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Este informatician la Oficiul de Informatizare și Comunicații din Universitatea Tehnică Cluj-Napoca - Centrul Universitar Nord din Baia Mare. A absolvit Facultatea de Inginerie, programul de studiu Ingineria Valorificării Deșeurilor și a urmat un master în Evaluarea Impactului și Riscului pentru Mediu, în prezent fiind doctorand la Universitatea Politehnică din București.

Pasionat de filatelie de scurtă vreme, sub atenta îndrumare a domnului Alexandru Leonard POP, și membru în Asociația Filatelică „Natura” din Timișoara începând cu anul 2019, a debutat cu o serie de expoziții în colectiv, cum urmează:

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- **„Cactuși și plante succulente în filatelia internațională”** - (panouri și studiu filatelic), Simpozionul „Păstrarea patrimoniului de cactuși din colecția Vida Gheza”, ediția a IV-a, Muzeul Județean de Mineralogie Victor Gorduza, 09-13 mai 2018, Baia Mare;
- **„Valențele comunicării prin timbre - casa tradițională românească între artă și realitate”** - (expoziție panouri), Biblioteca Județeană „Petre Dulfu”, 23 noiembrie-09 decembrie 2017, Baia Mare;
- **„Valențele comunicării prin timbre în promovarea protecției mediului”** - (expoziție panouri), Muzeul de Mineralogie „Victor Gorduza”, 19 mai-19 septembrie 2017, Baia Mare.

Lucrarea de față reprezintă o colecție de articole științifice, cu tematică filatelică, apărute începând cu anul 2017, în reviste și jurnale indexate în baze de date internaționale, atât în țară, cât și în străinătate. Articolele în cauză au ca scop promovarea protecției mediului, inclusiv a ariilor naturale protejate (primele 3 articole), promovarea arhitecturii tradiționale românești (articolele 4 și 5), respectiv prezentarea implicațiilor pe care le are filatelia în valorificarea istoriei mineritului (ultimul articol).

- [1] Pop A., Cioruța B., Coman M., (2017) *Considerations regarding the implications of philately in ecological education*, Scientific Bulletin of North University Center of Baia Mare, Series D, Mining, Mineral Processing, Non-ferrous Metallurgy, Geology and Environmental Engineering, Baia Mare, indexat BDI (ProQuest, EBSCO, ERIH PLUS), Ed. Universității Tehnice din Cluj-Napoca - UTPRESS, ISSN 1582-0548, vol. 31, no. 1, pg. 57-62
- [2] Cioruța B., Pop A. L., Coman M., Luran A., (2018) *Implications of philately in promoting the protected natural areas (I): Ceahlău National Park*, Scientific Bulletin of North University Center of Baia Mare, Series D, Mining, Mineral Processing, Non-ferrous Metallurgy, Geology and Environmental Engineering, Baia Mare, indexat BDI (ProQuest, EBSCO, ERIH PLUS), Ed. Universității Tehnice din Cluj-Napoca - UTPRESS, ISSN 1582-0548, vol. 32, no. 1, pg. 87-96
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Notă: Partea a doua a articolelor de la punctele 5 și 6 este în curs de apariție.

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SERIA D

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CONTENTS

1. ON THE DYNAMICS OF THE ROMANIAN SOIL TAXONOMY SYSTEM - IMPLICATIONS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACTIVITY (I)	
<i>M. Coman</i>	7
2. EFFECTS OF THE ACTIVITY OF CUPROM SA, BAIA MARE BRANCH OVER THE QUALITY OF THE ENVIROMNENT (I)	
<i>G. Taro</i>	13
3. WOODY PLANTS VITALITY OF URBAN AREAS AND PROSPECTS OF THEIR GREENERY	
<i>N. Glibovytska, Ya. Adamenko</i>	21
4. INFLUENCE OF PRECIPITATION QUANTITIES ON THE STRÂMTORI-FIRIZA RAW WATER QUALITY INDICATORS	
<i>T. Dippong, C. Mihali, E. Cical, A. Avram</i>	35
5. INVOLVING VOLUNTEERS IN PARTICIPATORY CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY IN RODNA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK (ROMANIA)	
<i>C. Iusan, T. Filipoiu</i>	41
6. BIODIVERSITY OF WOODEN SPECIES IN RANGER DISTRICT OF TÎRGU LĂPUȘ	
<i>C. Micle, M. Coman</i>	51
7. CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE IMPLICATIONS OF PHILATELY IN ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION	
<i>A. Pop, B. Cioruta, M. Coman</i>	57
8. STATE INDEPENDENT ENERGY RATINGS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED THE CREATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LAW	
<i>H. Kraus, L. Muntean</i>	63
9. CAFFEINE ANALYSIS BY THIN-LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY RELATED TO THE PHYSICAL-CHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF COFFEE AND SURROGATES	
<i>C. Mihali, I. Grad, T. Dippong</i>	69
10. STUDY ON EFFECTS OF DISTRUTIVE AGENTS ON THE ARTWORKS	
<i>V. M. Brezoczki, E. Bonta</i>	75
11. WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF THE USTUROI VALLEY ASSISTED BY THE MACROZOOBENTIC BIOINDICATORS	
<i>O. Mare-Rosca, R. Pop, M. Marian, L. Mihaiescu, Z. Vosgan, I. Glodean</i>	83
12. DETERMINATION OF PROPRIETIES OF RAW MATERIALS TESTING INTELLIGENT MACHINES	
<i>E. Pop</i>	89

CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE IMPLICATIONS OF PHILATELY IN ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION

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Abstract. *For more than 150 years postcards all over the world have three main roles: a value-added receipt for a postage payment in advance, a means of celebrating and promoting national heritage and a collection of pieces. But above all, the postage stamp is a true ambassador of human history, culture and civilization, because its form and function give it freedom of movement and the ability to transmit information all over the world. Through this paper, the authors want to open a series of presentations of what has given valuable, over time, the philately of civilization and human culture and which is reflected in philatelic collections. There are fractions of images - as far as a stamp can be - with people and places, with flowers and landscapes, animals and protected habitats, with what we want to remain alive in the memory of our descendants - as an essential component of environmental policy And sustainable development.*

Key words: *ecological education, philately, sustainable development*

1. INTRODUCTION

Philately can be defined as the study and collection of philatelic products, especially stamps. But philately is more than just a concern for beauty. Challenge, information, friendship and fun are just a few of the characteristics of one of the world's most popular hobbies [1].

For more than 150 years collecting stamps is one of the preoccupations of royal families, film stars, celebrities in the sport world and other people in public life. Throughout the world, postage stamps perform three main roles: a certain value receipt for a postage payment in advance, a means of celebrating and promoting national heritage and a collection piece [2].

But above all, the postage stamp is a true ambassador of human history, culture and civilization, because its form and function give it freedom of movement and the ability to transmit information all over the world. The popularity of philately is determined by the fact that it is flexible to the collector's needs, for which the most important piece of paper is proven to be stamp.

The stamp was invented as a simple indicator, a sort of receipt meant to mark the payment of the mail transport tax. In the beginning, however, it has been seen that the stamp was an admirable vehicle that could transmit through inscriptions, but especially through pictures, different messages [1].

Thus, the utilitarian stamp has entered the cultural sphere, which has greatly increased its role in human societies, a role that politicians have speculated, sometimes with great skill.

Totalitarian regimes have systematically used stamps to popularize their concepts and to feed the cult of the personality of the political leader many times. This also happened with the Romanian stamps, so our philately also falls into the important, delicate and complex area of culture, both through the artistic implications of stamps graphics and through the messages they send with figurative or symbolic images. Among these messages, those with political

connotation have always been present, starting with the image of the monarch, ruler or king; However, as will be seen in the present paper, there have been few concerns about environmental protection - considered to be a fundamental component of a modern society developed on sustainable principles.

2. PHILATELY IN THE ROMANIAN SPACE

The first Romanian stamp, put into circulation on July 22nd, 1858, depicts the head of a bourgeois, symbol of Moldavia. The first seven stamps will preserve this animal as a representative image, and in the third Romanian philatelic show, the "United Principalities", along with the head of a 'bour' (and the postcard), the image of the eagle will also be printed. All these were represented in a stylized form but with a strong imagistic impact of the postal administration to promote from the beginning the fauna characteristic of the area of territorial occupation [1].

The third animal evoked on Romanian stamps was the horse. The first philatelic issue, produced by the engraver M. Thevenin, inspired by a work by the painter Ureche, was printed in Paris in 1903. The "The Inauguration of the Pope's Palace" is composed of eight values and is representative of the Romanian philately.

Beginning with 1906, the horse will become a common element in illustrating the royal stamps. Also with 1906 philatelic issues begin to gain diversity, the nominal values of a series being illustrated differently. In October 1906 in the show "The General Exhibition Bucharest" the first two values will be presented by a hand-peasant peasant with a tool drawn by some oxen, and so the diversity of fauna and flora represented in the Romanian philately begins to reach volume [3,4].

Fauna, in its diversity, is a constituent part of the heraldry of the Romanian people. Thus, on November 20th, 1932, with the 75th anniversary of the Bour Head marks, we will find the representative fauna of the different geographical areas of Romania - Moldova, Banat, Dobrogea (Figure 2.1) on the stamps of the show.



Fig. 2.1. Stamps of the 75th Anniversary of the Bour Head (1931)
(Source: colnect.com/.../75th_aniversary_of_Romania_stamps)

The flora, stylized in the beginning, in the form of cereal spices, a component part of some graphic compositions or decorative elements is recovered from the first issues released by the Romanian Royalty. L. Basarab in December 1913 with the show "Crown Over Fortress" (Fig. 2.2) will be the first to highlight this aspect.



