti, RO
19	Miklósvár	Micloszoara, RO	52	Szamosfalva	Somesen-Cluj, RO
20	Kézdiszentlélek	Sanzieni, RO	53	Egeres	Aghires, RO
21	Csíkkozmás	Cozmeni, RO	54	Zentelke	Sancaiu, RO
22	Pálos	Palos, RO	55	Belényes	Beius, RO
23	Bögöz	Mugeni, RO	56	Szilágysomlyó	Simleul Silv. RO
24	Siménfalva	Simonesti, RO	57	Szilágycseh	Cehu Silv. RO
25	Sárpatak	Sarpotoc, RO	58	Nagybánya	Baia Mare, RO
26	Nagybún	Boiu, RO	59	Aranyosmeggyes	Med Auriu, RO
27	Keresd	Cris, RO	60	Halmi	Halmeu, RO
28	Martonfalva	Metis, RO	61	Tiszaújhely	Nove Selo, UKR
29	Búzásbocsárd	Buc Granoasa, RO	62	Huszt	Hust, UKR
30	Meggykerék	Mescreac, RO	63	Tiszaszentmárton	HU
31	Magyarbükkkös	Bichis, RO	64	Szentmiklós	Cinadno, UKR
32	Szásznádas	Nades, RO	65	Ungvár	Uzsgorod, UKR
33	Szentdemeter	Dumitrei, RO	66	Sajóti	Tiba, SK

No	Hungarian (original) denomination of the settlement	Actual official denomination of the settlement and its location (country)	No	Hungarian (original) denomination of the settlement	Actual official denomination of the settlement and its location (country)
67	Magyar-Jesztreb	Zem Jastrabie, SK	100	Érsekújvár	Nove Zamky, SK
68	Garany	Hran, SK	101	Köbölkút	Gbelce, SK
69	Zétény	Zatín, SK	102	Nagyszarva	Rohovce, SK
70	Nagygéres	Velky Hores, SK	103	Galánta	Galanta, SK
71	Borsi	Borsa, SK	104	Pozsony-nádorkert	Bratislava, SK
72	Bánóc	Bánovce, SK	105	Pozsony-érsékkert	Bratislava, SK
73	Tussa	Tusice, SK	106	Kismarton	Eisenstadt, AU
74	Bacsókó	Backov, SK	107	Cinfalva	Siegendorf, AU
75	Nagymihály	Michalovce, SK	108	Sopronkeresztúr	Deutschkreuz, AU
76	Hrabóc	Hrabovec, SK	109	Lakompak	Lackenbach, AU
77	Varannó	VranovToplou, SK	110	Borsmonostor	Klostermarienberg, AU
78	Homonna	Humenné, SK	111	Léka	Lockenhaus, AU
79	Terjékfalva	Teriakovce, SK	112	Németújvár	Güssing, AU
80	Eperjes	Presov, SK	113	Királyfalva	Königsdorf, AU
81	Nagysáros	Velky Saris, SK	114	Hosszúfalu	Dolga vas, SLO
82	Hertnek	Hertnik, SK	115	Csáktornya	Cakovec, CRO
83	Zboró	Zborov, SK	116	Légrad	Legrad, CRO
84	Kassa	Kosice, SK	117	Eszék	Osijek, CRO
85	Enyicke	Haniska, SK	118	Magyarbóly	Magyarbóly, HU
86	Jánova vára	Jánova, SK	119	Várad	Várad, HU
87	Csetnek	Stitnik, SK	120	Pécs	Pécs, HU
88	Lócse	Levoca, SK	121	Szekszárd	Szekszárd, HU
89	Savnik	Spissky Stiavnik, SK	122	Szenna	Szenna, HU
90	Felsőmicsinye	Horná Micina, SK	123	Kanizsa	Kanizsa, HU
91	Selmecbánya	Banska Stiavnica, SK	124	Sárvár	Sárvár, HU
92	Vágbeszterce	Považská Bystrica, SK	125	Kapuvár	Kapuvár, HU
93	Vöröskő	Červený Kameň, SK	126	Kisbér	Kisbér, HU
94	Kasza	Koseca, SK	127	Csurgó	Csurgó, HU
95	Ilava	Ilava, SK	128	Tata	Tata, HU
96	Csejte	Cachtice, SK	129	Esztergom	Esztergom, HU
97	Nagykosztolány	Vel'ké Kostolány, SK	130	Visegrád	Visegrád, HU
98	Pacola	Obsolovce, SK	131	Nógrád	Nógrád, HU
99	Nyitra	Nitra, SK	132	Vác	Vác, HU