Fig. 2.2. Stamps of the series "The Crown Over Fortress" series (1913)
(Source: colnect.com/.../Crown_over_fortress)

Starting with the Communist period, biodiversity will be an important part of the total number of stamps issued (Fig. 2.3), as evidenced by the numerous programs that will focus on nature protection - mainly flora and fauna (Retezat National Park, Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve etc) [2]

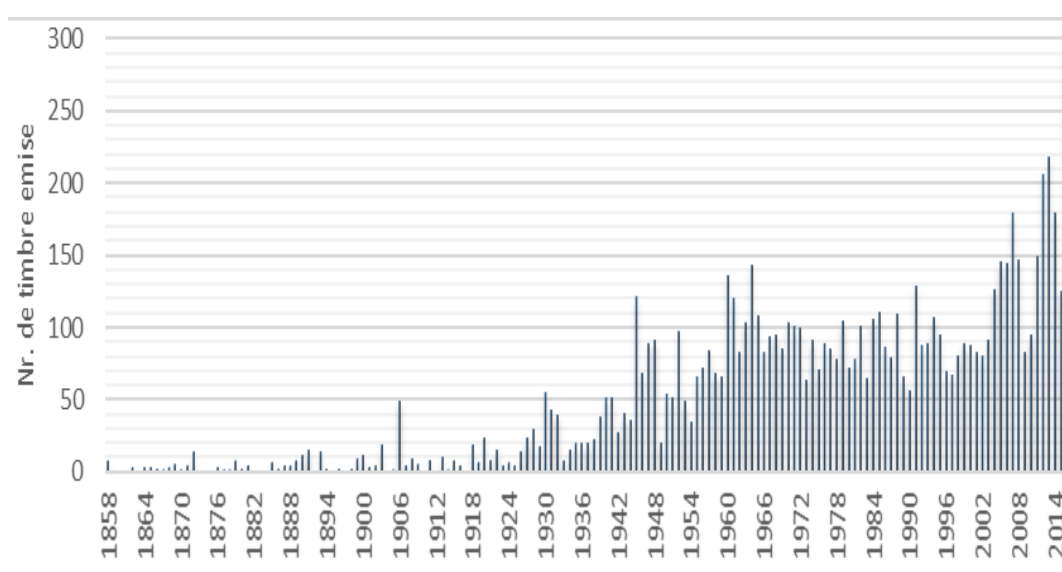


Fig. 2.3. The yearly distribution of no. of stamps issued in Romania (1858-2016)

3. THE IMPLICATIONS OF PHILATELY IN ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION

The development and promotion of mass philately, starting with the communist period, will lead to the emergence of many forms of stamping on the market. We will have stamps in both dainted and unapproved form, which at a given moment will be made up of stand-alone programs / series, stamps, blocks and philatelic stamps. [4]

Probably the first Romanian philatelic issue devoted mainly to environmental protection is represented by the "Scouting Exhibition" released on June 8th, 1931 (Figure 3.1).



Fig. 3.1. Stamps of the Scout Exhibition series (1931)
(Source: colnect.com/.../Scouting_Exhibition)

The second philatelic issue dedicated to the scout is represented by the "National Jamboree Sibiu", which was put into circulation on July 10th, 1932.

The stamps "with dedication" also appear within the Communist period. Saplings of trees, a predominant feature of environmental protection, are the theme of the second volumes of "The Third Anniversary of the Organization of Pioneers", released on May 17th, 1952. "To Beautify the Homeland with Gardens and Orchards" (Fig. 3.2) is the message sent by the 35-pound denomination of the "Pioneers" issue put into circulation on May 21st, 1953.



Fig. 3.2. Styles of the series "Pioneers" (1953)
(Source: colnect.com/.../4_Years_of_Pioneer_Organization)

The first philatelic issue entitled "The Moon of the Woods" was put into circulation on July 29th, 1953 (Figure 3.3) and consisted of three values compiled by Leonida Narazov.

The ultramarine stamp with a face value of 20 bani is dedicated to the protection of forests, the green one with a face value of 35 bani depicts a forest and a lake, and the green olive with a nominal value of 55 bani is illustrated by the planting of the trees.

In 1954 the "Moon of the Woods" was marked by a new philatelic issue consisting of three values that was put into circulation on April 1st (Figure 3.3). This time the image of the stamps portrayed: Pioneers planting trees, a forest landscape and a deer.



Fig. 3.3. Stamps of the "Forest Moon" series (1953-1954)
(Source: colnect.com/.../Month_of_the_Forest)

The forest moon was celebrated in the Romanian philately almost every year (Fig. 3.4), the diversity of stamps being noteworthy.



Fig. 3.4. Stamp of "Luna Pădurii" series (1955)
(Source: colnect.com/.../Month_of_the_Forest)

The message "Protect Carpathian Flora" appears on the stamp vignette of the "Carpathian Flora" show, published in 1957 (Fig. 3.5).



Fig. 3.5. Flora in Romania (1957)

(Source: colnect.com / ... / Carpathian_Mountain_Flowers)

The variety of stamps that are specific to biodiversity make the protected natural heritage a special occasion for philately over the years [2]. Moreover, an emphasis will be placed on promoting ecological education by promoting the beauty of nature, towards the cultural well-being of future generations.

The following are a series of philatelic programs from 1956 to 2016, culminating, among other things, with the "European Year of Nature Protection" -1980 (Figure 3.6), "The Semicentenary of the National Park Retezat" -1985 (Fig 3.7), respectively" Protection of the Danube Delta "-1994 (Figure 3.8).



Fig. 3.6. European Year for the Protection of Nature (1980)

(Source: colnect.com/.../European_Nature_Conservation_Year)



Fig. 3.7. European Year of Nature Protection (1985)

(Source: colnect.com/.../50_Years_of_Retezat_National_Park)



Fig. 3.8. Protection of the Danube Delta (1994)

(Source: colnect.com ... / Protection_of_the_Danube_Delta)

5. CONCLUSIONS

The need for intergenerational communication, especially among stamp collecting collectors, led to their organization in various philatelic societies and clubs, which had an intense activity, especially at the beginning of the 19th century. XX. Today, the stamp, as the main vector of philatelic communication, represents, together with the flag, the anthem, coins and coins one of our national symbols.



Fig. 3.9. The Exhibition "Stamps of communication through stamps in promoting environmental protection" (2017) [3]

Through this paper, the authors want to open a series of presentations of what has given valuable, over time, the philately of civilization and human culture and which is reflected in philatelic collections.

There are fractions of images - as far as a stamp is concerned - with people and places, with flowers and landscapes, animals and protected habitats, with what we want to remain alive in the memory of our descendants - as an essential component of environmental policy and Of sustainable development after which we tend to believe that the current society is functioning (Figure 3.9).

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Volume XXXII No. 1

Indexed ProQuest, EBSCO, ERIH PLUS

CONTENTS

1. UNCONTROLLED DISCHARGES OF MINE WATER FROM CLOSED MINING PERIMETERS	
<i>I. Bud, I. Paşca, S. Duma, D. Guşat.....</i>	<i>7</i>
2. TECHNOLOGICAL FEATURES IN THE LAMINATION OF BANDS	
<i>E. Pop.....</i>	<i>13</i>
3. TESTS ON INHIBITION OF GERMINATION AND GROWTH OF CORN PLANTS IN THE PRESENCE OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES	
<i>V. M. Brezoczki, G. M. Filip.....</i>	<i>19</i>
4. BINDING BEHAVIOUR AND OF REACTION PRODUCTS IN BINDER GEOPOLIMER PASTES	
<i>V. Hotea, J. Juhasz.....</i>	<i>27</i>
5. MINING LEGISLATION CONSIDERATIONS IN ROMANIA	
<i>I. Bud, S. Duma, I. Paşca, D. Guşat.....</i>	<i>35</i>
6. THE MINING PATRIMONY OF ROMANIA – FACTS AND PERSPECTIVES	
<i>R. Kovács, S. Prisăcariu, I. Denut, V. Wollman.....</i>	<i>41</i>
7. CARTOGRAPHIC MODELS OF DNIESTER RIVER BASIN PROBABLE FLOODING	
<i>V. Trysnyuk, T. Trysnyuk, V. Okhariev, V. Shumeiko, A. Nikitin</i>	<i>51</i>
8. MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PSYCHIATRY HOSPITAL, BAIA MARE	
<i>G. M. Filip, V. M. Brezoczki.....</i>	<i>57</i>
9. PROTECTED NATURAL HERITAGE ON ROUTE FROM PHILOSOPHY TO ENVIRONMENT ENGINEERING	
<i>M. Mesaroş, B. Cioruţa, M. Coman.....</i>	<i>63</i>
10. PEDOLOGICAL PROCESSES IN TECHNOSOILS	
<i>A. Pukish, Y. Adamenko, M. Coman.....</i>	<i>73</i>
11. THE EVOLUTION OF GREENHOUSE GASES IN ROMANIA BETWEEN 2006-2015	
<i>G. M. Filip, V. M. Brezoczki, A. Marc.....</i>	<i>81</i>
12. IMPLICATIONS OF PHILATELY IN PROMOTING THE PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS (I): CEAHLĂU NATIONAL PARK	
<i>B. Cioruţa, A.-L. Pop, M. Coman, A. Luran.....</i>	<i>87</i>
13. CREATIVE REUSE OF WASTE FOR INTERIOR AND GARDEN DECORATIONS	
<i>A. Marc.....</i>	<i>97</i>
14. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ENERGY PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATION OF BUILDINGS	
<i>M. Tóth</i>	<i>103</i>

IMPLICATIONS OF PHILATELY IN PROMOTING THE PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS (I): CEAHLĂU NATIONAL PARK

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Abstract: We define and accept natural heritage as being the ensemble of components and physical-geographic structures, flora, fauna and biocenotic natural resources, of whose importance has an ecological, economical, scientific, biogenetic, and health values, a recreative and cultural-historic vision, is having relevant significance under the aspect of conserving the biodiversity of ecosystems' functional integrity, genetical heritage conservation, vegetation and animals, and for the satisfaction of the everyday life, as well as wealth, culture and civilisation, of both present and future generations. Romania is a blessed place with many areas of unique beauty - as part of the natural heritage - with places where the spectacle of nature delights your eyes and take your breath with every step. Constantly promoting philately themes that use natural wealth and the beauty of our country as subjects, the administrative entity (with various names over time) responsible for issuing postage stamps performs a series of postage stamps in whose images are found rarities of flora and fauna, a miracle of nature. In this paper, we bring to discussion, among other things, the most significant philatelic peculiarities in the Ceahlău National Park.

Keywords: natural heritage, protected areas, biodiversity, Ceahlău National Park

INTRODUCTION

Natural heritage, from a conceptual point of view (Fig. 1), is what we define and accept as being the ensemble of components and physical-geographic structures, flora, fauna and biocenotic natural resources [1, 2], of whose importance has an ecological, economical, scientific, biogenetic, and health values, a recreative and cultural-historic vision, is having relevant significance under the aspect of conserving the biodiversity, of ecosystems' functional integrity, genetical heritage conservation, vegetation and animals, the satisfaction of the everyday life, as well as wealth, culture and civilisation, for both present and future generations[6].

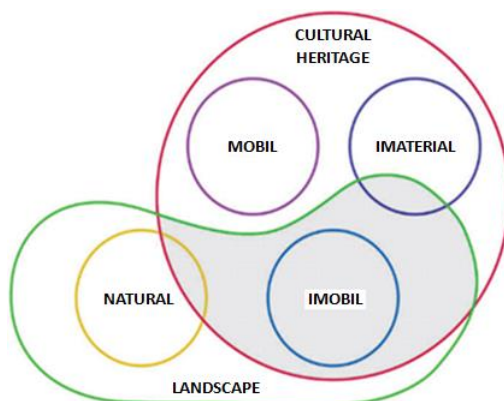


Fig. 1. Natural heritage as part of the cultural heritage [1]

Romania is a blessed place with many areas of unique beauty - as part of the natural heritage (Fig. 1) - with places where the spectacle of nature delights your eyes and takes your breath away at every step. Moreover, from a biogeographic point of view, and due to its position halfway between the North Pole and the Equator, our country possesses a high biodiversity (Fig. 2), expressed in ecosystems and species, providing the pedoclimatic and hydrological conditions necessary for preserving the specific biological diversity [7].



Fig. 2. "Environment protection" - a philatelic representation for Romania's high biodiversity (LP #1096/1984) [4, 18]

At national level, there are about 52 *ecoregions* with a variety of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems (Fig. 3). They are specific to the coastal and seaside areas of the Black Sea, steppe, silvosteps, hills, mountains, lakes, water courses and meadows, drought areas or wetlands [8], including those specific to the Danube Delta, Ceahlau National Park, Retezat National Park and so on.



Fig. 3. "Protected fauna from Romania" - stamps representing terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems (LP #1841/2009) [5, 19]

Constantly promoting philately themes that use the natural wealth and beauty of our country as a subjects [1, 2]. The administrative entity (with various names over time) responsible for issuing postage stamps, Romfilatelia, performs a series of postage stamps in whose images are found rarities of flora and fauna [7], especially from the natural protected areas which are an integral part of the natural heritage (Fig. 4a).

Human rights, the environment, endangered species [9] and peace are objectives of universal. Thus, for the first time, the joint front Romania - UN Post Office, entitled "*Endangered species*" (Fig. 4b), is brought into circulation in order to draw attention to the extreme situation of certain species, including the ones from the Ceahlău National Park.



Fig. 4. a) "Fauna from Romanian nature reserves" - souvenir sheet (LP #1909/2011) [8]
b) "Endangered species" - souvenir sheet (LP #2145/2017) [9]

Joining UNESCO's Programs and United Nations Projects, as well as other numerous world-wide organizations (WWF for example), Romania, through Romfilatelia, continues to cultivate love and care for the environment and will also carry out other postage stamps related to this subject in the future.

CEAHLĂU NATIONAL PARK IN ROMANIAN PHILATELY

In this paper, we bring into discussion the most significant philatelic pieces (stamps, blocks, souvenirs, FDCs etc.) with and about the Ceahlău National Park [10] - most of them being with the indexes of authors according to the actual philatelic catalogs [4, 5].

Table 1. Ceahlău National Park in Romanian Philately (1858-1975) [4]

Name of the philatelic issue and of the philatelic parts that make it up	Release date	Indexing	Other philatelic specifications
"Forest Animals" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> roe deer (<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>) eurasian lynx (<i>Lynx lynx</i>) wild Boar (<i>Sus scrofa</i>) brown bear (<i>Ursus arctos</i>) red deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>) red fox (<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>) chamois (<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>) europaean hare (<i>Lepus europaeus</i>) europaean badger (<i>Meles meles</i>) roe deer (<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>) 	1961-06-22	LP #521 Yv #1781..90 Mi #1981..90	Format: 27x42mm Printing: 2.000.000 sets 2 FDCs
"Reptiles" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greek Tortoise (<i>Testudo graeca</i>) Balkan Wall Lizard (<i>Podarcis taurica</i>) Balkan Green Lizard (<i>Lacerta t. dobrogica</i>) European Copper Skink (<i>Ablepharus kutaibelii</i>) Slow Worm (<i>Anguis fragilis</i>) Horned Viper (<i>Vipera ammodytes</i>) Steppe Runner (<i>Eremias arguta deserti</i>) Meadow Viper (<i>Vipera ursinii</i>) Caspian Whipsnake (<i>Coluber jugularis</i>) Four-lined Snake (<i>Elaphe quatuorlineata</i>) 	1965-02-25	LP #601 Yv #2100..09 Mi #2377..86	Format: 27x42mm Printing: 500.000 sets 2 FDCs
"Fauna from wild reservations" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mute swan (<i>Cygnus olor</i>) black-winged stilt (<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>) common shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) great egret (<i>Ardea alba</i>) golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) great bastard (<i>Otis tarda</i>) chamois (<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>) European bison (<i>Bison bonasus</i>) 	1968-12-20	LP #689 Yv #2423..30 Mi #2724..31	Format: 34x28mm Printing: 300.000 sets 3 FDCs
"Nature conservation" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> globe flower (<i>Trollius europaeus</i>) common turk's cap lily (<i>Lilium martagon</i>) trumpet gentian (<i>Gentiana excisa</i>) European bee-eater (<i>Merops apiaster</i>) red-breasted goose (<i>Branta ruficollis</i>) Eurasian penduline tit (<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>) 	1973-02-05	LP 818 Yvert 2738..43 Michel 3103..08	Stamp size: 27x33mm Printing: 500.000 sets 2 FDCs
"Nature conservation - wild flowers" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> plume knapweed (<i>Centaurea nervosa</i>) fritillary (<i>Fritilaria montana</i>) European yew (<i>Taxus baccata</i>) azalea (<i>Rhododendron kotschyi</i>) 	1974-09-15	LP 861 Yvert 2863..68 Michel 3224..29	Stamp size: 27x42mm Printing: 400.000 sets 2 FDCs

- alpine forget-me-not (*Eritrichium nanum*)
- pink (*Dianthus spiculifolius*)

One of the first philatelic issues - as mentioned in Table 1 - indirectly refers to the biodiversity of the Ceahlău National Park, the "Forest Animals" issue (Fig. 5), includes 10 different stamps - roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), lynx eurasian (*Lynx lynx*), wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*), european hare (*Lepus europaeus*) and european badger (*Meles meles*).



Fig. 5. "Forest animals" - 10 of 10 stamps (LP #521/1961) [11]

Also included in the category of issues that indirectly refers to the biodiversity of Ceahlău National Park are "Reptiles" (Fig. 6), which include balkan wall lizard (*Podarcis taurica*), balkan green lizard (*Lacerta t. dobrogica*), european copper skink (*Ableteraphus kutaibelii*), slow worm (*Anguis fragilis*), horned viper (*Vipera ammodytes*), steppe runner (*Eremias arguta deserti*), meadow viper (*Vipera ursinii*), caspian whipsnake (*Coluber jugularis*) and four-lined snake (*Elaphe quatuorlineata*).



Fig. 6. "Reptiles" - 9 of 10 stamps (LP #601/1965) [12]

Another philatelic issue that indirectly refers to the biodiversity of the Ceahlău National Park is the "Fauna from Wild preservations" issue, which includes 8 stamps - of which we only mention the golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) one, the great bastard (*Otis tarda*), the chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*) and the european bison (*Bison bonasus*) as presented in Fig. 7, but we also must mention the -"Nature conservation" issue (Fig. 8), which includes 6 stamps - globe flower (*Trollius europaeus*), common turk's cap lily (*Lilium martagon*), trumpet ge ntian (*Gentiana excisa*), European bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*), red-breasted goose (*Branta ruficollis*) and Eurasian penduline tit (*Remiz pendulinus*) in 27x33mm format, 500.000 sets and 2 FDCs.



Fig. 7. "Fauna from Wild preservations" - 4 of 8 stamps (LP #689/1968) [13]



Fig. 8. "Nature conservation" - 6 of 6 stamps (LP #818/1973) [14]

The "Animals" philatelic issue from 1976 (Fig. 9), which includes 6 stamps - red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*), wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) and eurasian lynx (*Lynx lynx*),



Fig. 9. "Animals" - 6 of 6 stamps (LP #1909/1976) [15]

The "Protected animals" philatelic issue from 1977 (Fig. 10), includes 6 stamps of which we only mention the red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), the Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*) and the European bison (*Bison bonasus*). The "European Nature Conservation Year" philatelic issue from 1980 (Fig. 11), includes 8 stamps of which we only mention the red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), the roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*) and the European bison (*Bison bonasus*) are also important philatelic representation for the Ceahlău National Park.



Fig. 10. "Protected animals" - 6 of 6 stamps (LP #932/1977) [16]

Fig. 11. "European nature conservation year" - 3 of 8 stamps (LP #1004/1980) [17]

TABLE 2. CEAHLĂU NATIONAL PARK IN ROMANIAN PHILATELY (1975-2017) [4, 5]

Name of the philatelic issue and of the philatelic parts that make it up	Release date	Indexing	Other philatelic specifications
--------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------	----------	---------------------------------

"Animals" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • red deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>) • brown bear (<i>Ursus arctos</i>) • chamois (<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>) • wild boar (<i>Sus scrofa</i>) • red fox (<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>) • eurasian lynx (<i>Lynx lynx</i>) 	1976-09-20	LP #813 Yv #2978..83 Mi #3366..71	Format: 48x33mm Printing: 3.000.000 sets 2 FDCs
"Protected animals, 1977" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • red deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>) • mute swan (<i>Cygnus olor</i>) • Egyptian vulture (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>) • European bison (<i>Bison bonasus</i>) • white-headed duck (<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>) • common kingfisher (<i>Alcedo atthis</i>) 	1977-03-20	LP #932 Yv #3021..26 Mi #3417..22	Stamp size: 42x54mm Printing: 250.000 sets 3 FDCs
"European Nature Conservation Year" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • common kingfisher (<i>Alcedo atthis</i>) • little egret (<i>Egretta garzetta</i>) • red-breasted goose (<i>Branta ruficollis</i>) • red deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>) • roe deer (<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>) • European bison (<i>Bison bonasus</i>) • great white pelican (<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>) • brown bear (<i>Ursus arctos</i>) 	1980-03-25	LP #1004-1006 Yv #3271..76 Mi #3705..12	Stamp size: 33x48mm Printing: 250.000 sets 5 FDCs
"Protected flora and fauna" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • red squirrel (<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>) • labrador tiger moth (<i>Grammia quenselii</i>) • middle spotted woodpecker (<i>Dendrocopos m.</i>) • Eurasian lynx (<i>Lynx lynx</i>) • wallcreeper (<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>) 	1983-10-28	LP 1084 Yvert 3465..74 Michel 3982..91	Stamp size: 27x42mm Printing: 125.000 sets 2 FDCs
"Protected animals" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raccoon dog (<i>Nyctereutes procyonides</i>) • gray partridge (<i>Perdix perdix</i>) • snowy owl (<i>Nyctea scandiaca</i>) • pine marten (<i>Martes martes</i>) • European badger (<i>Meles meles</i>) • Eurasian otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) • western capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>) • great bustard (<i>Otis tarda</i>) 	1985-05-06	LP #1123 Yv #3563..70 Mi #4133..40	Stamp size: 27x42mm Printing: 200.000 sets 2 FDCs
"Protected fauna from Romania" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) • Eurasian lynx (<i>Lynx lynx</i>) • red deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>) • European sturgeon (<i>Huso huso</i>) • Greek tortoise (<i>Testudo graeca ssp. ibera</i>) • great bustard (<i>Otis tarda</i>) 	2009-08-28	LP 1841 Yvert 5375..80 Michel 6379..84	Stamp size: 33x48mm Printing: 368.160 sets 2 FDCs - 465 sets
"Endangered Species" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eastern imperial eagle (<i>Aquila heliaca</i>) • merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) • Eurasian otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) • beluga (<i>Huso huso</i>) 	2017-05-11	LP 2145 Yvert - N/A Michel 7218..21	Stamp size: 42x27mm Printing: 73.616 sets 1 FDC - 100 sets

The Ceahlau National Park was chosen as the theme of the most recent Romfilatelia project due to its unique character. The philatelic issue *"Love Nature! Ceahlău National Park"* (Fig. 12) comes to complete the series of stamp broadcasts promoting Romania and its national heritage [7], being available from 1 September 2016 in Romfilatelia stores.