No	Hungarian (original) denomination of the settlement	Actual official denomination of the settlement and its location (country)	No	Hungarian (original) denomination of the settlement	Actual official denomination of the settlement and its location (country)
133	Rád	Rád, HU	141	Fóny	Fóny, HU
134	Buda	Buda, HU	142	Regéc	Regéc, HU
135	Jászberény	Jászberény, HU	143	Füzér	Füzér, HU
136	Ludas	Ludas, HU	144	Újhely	Újhely, HU
137	Ónod	Ónod, HU	145	Máda	Máda, HU
138	Sajókeresztúr	Sajókeresztúr, HU	146	Vásárosnamény	Vásárosnamény, HU
139	Szerencs	Szerencs, HU	147	Nagydobos	Nagydobos, HU
140	Tokaj	Tokaj, HU	148	Beregsurány	Beregsurány, HU

Flower garden

Most of them are formal gardens planted with herbaceous flowers, often decorated with herbs and spices, in regular order. Of the explored sites, 60 places are mentioned as flower gardens. Despite the fact that the flower garden was primarily decorative, it appears in many places (in 23 cases) together with vegetable gardens/allotments.

“The design of the flower garden depends closely on the arrangement of the landscape as well, and is the reflection of a lifestyle, a perspective, a philosophy and a differing socio-economic development. With their flowers, the late Renaissance gardens of the Carpathian Basin were also the gardens of reality and freedom, because of the pomp of the West and the Turkish dependency of the East. The symbol of national freedom at this time is the garden, where in addition to the flowers the splendor and comfort of the pavilions showed this real world and the arising thoughts of future independence as reconcilable,” write Csoma and Tüdös (Csoma, 2010) pointing out that the garden must be approached as a microcosm of the landscape, and gardening must be regarded as the forerunner of landscape formation.

A very good example in this sense is the description and graphical interpretation from 1664 of the compartmented Bishop

garden in Pozsony (Bratislava, SK), by György Lippay, illustrated in Figure 3: “PART V. On the Compartments of the Flower Garden and the Arrangement of the Ornate Shapes in Them ...In order to more easily achieve the garden forms in the compartments: before you would carry it out on the ground, lay it out on paper, and execute it on the ground according to the decoration designed on the paper...” (Stirling, 2016)

The description of the flower garden belonging to the manor house in Siménfalva (Simonesti, RO, 1636), represents another interesting example from this time, the ‘vegetable garden’ and the ‘trellis garden’ being also incorporated in the flower garden. (Fekete, 2008)

The writers of the inventories could analyze the flower gardens thanks to various sources. In numerous cases whole plant lists were made of the species found there, but it also happened that the species composition was not determined on the basis of live plants but from the prepared vegetable distillates.

There are descriptions of hedges or grapevine margins in Gyeke (Geaca, RO, 1696), Kórodszentmárton (Coroisanmartin, RO, 1696), Szentbenedek (Manastirea, RO, 1696) Mezőörményes (Urmenis, RO, 1721), Vajdahunyad (Hunedoara, RO, 1681), Sorostély (Sorostin, RO, 1683), Szászcsanád

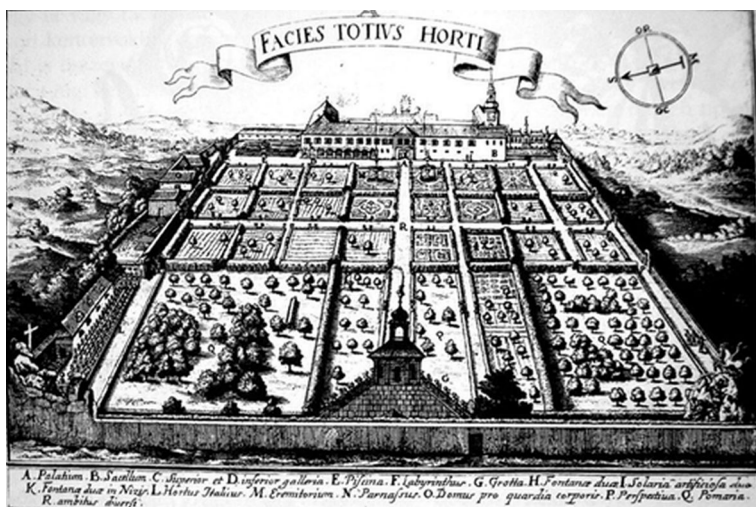


Fig. 3. Bird's-eye representation from North of the Bishop Garden from Pozsony (Bratislava, SK) in 1663. Gravure by Mauritius Lang based on a sketch of Johann Jacob Khün. (MTA)

(Cenade, RO, 1736), Nagyteremi (Tirimia, RO, 1647), Borberek (Vurpar, RO, 1694), Galac (Galatii Bistritei, RO, 1676) and Ludas (Ludas, RO, 1755). (B.Nagy, 1970)

Vegetable garden

In general, a section of a geometrical garden, mainly in ordered plantation of vegetables; if one of the planted vegetables was in a larger proportion in the garden, the garden was named after the respective vegetable variety: cabbage garden in Görgényszentimre (Gurghiu, RO, 1652),

maize garden in Branyicska (Branisca, RO, 1757). Our research identified vegetable gardens on 44 sites based on the descriptions.

According to a second description of the manor house in Görgényszentimre from 1692 (Fekete, 2007), "there were two patches of carnations encircled by sage, as well as four patches of boxwood, two of which were also bordered with sage. The path dividing the patches was lined with cypresses, but the sections falling towards the Görgény creek were framed with a row of gooseberries and a row of grapes. Old garden beans and peas were cultivated at its side, at the end of the boxwood patch falling towards the South



Fig. 4. Gravure of the Rákóczi Estate from Görgényszentimre (Gurghiu, RO) from 1699. The garden of the manor house located in the bottom of castle hill was described in 1692. (Archival source: Mappa della Transilvania e Provintie contigue nella quales)

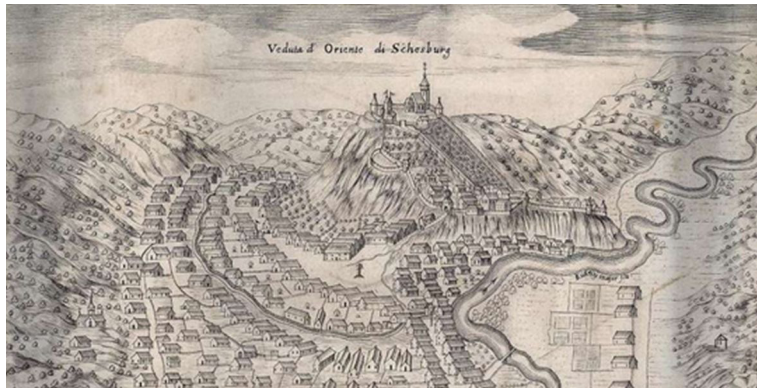


Fig. 5. Gravure of the Castle of Segesvár (Sighisoara, RO) from 1699, with orchard representations on the terraces of the western hillside. (Archival source: Mappa della Transilvania e Provintie contigue nella quales)

there was a patch of lettuce surrounded with peonies. Beyond the third boxwood patch, a patch of onions and a bed of scallions were planted, bordered with seed radishes. Along the South hedge leading to the sundial, a strip of onions and a strip of tarragons were sown. One of the boxwood patches by the arbour was bordered with hyssops, directly beside which grew rows of autumn garlic, scallions and seed onion.”