Fig. 12. Love Nature! Ceahlău National Park - 2 FDCs [10]



Edelweiss
(*Leontopodium alpinum*)

The Red crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*), is found on the stamp with face value of 0.90 lei. This is a sedentary bird of the Passeriformes order, Fringillidae family, of medium size, which inhabits forested regions of Europe, central and northern Asia, it can also reach the North Africa. In our country it appears in the conifer forests of the Carpathian Mountains and is recognized by the thick beak whose curved jaws cross at the top, hence its popular name.



Red crossbill
(*Loxia curvirostra*)



Hepatica transsilvanica

Hepatica trans. Fuss appears on the stamp with the face value of 1.10 lei. As a rare endemic plant growing at high altitudes, the species has a special ecological and aesthetic value, being, by its beauty, a real delight for mountain hikers. Delicate and tender, it can also be grown in decorative gardens. Its trilobate leaves are the basis of the name it has received. The plant has an adaptive trait of about 20 cm - it produces blue, pink or pink blue flowers, maximum 4-6 cm, starting in February.

On a nominal value of 1.20 lei the chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*), one of the most valuable species belonging to the fauna of Romania, protected by law and considered a real pearl of the mountains, appears on the stamp with a nominal value of 1.20 lei. It can be found on the hillsides of the more rocky mountains, its movements being dictated by the need to find and consume food and the need to adapt to the climatic conditions. It can be said that in the summer the black goats are at the high altitude of the alpine meadows, and in the winter under the low, forest shelter.



Chamois
(*Rupicapra rupicapra*)



Arnica (*Arnica montana*)

Arnica (*Arnica montana*) is a perennial plant that grows in mountainous regions and has flowers similar to daisies - on the 1.30 lei stamp. The name comes from the Greek word "arnikos" - the skin of the lamb, but it is also known under the popular names of: the carriage of the woods, the sunbath, the carriage of the fairy. Located at over 1,000m where it adorns the pastures with its golden-yellow flowers, this plant is the base of multiple mixtures, tinctures and extracts.

The brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), a longevive animal, who lives up to 30 years in the wild and even 20 years more in captivity, appears on the stamp with a face value of 1.40 lei. In Romania there is the largest number of brown bears in Europe, approx. 6,000 members. This animal has been present in folklore, is remembered by M. Eliade as the totem of some of the Dacian monk fighters, becoming a legendary figure, viewed with fear and admiring at the same time.



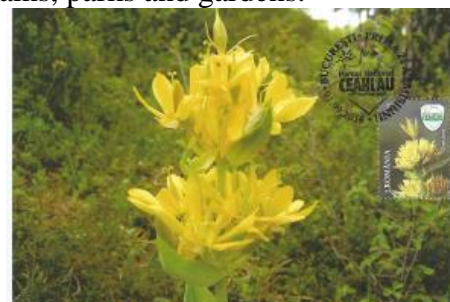
Brown Bear (*Ursus arctos*)



European robin (*Erithacus rubecula*)

On the stamp with the face value of 1.50 lei is illustrated the European robin (*Erithacus rubecula*), also called the red hamster, an insectivorous bird encountered in Romania throughout the year. The FEATHERS of both sexes is brown, with a rusty spot on the chin and chest. They nest in hollows, under banks or under trunks of fallen trees. In the summer, they reside in mountain forests, but in the winter, they descends to the plains, parks and gardens.

Great yellow gentian (*Gentiana lutea*) is represented on the stamp with the face value of 1.60 lei, being a herbaceous plant protected by law and declared a monument of nature. It grows in the spontaneous flora of Romania from the plain to the subalpine area, being known under the names: the bush of the earth, the cahincea, the mountain ghimbers. Her Latin name, comes from antiquity, from Gentius, the King of Illiria, who seems to have discovered the tonic properties of this plant.



Great yellow gentian
(*Gentiana lutea*)

It has an impressive altitude reaching the heights of 60-120 cm, with a strong, thick root, brown on the outside and yellowish inside; the stem is erect, hollow on the inside, and on it are

placed large, oval-elliptical leaves, the size of which decreases towards the upper part of the stem; the flowers can be found in the upper part of the stem, they are placed in the cime, and the color is golden yellow and the seeds are flat and very light.



Water pipit (*Anthus spinoletta*)

On the 1.80 lei stamp appears Lady's slipper orchid (*Cypripedium calceolus*), a very rare, orchid species. In Europe, the plant has become increasingly rare and has disappeared in some places; for this reason many countries now consider it a protected plant. In Romania, Papucul Doamnei has been protected since 1938 and, thanks to some organizations, "in vitro" propagation projects have been carried out to repopulate the areas.



Lady's slipper orchid
(*Cypripedium calceolus*)

CONCLUSIONS

Romania is a blessed country with many areas of unique beauty, with places where the spectacle of nature delights your eyes and breathtaking your every step; from a biogeographic point of view, our country possesses a high biodiversity, expressed in ecosystems and species, providing the pedoclimatic and hydrological conditions for preserving the specific biological diversity - the protected natural areas.

In this paper, we bring to discussion - in a non-exhaustive study - the most significant philatelic pieces (stamps, blocks, souvenirs, FDCs etc.) with and about the Ceahlău National Park - most of them being indexed according to the philatelic catalogs, including even the 2016's philatelic issue "Love Nature! Ceahlău National Park".

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CONTENTS

1. SOME APPEARANCE ON PENETRANT LIQUID TESTING OF THE HIGH STRENGTH ALUMINUM ALLOYS DEFECTS	
<i>V. Hotea</i>	7
2. GEOLOGICAL MEMORY OF STARUNJA – AS THE COURSE OF PROTECTION OF THE WORLD NATURAL HERITAGE IN CARPATHIAN REGION OF UKRAINE	
<i>O. Adamenko, Y. Adamenko, K. Radlovska</i>	15
3. THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ANDESITE EXPLOITATION IN PROTECTED AREAS	
<i>I. Bud, D. Gusat, S. Duma, I. Pasca</i>	27
4. THE EVOLUTION OF GREENHOUSE GASES IN THE COUNTY OF MARAMUREȘ BETWEEN 2006 AND 2015	
<i>G. M. Filip, V. M. Brezoczki</i>	35
5. IMPLICATIONS OF PHILATELY IN PROMOTING THE PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS (II): "PEȚEA CREEK" NATURAL RESERVATION	
<i>A. L. Pop, Y. Adamenko, B. Cioruta, M. Coman</i>	43
6. FOAMING AGENT FOR ALLOYS OF ALUMINIUM FOAMS	
<i>J. Juhasz, V. Hotea</i>	53
7. STUDY OF THE QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER IN TÂRGU LĂPUȘ, MARAMURES, ROMANIA	
<i>V. M. Brezoczki, G. M. Filip</i>	61
8. WOOD-MAIN USED MATERIAL IN BUILDING “ECOLOGICAL” VS. “MODERN” HOUSES	
<i>C. Micle</i>	73
9. TEXTILES COLOURED WITH NATURAL DYES OF VEGETAL ORIGIN	
<i>C. Dolca</i>	81
10. AIRPLANE - TYPE HOUSE-CASE STUDY	
<i>J. Mociran</i>	91

IMPLICATIONS OF PHILATELY IN PROMOTING THE PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS (II): "PEȚEA CREEK" NATURAL RESERVATION

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Abstract: *We define and accept natural heritage as being the ensemble of components and physical-geographical structures, floristic, faunistic and biocenotic of natural resources, of which importance and ecological value, economical, scientific, biogenetic, health, views, recreative and cultural-historic have relevant significance under the aspect of conserving biodiversity, of ecosystems functional integrity, genetical heritage conservation, vegetal and animal, and for life need satisfaction, wealth, culture and civilisation of present and future generations. Romania is a blessed place with many areas of unique beauty - as part of the natural heritage - with places where the spectacle of nature delights your eyes and breathtaking your every step. Constantly promoting philately themes that use natural wealth and beauty of our country as subjects, the administrative entity (with various names over time) responsible for issuing postage stamps performs a series of postage stamps in whose images are found rarities of flora and fauna, a miracle of nature. In this paper, we bring to discussion, among other things, the most significant philatelic peculiarities in the "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation.*

Keywords: *natural heritage, protected areas, biodiversity, endangered species, "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation*

INTRODUCTION

Romania as a blessed country with many areas of unique beauty - with places where the spectacle of nature delights your eyes - possesses a high biodiversity expressed in ecosystems and species (Fig. 1), providing the pedoclimatic, hydrological and thermal conditions necessary for preserving the specific biological diversity [7].

At national level, there are about 52 *ecoregions* with a variety of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems (Fig. 2) specific to the coastal and seaside areas of the Black Sea, steppe, silvosteps, hills, mountains, lakes, water courses and meadows, drought areas or wetlands [7].

Constantly promoting philately themes that use natural wealth and beauty of our country as subjects [3], the administrative entity (with various names over time) responsible for issuing postage stamps, actually Romfilatelia, performs a series of postage stamps in whose images are found rarities of flora and fauna [7], especially from the natural protected areas which are an integral part of the natural heritage (Fig. 2).



Fig. 1. "Environment protection" - a FDC representation for Romania's high biodiversity (LP #1096/1984) [1, 8]



Fig. 2. "Protected fauna from Romania" - FDCs representing terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems (LP #1841/2009) [1, 9]

Joining UNESCO's Programs and UN Nations Projects, as well as WWF, Romania, through Romfilatelia, continues to cultivate love and care for the environment, including in addition to the Ceahlau National Park stamps [1], other philatelic parts specific to "Peșea Creek" Natural Reservation, Danube Delta Biosphere Reservation, Retezat National Park, Rodnei National Park etc.