A simple sketch of the estate from Görgényszentimre is presented in Figure 4.

Orchard

A garden area where mostly fruit trees were planted. Similarly to the vegetable garden, the name of the garden area could also be the name after the dominant fruit variety here: sour cherry garden in Uzdiszentspéter (Sânpetru de Câmpie, RO, 1679), apple garden in Csíkkozmás (Cozmeni, RO, 1688), plum tree garden in Görgényszentimre (Gurghiu, RO, 1652). Orchards are mentioned in 39 locations in the descriptions. Orchards (or fruit trees) were very often found in flower garden - allotments, too. This category includes the following sites: Négerfalva (Negrilesti, RO, 1697), Borberek (Vurpar, RO 1701), Szásznádas (Nadasul Sasesc, RO 1712), Szászcsanád (Cenade, RO 1736) Marosszentkirály (Sanraiu de Mures, RO, 1753). (B. Nagy, 1970.) Sárpatok (Sapartoc, RO, 1736), Nagycerse (Ercea,

RO, 1750), Vajdahunyad (Hunedoara, RO, 1681), Branyicsaka (Branisca, RO, 1726), Szentbenedek (Manastirea, RO, 1784) and Mezőörményes (Urmenis, RO, 1721). (B. Nagy, 1970) Figure 5 shows a terraced orchard garden on the castle hill from Segesvár (Sighisoara, RO), at the end of 17 th century.

Trellis garden

The trellis garden was a garden section where vines were usually run on a support system, but we could find several places where fruit trees served as trellis. (Stirling 1996). Out of the researched sites we have found 37 descriptions of trellis gardens, among others in Visegrád (HU), Nagyteremi (Tirimia, MS, 1647), Drassó (Drasov, RO, 1647), Búzásbocsárd (Bucerdea Granoasa, RO, 1656), Mezőörményes (Urmenisul de Campie, RO, 1721), Branyicska (Branisca, RO, 1744), Marosszentkirály (Sanraiu de Mures, RO, 1753).

In the latter case the vine was run upon a custom-made wooden frame, unlike the other gardens, where live trees played the role of the frame. It often happened that the trellis garden, too, was developed along with the vegetable garden. Combined gardens of trellis and vegetable were featured in 12 descriptions. We have found examples of connections between the trellis garden and a summer house. Accordingly, in Magyarbükös

(Bichis, RO) there was a summer house in the trellis garden, while in Bethlenszentmiklós (Sanmiclaus, RO) in 1624 three arbours were constructed, each ending with summer house. (Archival source, 1646)

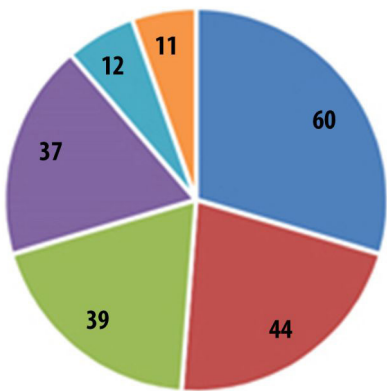
Apiary

Honey and beeswax played a significant role in household life in the 17 th century: “Honey was a very coveted merchandise in our monasteries and on the tables of our lords. With honey fruit conserves were made, floral waters and herbs were also mixed with. The most popular were the rosemary, rose and tarragon honies. The beloved mead also appears in most inventories of old times, and women preferred mainly honeyed wine... Almost all manors had a beekeeper, or a serf handy with bees or one who was a honeymaker. Rákóczi’s wife had 1123 beehives, 133 buckets of mead, 346 buckets of honeycomb and 447 of pure honey - alone in Transylvania in 1642.” (Thoroczkai, 1923)

In the Late Renaissance the apiary is usually a mixed garden. Here, the beehives and their scaffoldings were the elements that enabled the flower garden to function as an apiary (‘bee-garden’). We found 12 apiaries mentioned in the descriptions.

An example of an apiary in a flower garden is Kendilóna (Luna de Jos, RO, 1716). We have found mentions about an orchard affiliated with an apiary in Kővár (Kamengrad, SK, 1694) and Szászcsanád (Cenade, RO, 1736). (Stirling, 1996) In addition to the aforementioned designs, cases of an apiary partnered with an allotment could be found in Galac (Galati, RO, 1676), Kentelke (Chintelnic, RO, 1690), Egeres (Aghires, RO, 1699), Mezőörményes (Urmenisul de Campie, RO, 1728) and Görgényszentimre (Gurghiu, RO, 1697), where, besides the allotment, lavender and lily are mentioned in the description. (B. Nagy, 1970) We also found an orchard and a vegetable garden shared the place with an apiary: Búza (Buza, RO, 1698). (B. Nagy, 1970; Archival source, 1692)

a



- FLOWER GARDEN
- VEGETABLE GARDEN
- ORCHARD
- TRELLIS GARDEN
- APIARY
- GAME RESERVE

b

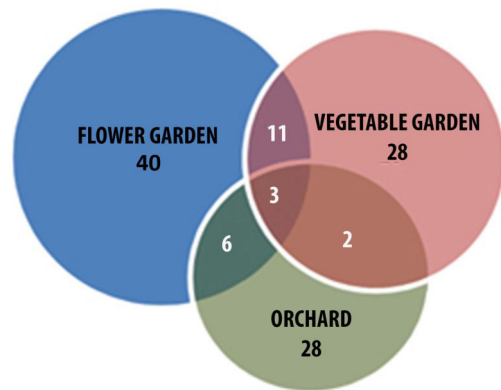


Fig. 6. Proportional distribution of different garden units discovered in the Late Renaissance gardens of the Carpathian Basin (a) and a graphical representation of the mixed character of some identified late Renaissance garden units. A considerable overlapping in between “flower gardens”, “vegetable gardens” and “orchards” has been proved by descriptions (b). Source: Prepared by the author.

As illustrated by the cases of the first five garden units, so-called mixed gardens were common: in which the trellis, the vegetable garden, the flower garden and the orchard occur together; or, the flower garden planted with nectar-rich plants forms part of the apiary garden. The relationship is illustrated in Figure 6. According to a 1653 inventory in Gerend (Grindeni, RO) there was a so-called “arbour-vegetable-fruit” Renaissance garden, whose longitudinal axis was marked by a vine arbour, to which an arbour made of 3 sour cherry and plum trees was attached perpendicularly. The geometric layout system, with a summer house in its centre, evidently marks some ornamental garden elements. The summer housevine arbour composition was a frequent one in Transylvanian Renaissance gardens. An inventory prepared eight years later mentions a mixed garden with a new summer house and fish ponds: “There is before the fish-holding ponds a good shingled summer house, whose two levels on top of each other are circular, planked and bordered all around with planed planks... and planted all around with lovely rose-trees.” (Stirling, 1996)

Examples include the following gardens apart from Gerend: Kórodszentmárton (Coroisanmartin, RO), Nagykosztolány (VelkéKostolány, SK), Barlabás (Barlibas, RO), Nagymihály (Michalovce, SK), Uzdiszentpéter (Sanpetru de Campie, RO), Varannó (Vranovnad Topľou, SK) and Fejérház-Munkács (Munkacevo, UKR). (Stirling, 1996; Archival source, 1679)