CONSIDERATIONS ON THE "PEȘEA CREEK" AREA MANAGEMENT

There is a thermal water ecosystem, Peșea Lake and Peșea Peșteni Natural Reserve site, located in Crișurilor Plain, Băile 1 Mai Resort, Sânmartin commune, Rontău village - "the locality where in winter frogs sing" - at approx. 9 km from Oradea (Fig. 3), where organisms adapted to this particular environment are found: thermal scallop (*Scardinius racovitzai*), thermal snail (*Melanopsis parreyssi*) and thermal lily (*Nymphaea lotus* var. *Thermalis*) [12, 13].



Fig. 3. The geographical frame of the Pețea Lake area and the proximity space urbanisation [20]

Pețea Creek has its origin in the "Eye of the Gypsy", a clogged spring, followed by the "Eye of Pompeii" (poorly functioning) and by "Ochiul Mare", which took the appearance of a small lake, remaining the main source flowing, the rest of the springs being virtually missing.

The geographic location of the Pețea Pețea Reservation is 24°00'04" long. east, 21°59'01" long. west, 46°59'05" lat. nordic, 46°59'04" wide southern. The site has 49 ha and overlaps with the reserve (Fig. 4), being the only natural thermal ecosystem in Romania [12].



Fig. 4. Aspects of the "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation management [14]

In order to understand the naturalistic aspects of this place, we have to make an idea of the past of the area, the geological structure and hydrology aspects, the processes of the thermal waters ecosystem, the community of relic species that are endemic in these waters, the history of the attempts to protect, as well as the human interference that aggresses the system (Fig. 5) to such an extent that the ecosystem is currently in critical condition.

The present reality can only be understood by the knowledge of processes carried out in ancient landscapes, now represented by relicts of those distant times [14, 15].



Fig. 5. Aspects of human interference in the "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation [12, 20]

The thermal springs in the western area of Romania are at the Pannonian Plain contact with the western borders of the Apuseni Mountains, the hydrogeothermal system in the Băile 1 Mai - Băile Felix - Oradea - Livada area having interferences in the geographic area that gives its name. The mesozoic limestones in the area were strongly carstified and subsequently covered by sediments. Now in those karst voids circulating thermal waters, heated in the bark; these holes can be penetrated by people's drilling, or natural openings begin in the form of thermal breaks.

The Triassic Hyperthermal Aquatic of Oradea was discovered during the drillings carried out in the years 1963-1964, and the waters extracted through different wells had temperatures of 70-105°C. In the triassic limestone cracks network located under Oradea - Borș, the thermal waters above 130°C are located at 2,200-3,200 m deep [14, 15]. The thermal aquifer complex has characteristics for which hydrogeological studies are required, including petrographic analyzes of sandy bodies, structure, texture, cementation, porosity, and water circulation in them.

The "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation, declared since 1932, is a natural protected area of national interest, being classified as a natural reserve, corresponding to IV IUCN category, according to OUG 57 of 2007. It is also included in the Natura 2000 Community Network of ROSCI0098 "Pețea Lake" (49 ha), designated in 2007. The priority habitat protected according to Annex II of Council Directive 92/43/EEC falls under category 31A0 * - *Thermal waters in Transylvania covered with lotus* [13].

The "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation is a stream of water with wider sections enlarged in the form of muddy lakes; has thermal waters which at the spring have about 30-34°C, made the quasi-dynamic thermal regime to cause changes in the organisms metabolism that adapted to these places (Fig. 6), in the sense that they became dependent on warm waters, in outside of which they can not survive (thermal lily, thermal tomato, thermal snail and other species).



Fig. 6. Biodiversity within the "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation [13]

In the "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation, endemic taxons (thermal lily, thermal redness, thermal snail) were identified, also 16 species listed in the annexes of the EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, as well as 25 species from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Red List, protected by Romanian legislation [13]:

- mollusks: *Unio crassus*, *Drobia banatica*, *Microcolpia parreyssii* - endemic species;
- insects: *Cerambyx cerdo*, *Lucanus cervus*, *Mesovelia thermalis* (the only population in Romania), *Coenagrion puella*, *Proserpinus proserpina*;
- fishes: *Cobitis elongatoides*, *Sabanejewia balcanica*, *Rhodeus amarus*, *Scardinius erythr. racovitzai* (endemic species for Pețea Lake);
- amphibians: *Bombina bombina*, *Bombina. variegata*, *Triturus cristatus*, *Rana dalmatina*, *Bufo bufo*, *Pseudepidalea viridis*, *Hyla arborea*;
- reptiles: *Emys orbicularis*, *Lacerta agilis*, *Natrix natrix*, *Natrix tessellata*;
- birds: *Ciconia ciconia*, *Gallinula chloropus*, *Cuculus canorus*, *Pica pica*, *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*, *Garrulus glandarius*, *Anas platyrhynchos*, *Egretta garzetta*, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, *Alcedo atthis*, and mammals: *Sciurus vulgaris*, *Talpa europaea*.

Beyond the IUCN World Red List species and overexploitation of the thermal water, "Pețea Creek" is under the pressure of human aggression of various kinds [16]. Due to the extraction of thermal water for human use (swimming pools, aquaparks, etc), the source that feeds the "reserve" no longer has the power to maintain the water temperature, so the temperature drop may lead to the disappearance of the endemic species in the area, Kitaibel Pál, European renown botanist, found that they are "the last mosquitans of a subtropical oasis" [17].

Protecting attempts were multiple, as was the destructive human aggression. The area was fenced off and a water dump was created. Over time, the fences were destroyed, the lake became clogged, garbage was deposited in the area [16, 17].

A major and repeating problem from time to time is the introduction of tropical exotic plants into the thermal waters, species that become invasive. In an attempt to preserve the natural biodiversity of these thermal waters, the lake is cleaned by vegetation of the exotic aquatic plants introduced [19]; a problem is that in winter the thermal water lilies have submerged leaves, which makes possible the strong development of biomass of exotic plants introduced, which have available vital space, reaching the light. Obviously, there should be a way to eliminate all exotic species in an attempt to rebuild the natural community of these thermal waters.

"PEȚEA CREEK" RESERVATION IN ROMANIAN PHILATELY

In this paper, we bring to discussion the most significant philatelic pieces (stamps, blocks, souvenirs, FDCs etc.) with and about the "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation. Valuing, as it should be, the miracles with which nature embellished this country, meant to remain in good condition for future generations, the company specializing in publishing and selling Romanian postage stamps (Romfilatelia), puts into circulation the stamp issue "*Uniques elements from the Pețea Creek Natural Reservation - Băile 1 Mai, Oradea*" (Fig. 7).

In the hot and tremendous waters (30-31°C), fed by the sub-glacial springs, ancient species survive: thermal water lily (*Nymphaea lotus* var. *thermalis*), accompanied by thermal snail (*Melanopsis parreyssi*) and by thermal roll (*Scardinius racovitzai*) [13].



Fig. 7. "Uniques elements from "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation - Băile 1 Mai, Oradea" [18]

The presence of these 3 endemic species of great scientific importance for the world's genetic pool (Fig. 8) makes this thermal lake an aquatic ecosystem of unique value. Here are many other species of amphibians, reptiles, birds and small mammals, protected at European level. All these were arguments for the creation of "Pețea Creek" Nature Reservation, which is the only natural thermal ecosystem in Romania.



Fig. 8. Endemic species of scientific significance from "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation [18]
a) thermal water lily; b) thermal roll; c) thermal snail

The stamp with the face value of Lei 1.40 represents the thermal water lily picture (popularly called "lotus"), a rare lotus thermal, is the only case in which a spontaneous tropical plant is living in temperate climates. The plant was found and first described by botanist Paul Kitaibel in 1798. As a result of investigations, the conclusion, supported increasingly more today, it is that the plant is a tertiary relic who found favorable conditions during glaciations in water warm and soft of Lake Pețea. This floral pearl has survived due to the microclimate created by thermal water. Under optimal conditions, the surface of which a copy of mature plant handles is 8-10 m², having green leaves up to 60, and serrated edges round, half of which is floating, and the remaining submerged.

The stamp with the face value of Lei 1.60 represents the image of Racovita's ray-finned fish, *Scardinius racovitzai*, endemic fish species, strictly thermophilic, that prefers temperatures between 27°C and 34°C. It does not reach more than 12 cm in length and it can be recognized based on its reddish fins.

The stamp with the face value of Lei 3.10 represents the image of the water snail *Melanopsis parreyssi*. The subtropical climate and the physical chemical conditions offered by Petea Lake fostered the appearance of a rich gastropod fauna, out of which 30 species and

subspecies of tertiary relicts. *Melanopsis parreyssi* is the unique survivor of this fauna and is to be found only at the Petea Lake. It lives in the unique springs, on plants or on the muddy bottom of the lake, at temperatures between 34 and 42°C. It reaches a height of 15-18 mm and an 8.5 mm width, unlike its ancestors that reached much higher dimensions and were widespread around the Panonic Sea during the Pliocene. The shell varies a lot in shape and dimension, otherwise a characteristic for relict extinction species. Its color is light grey and it can turn to dark brown when the animal is inside the shell.

CONCLUSIONS

Romania as a blessed place with many areas of unique beauty, with places where the spectacle of nature delights your eyes and breathtaking your every step; from a biogeographic point of view, our country possesses a high biodiversity, expressed in ecosystems and species, providing the pedoclimatic, hydrological and thermal conditions for preserving the specific biological diversity - the protected natural areas.

In this paper, we bring to discussion - in a non-exhaustive study - the most significant philatelic pieces (stamps, blocks, souvenirs, FDCs etc.) with and about the "Pețea Creek" Natural Reservation - including even the 2008's philatelic issue "*Uniques elements from the Pețea Creek Natural Reservation - Băile 1 Mai, Oradea*".

In the case of Pețea Lake with its thermal waters, you can imagine how much hot and hot water had to come out of the springs to allow for the survival of tertiary thermophilous species throughout the fourteenth-century glacier colds that lasted 2.5 million years now. However, the thread of life has persisted for some species of organisms that have now become replicated, others of course have disappeared; but those that persist so far are threatened with extinction because of human indifference, the actions of those who see only momentary interests-the man who mercilessly degrades anything that touches it. In various articles appearing in the Bihor press, it is shown that this human style has become more destructive than the Ice Age.

Undoubtedly, naturally, the lake would have disappeared at any given time (any lake unit collapses and eutrophies over time until it is extinguished), but it is sad that in this century, considered by specialists as being a century dedicated to the environment, we are shrugging off the shoulders, the red list of endangered species completes endlessly, but life goes on with or without *drețe* (the popular name of this water lily) and its thermal associates.

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A Philatelic Review Regarding the Romanian Architectural Tendencies

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Abstract

The Romanian Philately, since its inception (1858), has made known to the world the elements of local architecture (traditional and modern) - elements that we place at the basis of the ecological house concept, as a result of the concept of a healthy home. Through this paper, we want to present to the general public - as new and unique interdisciplinary methods of learning in architecture - a series of philatelic issues consecrated with the passage of time, from 1906 until currently, that are in the forefront of the architecture, the interior and exterior design, including, among others, peasant houses, pavilions and palaces, palaces and other architectural monuments. There are fractions of images, with people and places, with traditional and modern architecture, with what we want to remain alive in the memory of our descendants.

Rezumat

Filateliea românească, încă de la începuturile sale (1858), a făcut cunoscute lumii elementele de arhitectură locală (tradițională și modernă) - elemente pe care le plasăm la baza conceptului de casă ecologică, ca rezultat al conceptului de cămin sănătos. Prin lucrarea de față dorim să prezentăm publicului larg - ca noi și inedite metode interdisciplinare de învățare în arhitectură - o serie de emisiuni filatelice consacrate odată cu trecerea timpului, de la 1906 și până în prezent, care au în prim plan arhitectura, designul interior și exterior, incluzând case țărănești, pavilioane, palate și alte monumente de arhitectură. Sunt fracțiuni de imagini, cu oameni și locuri, cu arhitectură tradițională și modernă, cu ceea ce dorim să rămână viu în memoria urmașilor.

Keywords: traditional architecture, philately, the Village Museum, architectural tendencies

1. Introduction

About houses, in one way or another, it's been discussed for a long time. Lately, even in Romania, the interest in architectural tendencies has begun to take on proportions [1]. In this context, the man viewed through ecology is directly involved and even responsible for his integration and harmony

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in a healthy environment, from which, in particular, the notion of ecological house [2], alongside the notion of smart homes, can not be missed.

For more than 150 years collecting stamps is one of the preoccupations of royal families, film stars, celebrities in the sport world and other people in public life. Throughout the world, postage stamps perform three main roles: a certain value receipt for a postage payment in advance, a means of celebrating and promoting national heritage and a collection piece [3, 4].

But above all, the postage stamp is a true ambassador of human history, culture and civilization, because its form and function give it freedom of movement and the ability to transmit information all over the world.

The popularity of philately is determined by the fact that it is flexible to the collector's needs, for which the most important piece of paper is proven to be stamp. The stamp was invented as a simple indicator, a sort of receipt meant to mark the payment of the mail transport tax. In the beginning, however, it has been seen that the stamp was an admirable vehicle that could transmit through inscriptions, but especially through pictures, different messages [4].

The Romanian philately, since its inception, has made known to the world the elements of local architecture, which we place as the foundation of the ecological house concept [3]. Through this paper, we want to present to the public a series of philatelic issues that have traditionally established the Romanian architecture in more than a century. In this context, we mention the first philatelic issue, appeared in October 1906 at the "General Exhibition held in Bucharest" (Fig. 1), in which are explicitly mentioned elements of architecture.



Figure 1. General Exhibition - Bucharest (1906) [2, 5, 7]

The issue includes 11 stamps, just 6 presented in Fig. 1 - pavilions and piles, true architectural monuments (LP #63). The issue also features a non-dotted version, with the "S.E." overprint, some of which have the overturned center or a double impression [2]. A series of stamps have been printed since then, illustrating architectural elements, but the first series dedicated entirely to traditional architecture was due to appear only in 1963, with the development of mass philately.

2. Elements of architecture in Romanian philately

2.1 Traditional architecture philatelic issues

The philatelic issue "Village Museum" appeared on 25 December 1963, consisting of 7 stamps made by Aida Tasgian after engravings by Ion Dumitrana (LP #575). The stamps illustrate houses from the Village Museum of Bucharest (Fig. 2). It can be seen how climate, materials, culture and people's habits have left their mark on the traditional architecture of the houses presented. Stamps have a 40x28 mm format and were printed in a 1,000,000 series run in 100-piece finished sheets. The philatelic issue is accompanied by 2 First Day Cover (FDC) pieces [5].



Figure 2. Village Museum - Bucharest (1963) [2, 5, 8]

As can be seen from the philatelic pieces presented in Fig. 2, the architecture specific to a certain place is influenced by a cumulus of factors, without any of them being determinant. By carefully analyzing the exposed stamps we will notice that the climate, building materials, economic motivations, culture and customs are the key elements around which the traditional Romanian architecture was built [2]. The house is, above all, a shelter against weathering: where the climate is warm and dry, high heat inertial materials that keep cool, the walls are painted white or in bright colors to reflect the radiation solar; where the climate is warm and humid, houses raised from the ground to avoid flooding are sometimes open or have thin walls that allow rapid ventilation; in the cold climate, the materials used are heavy and good thermal insulators, and the exterior is painted in dark colors that retain the heat.



Figure 3. 50 years of Bucharest Village Museum (1986) [2, 5, 9]

All these aspects can easily be seen on the stamps of "*The Semicentenary of the Village Museum of Bucharest*" (Fig. 3). The philatelic issue (LP #1162), which appeared on 21 July 1986, consists of 6 stamps illustrating houses from Sălcuia de Jos (Alba), Stănești (Argeș), Ostrov (Constanța), Sârbova (Timiș), Audia Neamt) and Cutișoara (Gorj). Stamps have a 33x48 mm format and were printed in a 200,000 series run in 25-piece finished sheets. The philatelic issue is also accompanied by 2 FDCs [5].

There are many aspects of the local architectural specificity of a habitation area, by socio-cultural factors. Sometimes, cultural factors become more important than environmental determinants. The Romanian post office has successfully illustrated this idea in the philatelic issue entitled "*Traditional Architecture*" (Fig. 4), composed of 6 stamps made by Mihai Vamăescu, put into circulation on 18 February 1989 (LP #1215). It can be seen on each stamp the house plan specific to the architectural area. Stamps have a size of 27x42 mm and were printed in a 200,000 series run in 50-piece finished sheets. The philatelic issue is also accompanied by 2 FDCs [5].



Figure 4. Traditional architecture (1989) [2, 5, 10]



Figure 5. Windmills (1994) [2, 6, 11]

The traditional house and household always agree with the occupations and way of life of the inhabitants, but also with their economic possibilities. The economic motivations influencing architecture refer to the basic occupations of the inhabitants and the way they determine the configuration of the household. This aspect can also be seen from the "Windmills" (Fig. 5), which appeared on 31 March 1994 and consists of 6 stamps (LP #1338) made by Gh. Leahu. The stamps illustrate mills from Tulcea, Vâlcea and Vrancea. They have a 48x33 mm format and were printed in a 200,000 series run in 25-piece finished sheets. The issue is also accompanied by 3 FDCs [6].

In addition to the 1994 philatelic issue, the series of overtipar stamps, in 34x49 mm format, with the following nominal values: 1,300 lei / 245 lei - overprint with brown wheat spice 258,178 pieces, 2200 lei / 115 lei - overprint with brown corn stiletos - 519,919 pieces, 5000 lei / 115 lei - overprint with green corn stiletos - 395,187 pieces and 16500 lei / 70 lei - overprint with brown rye spice 121,166 units (LP #1543) [6].

The next philatelic piece (Fig. 6), distinguished by its very representation, is the miniature of the commemorative "ASTRA 50th Anniversary Establishment Museum of Traditional Folk Civilization" (LP # 2001b). Appearing on 4 April 2013 and based on the offset lithography, the philatelic piece, in the same narrow frame, is drawing the vertical mill from Dăbâca (Hunedoara - 1848) - both the building itself (the illustrated cuff) as well as its interior, respectively the plan and the section of the gear (the vignette). The nominal value of the stamp is 14.5 lei [6].



Figure 6. 50th Anniversary of ASTRA Traditional Folk Civilization Museum (2013) [2, 6, 12]

Other notable mentions, worth to be reviewed, regarding the traditional Romanian architecture, are the philatelic pieces from the commemorative series: "Romania - a European treasure" (LP #1844) with the stamp having the nominal value of 3 ron "Folk Art - Maramures" - appeared on 16 September 2009, "Discover Romania - Transylvania" (LP #1971) with the stamp having the nominal value of 3.6 ron "Guest House from Zălanului Valey (Covasna County)" - appeared on 15 March 2013 (RO #6874) and "Seasons at the Village Museum" (Fig. 7) - appeared on 20 May 2016 (LP #2105) . The piece from the image (LP # 2105a) representing the block of 4 stamps [6].

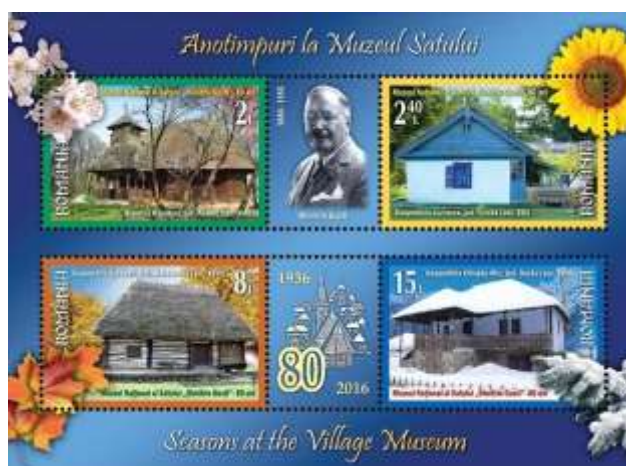


Figure 7. The block of 4 stamps - Seasons at the Village Museum (2016) [6, 13]

Also concerning the architecture, in Maramureș, for example, wood has always been a resource used in multiple ways: from the plate from which people eat to the shelter which protects the villagers, and the wooden churches in which they worship. When the people of Maramureș smell wood, they feel at home. The wooden gates are symbols of the Maramureș village, also considered the Land of Wooden Churches. The themes carved in the poles of the gates shows a symbolic territory located between the outer world and the homestead, between the neutral space and the sacred realm, their role being to protect the house and the family (Fig. 8).