Game reserve

The game reserves were introduced as a result of the Renaissance, mainly around holds and castles. (Csőre, 1997) The research has located 11 reserves. Deer and bison were recorded in Szentdemeter (Dumitreşti, MS, 1629) and in Mezőörményes (Urmenisul de Campie, RO, 1728). In Szentdemeter there were 21 registered deer in 1629. Perhaps due to the game reserves, the favorite peacock of

the Renaissance could already be found in some manor houses. There were ten of them in Szentdemeter in 1629. Besides Szentdemeter, peacocks were also noted down in Galac (Sztrigygalac - Galati, RO, 1676), Bethlen (Beclean, RO, 1690), Hosszúfalu (Satulung, RO, 1723), Zentelke (Sancraiu-Zam, RO, 1715) and in Mezőbod (Papiullarian, 1629). Black geese (*Branta bernicia*) and sea hare (*Aplysia depilans*) were registered in Uzdiszentpéter (Sanpetru de Campie, RO, 1679). (Fekete, 2008) Game reserves are also mentioned in Soborsin (Savarsin, RO) and in Gyalu (Gilau, RO, 1676), the latter stretching to the shore of Kis-Szamos, and according to the 1676 chronicle “a good well and some apple, plum and pear trees are in this game garden ... stags amounted to 6, roebucks to 18.” (Takács, 1917) The Bánffy family had another reserve not far from the one at Gyalu (Gilau, RO), known as Havasrekettyés (Rachitele, RO), the size of which is disputed. According to some sources it covered 14, while others claimed it to have been 70 hectares. Besides deer, elk was also to be found in this game park. (Csőre, 1997)

Identification of typical Late Renaissance garden features

In the units of the Late Renaissance Hungarian gardens we have defined functional and ornamental garden elements idiosyncratic to the era, which were in an organic relationship with the gardens: garden pavilion, summer house, wooden bridge, fish pond, trellis, fence/wattle, fruit-wall, topiary, sun dial.

The research shows some Renaissance garden elements, the spread of which in the 18 th century Carpathian Basin could be traced in Baroque gardens: the grotto, and the graved and decorated stone fountain.

This article does not cover the definition and detailed discussion of the listed garden elements, those are part of a subsequent study.

Table 2. The list of functional units with Late Renaissance roots discovered on the site during the field surveys, and its location. Source: Prepared by the author.

Moat	Fish pond	Retaining wall	Terrace
Borsi (Borsa, SK)	Bonyha (Bahnea, RO)	Miklósvár	Enyedsszentkirály
Fogarás (Fagaras, RO)	Drassó (Drasov, RO)	(Miclosoara, RO)	(Sancrai, RO)
Gernyeszeg	Gerend (Luncani, RO)		Gerend (Luncani, RO)
(Gornesti, RO)	Görgényszentimre		Gyalu (Gilau, RO)
Marosvécs	(Gurghiu, RO)		Miklósvár
(Brancovenesti, RO)	Keresd (Cris, RO)		(Miclosoara, RO)
Radnót (Iernut, RO)	Miklósvár		Segesvár
Szászsebes (Sebes,	(Miclosoara, RO)		(Sighisoara, RO)
RO) Vajdahunyad	Vajdaszentivány		Visegrád , HU
(Hunedoara, RO)	(Voivodeni, RO)		

Late Renaissance garden memories in the Carpathian Basin in the present days

As described in the article, the term “Late Renaissance” mainly designates the 17th century in the examined area. We do not have any Renaissance or Late Renaissance garden memories in the Carpathian Basin that have survived in relatively good condition. Also insignificant is the number of garden memories (garden units or items) that have been preserved in a transformed - or sporadically surviving in a modified - state, or have been seriously damaged and are often barely recognizable to be identified. The main reason for this is the long stretch of time elapsed since the heyday of the Late Renaissance in the 17th century, which has led to the complete obliteration of garden

units and elements (of rather evanescent nature when compared to buildings). Furthermore, trends in history of style having come in vogue, and differing from the