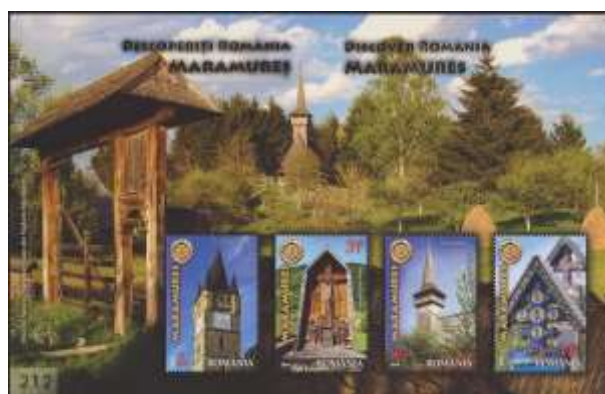


Figure 8. Discover Romania - Maramureș (2014) [6, 14]



Figure 9. Maramureș wooden churches from UNESCO World Heritage List (1997) [6, 15]

When you travel through small villages, you can easily notice how they preserve their old wooden church, a testament to local experienced builders. Eight of these monuments, located in Bârsana,

Budești, Desești, Ieud, Plopiș, Poienile Izei, Rogoz and Șurdești, have been included on UNESCO World Heritage List (Fig. 9). The wooden churches are not only touristic attractions, they are also places of worship for the villagers, who, dressed in their traditional clothes, show up every Sunday morning to pray and pay respect (Fig. 10).



Figure 10. Wooden church, Rogoz (2013) and Wooden church, Sugatag (2014) [6, 16]

2.2 Modern architecture philatelic issues

In addition to the philatelic issues, presenting the traditional architecture from Romania, there are a few series of filatelic pieces representing Romanian modern architecture. One of the first issue, in this context, "*Romanian modern architecture*" appeared in 20 November 1961 and contain stamps with reference to Bucharest - new construction, new homes and state circus, Constanta - railway station, the new Hall Palace, Hunedoara - new steel-mill, and Mangalia - workers club (Fig. 11).



Figure 11. Romanian modern architecture (1961) [5, 17]

As a continuation of Fig. 11, the philatelic series "*Modern architecture*" appears on 25 July 1979, containing 6 pieces in 48x33 mm format including the State Theatre (Târgu-Mureș), University (Brașov), Political Administration Building (Baia Mare), Stefan Gheorghiu Academy (Bucharest), Political Administration Building (Botoșani) and House of Culture (Târgoviște) (Fig. 12).



Figure 12. Modern architecture (1979) [5, 18]

Other representative buildings for Bucharest, Eforie Nord, Satu Mare, Târgoviște and Căciulata, we found in "InterEuropa" series starting with 18 May 1987 as presented in Fig. 13.



Figure 13. InterEuropa - representative buildings (1987) [5, 19]

Other notable mentions, worth to be reviewed, regarding the modern Romanian architecture, are the philatelic pieces from the commemorative series "550 years of Bucharest" (Fig. 14) with the 72x36 mm format stamps - Buna Vestire Church, Colțea Hospital, First Romanian Architecture School and Șuțu Palace - appeared on 18 September 2009 [6]



Figure 14. 550 years of Bucharest (2009) [6, 20]

and the "Iași - city of the Great Union" (Fig. 15) with the 48x33 mm format stamps - Ghica House (Residence of King Ferdinand I), National Theatre, University of Iași and Rosetti-Roznovanu Palace - appeared on 26 April 2017 [6].



Figure 15. Iași - city of the Great Union (2017) [6, 21]

3. Conclusions

The need for communication, especially among stamp collectors, led to their organization in various philatelic societies and clubs, which had an intense activity, especially at the beginning of the 19th century. Today, the stamp, as the main vector of philatelic communication, represents, together with the flag, the anthem, and coins one of our national symbols. In this context, the Romanian philately, since its inception, has made known to the world the elements of local architecture.

Through this paper, the authors want to open a series of presentations of what has given valuable, over time, the philately to civilization and human culture and which is reflected in philatelic

collections. There are fractions of images - as far as a stamp is concerned - with people and places, with traditional and modern architecture, with what we want to remain alive in the memory of our descendants - as an essential component of sustainable development after which we tend to believe that the current society is functioning.

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CONTENTS

1. CHARACTERIZATION AND SUSCEPTIBILITY TO INTERGRANULAR CORROSION OF AA2024 ALUMINUM ALLOY	
<i>V. Hotea</i>	7
2. CRITICAL STUDY OF BOZANTA TAILING POND'S ACCIDENT IN MARAMURES, OCCURRED IN OCTOBER 2017	
<i>I. Bud, I. Paşca, S. Duma, D. Guşat</i>	13
3. THE QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER IN SIGHETU MARMAŢIEI, MARAMUREŞ, ROMANIA	
<i>V. M. Brezoczki, G. M. Filip</i>	19
4. ECOLOGICAL SAFETY OF IVANO-FRANKIVSK URBAN SYSTEM ACCORDING TO ACOUSTICAL AND ELECTROMAGNETIC LOAD FACTORS	
<i>Y. Adamenko, M. Coman, T. Kundelska</i>	27
5. GENERATING SEVERE PLASTIC DEFORMATIONS THROUGH LAMINATION	
<i>E. Pop</i>	35
6. CHARACTERIZATION OF ACTIVE COMPOUNDS FROM CITRUS PEELS BY-PRODUCTS USING CHROMATOGRAPHIC AND OPTIC METHODS	
<i>C. Mihali, T. Dippong, A. Dumuţa, A. R. Mureşan</i>	41
7. LANDSCAPE MAP OF BYTKIVSKE OIL FIELD AND NEIGHBORING TERRITORIES OF THE CARPATHIAN REGION	
<i>Y. Adamenko, M. Coman, O. Adamenko, K. Karavanovych</i>	49
8. INFLUENCE OF LIMESTONE PARTICULATE MATTER ON ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS	
<i>G. M. Filip, V. M. Brezoczki</i>	57
9. STUDY ON NON-DISTRUCTIVE ULTRASOUND CONTROL	
<i>J. Juhasz</i>	63
10. STUDY OF THE RESTORATION FEATURES OF SOILS THAT WERE INFLUENCED BY FORMATION WATERS	
<i>A. Pukish</i>	71
11. ASSESSMENT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS HEAVY METALS CONTENT IN SOME AREAS SURROUNDING BAI A MARE TOWN	
<i>A. Dumuţa, Z. Voşgan Zorica, L. Mihaly-Cozmuţa, T. Dippong, C. Mihali, L. Mihailescu, C. Feidi</i> ..	77
12. VALENCES OF COMMUNICATION THROUGH STAMPS (I): ECOLOGICAL HOUSE AND TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE	
<i>A. L. Pop, B. Cioruţa</i>	83
13. ECOLOGIC HOUSE AND PERSPECTIVES OF SPACE ARRANGEMENT: THE PASSING FROM WASTE TO ART	
<i>L. Rus</i>	93

VALENCES OF COMMUNICATION THROUGH STAMPS (I): ECOLOGICAL HOUSE AND TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE

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Abstract: The man viewed through ecology is directly involved and even responsible for his integration and harmony in a healthy natural environment, from which the notion of ecological house, as a result of the concept of a healthy home, can not be missed. The Romanian philately, since its inception, has made known to the world the elements of local architecture (traditional and modern), which we place as the foundation of the ecological house concept. Through this paper, we want to present to the public a series of philatelic programs that have as their foreground the traditional architecture enshrined in more than a century, from 1906 to 2016 - including pavilions and pens, peasant houses and palaces, and other architectural monuments.

Keywords: ecological houses, philately, the Village Museum, traditional architecture.

INTRODUCTION

The man viewed through ecology is directly involved and even responsible for his integration and harmony in a healthy natural environment, from which the notion of ecological house, as a result of the concept of a healthy home, can not be missed. The Romanian philately, since its inception, has made known to the world the elements of local architecture (traditional and modern), which we place as the foundation of the ecological house concept.

Through this paper, we want to present to the public a series of philatelic programs that have traditionally established the traditional architecture in more than a century [2,7,8]. In this context, we mention for the first time that the first philatelic issue, in which are explicitly mentioned elements of traditional architecture, appeared in October 1906 at the General Exhibition held in Bucharest (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. GENERAL EXHIBITION Bucharest, 1906 (6/11)

(source: colnect.com/ro/stamps/list/country/2668-România/series/Exhibition_in_Bucharest)

The issue includes 11 stamps, 6 presented in Fig. 1 (RO # 205-210) - pavilions and piles, true architectural monuments (LP # 63). The show also features a non-dotted version, with the "S.E." overprint, some of which have the overturned center or a double impression [3].

A series of stamps have been printed since then, illustrating architectural elements, values from various programs, but the first series dedicated entirely to traditional architecture was due to appear only in 1963, with the development of mass philately.

TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE IN PHILATELY

The philatelic issue "Village Museum" appeared on 25 December 1963, consisting of 7 stamps made by Aida Tasgian after engravings by Ion Dumitrana (LP #575). The stamps illustrate houses from the Village Museum of Bucharest (Fig. 2). It can be seen how climate, materials, culture and people's habits have left their mark on the traditional architecture of the houses presented. Stamps have a 40x28 mm format and were printed in a 1,000,000 series run in 100-piece finished sheets. The philatelic issue is accompanied by 2 First Day Cover pieces [3].



Fig. 2. VILLAGE MUSEUM, 1963 (7/7)

(source: colnect.com/ro/stamps/list/country/România/series/Village_Museum)

As can be seen from the philatelic pieces presented above, the architecture specific to a certain place is influenced by a cumulus of factors, without any of them being determinant. By carefully analyzing the exposed stamps we will notice that the climate, building materials, economic motivations, culture and customs are the key elements around which the traditional Romanian architecture was built [1]. The interpretation of traditional architecture only by climatic factors, for example, would be simplistic. Sometimes neighboring villages with the same climate and relief develop differently. Today, many believe that the shape and layout's house are aesthetically pleasing, but, in fact, vernacular architecture is, first of all, dictated by the climate.

The house is, above all, a shelter against weathering: where the climate is warm and dry, high heat inertial materials that keep cool, such as chirpici or stone are used, the walls are painted white or in bright colors to reflect the radiation solar; where the climate is warm and

humid, houses raised from the ground to avoid flooding are sometimes open or have thin walls that allow rapid ventilation; in the cold climate, the house is structured around a large heater that heats the space, the materials used are heavy and good thermal insulators, and the exterior is painted in dark colors that retain the heat.

If the houses in the Danube Delta have the slope of the lower roof because there is less rain and the winters are mild, and as such, the olano-lined rooftops perfectly respond to this climate, keeping cool summer and heat in the winter, instead, in Transylvania and Maramures, the roofs have steep slopes for rapid drainage of heavy rains. The slope does not retain either the thick layer of snow covered during the long winters [1].

The high roofs of the mountain houses also have an important role in keeping the meridians and family members needs throughout the year. At the houses of Maramures, the roof can be three times taller than the walls of the house, and the house is not necessarily the tallest building in the household. Where people were mainly engaged in animal husbandry, as in Maramures, the bar was larger than the house. There were large quantities of fodder needed for animal welfare in the bridge. Instead, where people were viticulturists, the cellar was the most important. The "tall houses" are specific, for example, in Gorj area or the regions inhabited by the Saxons in southern Transylvania. The same happens in settlements where people were craftsmen: the semi-basement that served as a workshop was tall and with direct access from the street, as in Rimetea (Alba) [5].