Renaissance ideals and its formal solutions, have also contributed to this destruction. The annihilation of invaluable cultural treasures, mentioned and traced back in archival sources is not the least due to the geopolitical features of the region. Local or global armed conflicts of the 17-20th centuries (Ottoman invasion, II. Ferenc Rákóczi’s war of independence, 1848-49 War of Independence, the Great War and World War II, as well as the nationalizations and ownership changes dictated by the subsequent communist regimes etc.) have all contributed to the fact that we can not speak of a still on site existing significant



Fig. 7a. The current state of the Renaissance moat in the front of the Teleki castle from Gernyeszeg (Gornesti, Romania). Source: photo by the author, 2018.



Fig. 7b. The present condition of the Renaissance moat behind the Kemény castle from Marosvécs (Brancovenesti, Romania). Source: Photo by author, 2017.

Late Renaissance garden heritage in the Carpathian Basin today.

Despite of this, in some of our investigations we have been able to identify the remains of some garden units or garden elements, like moats, fishponds, retaining walls or terraces. These are functional units or elements having resulted from large-scale fieldworks that have not totally disappeared throughout the centuries and could be identified on the site, according to Table 2 and Figure 7a and 7b.

4. Conclusions

- The research has collected and ordered the most important Late Renaissance gardens of the Carpathian Basin - as the main chapter of the East-European landscape history.

- Shedding light on the rapport and interaction between the contemporary European historical trends, the research offers an overview of the four-hundred-year history of the Late Renaissance gardens of the Carpathian Basin, spanning between the 17th -21st centuries.

- It proves at a significant scale the continuity of garden art arching four hundred years from the Late Renaissance till the present. With this continuum the unique position of the Late Renaissance gardens of the Carpathian Basin has been proven in comparison with other Eastern-European

countries, where the link between the Renaissance and the Baroque was broken - as the 17th century, Late Renaissance garden memories are rendered missing - due to the (occasionally even 150-year-long) Turkish occupation.

- The work also proves that the Late Renaissance gardens form an essential part of the Inter-Carpathian cultural heritage. Without knowing the garden- and art historical values and development of the researched gardens, the whole European garden history too would be deprived and, in some cases, obscured.
- This research forms part of the academic curriculum of landscape architecture, architecture and art history. At the same time it also plays a promoting role in the preservation of cultural historical values and landscape traditions.
- The present work raises awareness about the importance of surveys and registries and it classifies the relatively preserved garden units and elements (with the neighbouring and related landscape sections where applicable) in the group of cultural landscapes in the spirit of the European Landscape Convention.
- The study highlights the relationship and the inter-connection of the Renais-



Fig. 8. Renovated Renaissance garden detail with a dwell, terrace, trellis and compartmented flower garden in the Royal Palace from Visegrád, Hungary. Source: Photo by the author, 2014



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Fig. 9. The northern façade of the Kálnoky castle towards the pond with the retaining walls rooted in the Renaissance, in 2014 (a) and after the reconstruction in 2016 (b). The archaeological excavation of the retaining wall (c) and the renewed retaining wall (d). Source: photos by the author, 2017 (Fekete – Sárospataki – Rudd – Weiszler, 2014)

sance castle/residential garden and the surrounding landscape, along with its importance from a landscape-aesthetic perspective.

- The past years have witnessed exemplary restorations of Renaissance gardens at the sites in the Carpathian Basin. Amongst others, the royal palace garden in Pozsony (Bratislava), Slovakia, the palace garden in Visegrád, Hungary (Figure 8), or the Kálnoky castle garden in Miklósvar (Micsosara), Romania (Figure 9). Given that historical data and information about the actual site was lacking, the basis for the restorative work was oftentimes an overall and detailed case study of the historical period in question, the exploration and use of the possible garden historical analogies. It is to this process that the research provides fundamental help.

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