All these aspects can easily be seen on the stamps of "The Semicentenary of the Village Museum of Bucharest" (Fig. 3). The philatelic issue (LP #1162), which appeared on 21 July 1986, consists of 6 stamps printed by Mihai Vamăşescu, illustrating houses from Sălciua de Jos (Alba), Stăneşti (Argeş), Ostrov (Constanţa), Sârbova (Timiş), Audia Neamt) and Cutișoara (Gorj). Stamps have a 33x48 mm format and were printed in a 200,000 series run in 25-piece finished sheets. The philatelic issue is also accompanied by 2 First Day Cover pieces [3].



Fig. 3. 50 YEARS OF BUCHAREST VILLAGE MUSEUM, 1986 (6/6)

(source: colnect.com/ro/stamps/list/country/România/series/50_Years_of_Bucharest_Village_Museum)

With regard to building materials, the easiest way to build has always been with materials in the immediate vicinity, for example, in hill and mountain areas, where forests surround the settlements, wood was the most handy resource. Of course, this is not the only criterion for choosing materials. Romanian civilization is a civilization of wood and not of stone [1]; stone was commonly used only for foundations. Of course, there are localities where wall stone was used, but these are rather the exception that confirms the rule. Such houses are located in Dobrogea, in the south of Banat or in the south of the Apuseni Mountains, where often used stone is processed from the Roman ruins. There are even villages (Ceru-Băcănti - Alba County)

that used stone to the roof, in the form of slabs of a special rock called slate, easy to cut into thin and very resistant slabs. The brick was also used sporadically in some parts of the country, for example in the Saxon villages of southern Transylvania or Banat, and this happened under the influence of urban culture [5].

Brick has become a building material predilect with the industrial age. The clay or chirpicks have been used since ancient times, being easy to find and to process. They are still found today, especially in the houses of the plain, where the system of construction with reinforced clay and braided rods was preserved, specific to the Neolithic architecture.

The layout of the house, chaise and other enclosures around the bypass (courtyard) seems to be the result of a compositional-plastic intention, but is in fact dictated by the functional needs of the household. Vernacular architecture is not only influenced by external factors and functionality. There are many aspects of the local architectural specificity of a habitation area, by socio-cultural factors.

Sometimes, cultural factors become more important than environmental determinants. For example, an old Romanian custom says that in order to determine the position of the house on the ground, the wife had to cut a bread in two and throw it up. Where the cut face of the bread fell, there was the face of the house. The habit may, of course, contradict the orientation of cardinal points or dominant winds, but the ritual is more important, since it was assumed to have the function of bringing prosperity and to protect the house from evil forces [5].

The Romanian post office has successfully illustrated this idea in the philatelic issue entitled "Traditional Architecture" (Fig. 4), composed of 6 stamps made by Mihai Vămăescu, put into circulation on 18 February 1989 (LP #1215). It can be seen on each stamp the house plan specific to the architectural area. Stamps have a size of 27x42 mm and were printed in a 200,000 series run in 50-piece finished sheets. The philatelic issue is also accompanied by 2 FDCs [3].



Fig. 4. TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE, 1989 (6/6)

(source: colnect.com/ro/stamps/list/country/România/series/Traditional_Architecture)

The traditional house and household always agree with the occupations and way of life of the inhabitants, but also with their economic possibilities. The economic motivations influencing architecture refer to the basic occupations of the inhabitants and the way they determine the configuration of the household. This aspect can also be seen from the "Windmills" (Fig. 5), which appeared on 31 March 1994 and consists of 6 stamps (LP #1338) made by Gh. Leahu.

The stamps illustrate mills in the areas of Tulcea, Vâlcea and Vrancea. They have a 48x33 mm format and were printed in a 200,000 series run in 25-piece finished sheets. The issue is also accompanied by 3 FDCs (2,500 sets).



Fig. 5. WINDMILLS, 1994 (6/6)

(source: colnect.com/ro/stamps/list/country/2668-România/series/Mills)

In addition to the 1994 philatelic issue, the series of overtipar stamps (Fig. 6), in 34x49 mm format, with the following nominal values: 1,300 lei / 245 lei (overprint with brown wheat spice 258,178 pieces), 2200 lei / 115 lei (overprint with brown corn stilettos - 519,919 pieces), 5000 lei / 115 lei (overprint with green corn stilettos - 395,187 pieces) and 16500 lei / 70 lei (overprint with brown rye spice 121,166 units) (LP #1543). Also, on each stamp, one can notice the influence of functionality in the vernacular architecture [4].



Fig. 6. WINDMILLS '94 overprint, 2001 (4/4)

(source: colnect.com/ro/stamps/list/country/2668-România/series/Mills/theme/Mori)

The next philatelic piece, distinguished by its very representation, is the miniature of the commemorative "ASTRA 50th Anniversary Establishment Museum of Traditional Folk Civilization" (LP # 2001b).

Appearing on 4 April 2013 and based on the offset lithography, the philatelic piece (Fig. 7), in the same narrow frame, is drawing the vertical mill from Dăbâca (Hunedoara - 1848) - both the building itself (the illustrated cuff) as well as its interior, respectively the plan and the section of the gear (the vignette). The nominal value of the stamp is 14.5 lei [4].



Fig. 7. 50th Anniversary Establishment of ASTRA Museum of Traditional Folk Civilization, 2013
(source: [colnect.com/en/stamps/stamp/50 Years of ASTRA museum of Traditional Folk Civilisation-Romania](http://colnect.com/en/stamps/stamp/50%20Years%20of%20ASTRA%20museum%20of%20Traditional%20Folk%20Civilisation-Romania))

Other notable mentions, worth to be reviewed, regarding the traditional Romanian architecture, as the foundation of the ecological house, are the philatelic pieces from the commemorative series: "Romania - a European treasure" (LP #1844) with the stamp having the nominal value of 3 ron "Folk Art - Maramures" (Fig. 8a) - appeared on 16 September 2009, "Discover Romania - Transylvania" (LP #1971) with the stamp having the nominal value of 3.6 ron "Guest House from Zălanului Valey (Covasna County)" (Fig. 8b) - appeared on 15 March 2013 (RO #6874) and "Seasons at the Village Museum" (Fig. 8c) - appeared on 20 May 2016 (LP #2105) . The piece from the image (LP # 2105a) representing the block of 4 stamps [4,6].

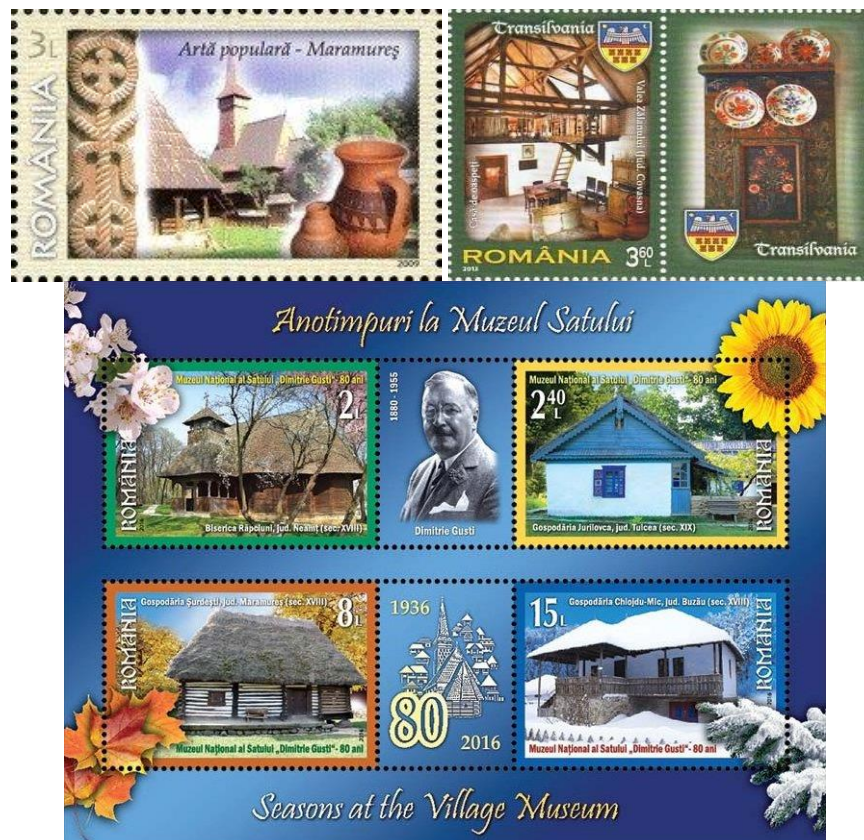


Fig. 8. a) Folk Art - Maramureș, 2009; b) Guest House from Zălanului Valey (Covasna), 2013;
c) The block of 4 stamps - SEASONS AT THE VILLAGE MUSEUM, 2016
(source: colnect.com/ro/stamps/stamp/... - A European Treasure-România)

CONCLUSIONS

For more than 150 years, stamps alongside postcards, all over the world, have three main roles: a value-added receipt for a prepayment, a means of celebrating and promoting national heritage and a collection of pieces. All three elements are in line with the topic - the stamp with the illustration, the place - the place where the subject is represented on the illustration and the place of stamping and time. But, above all, stamp is a true ambassador of human history, culture and civilization, because its form and function give it freedom of movement and the ability to transmit information around the world.

Through this work in the series "Stamps of communication through stamps", the authors want to open a series of presentations about what gave valuable, in time, the philately of Romanian civilization and culture.



Fig. 9. Fragments from the exhibition "The Romanian Traditional House between Dream and Reality" - Symposium "Ecological House between Dream and Reality", Baia Mare, 2017

A synthesis on the main Romanian philatelic pieces that capture the traditional architecture theme is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. The description of stamps on the theme of traditional architecture

Release date	Catalog code	Nominal value	Description	Comments
Oct. 1906	RO #205, Y #194, M #199, S #198	15 bani	The Arts Pavilion	violet
	RO #206, Y #195, M #200, S #199	25 bani	The Arts Pavilion	blue
	RO #207, Y #196, M #201, S #200	30 bani	Cula	red
	RO #208, Y #197, M #202, S #201	40 bani	Cula	green
	RO #209, Y #198, M #203, S #202	50 bani	The royal pavilion	orange
	RO #210, Y #199, M #204, S #203	75 bani	The royal pavilion	brown
Dec. 1963	RO #2396, Y #1952, M #2222, S #1590, G #3088	20 bani	House of Village Museum	purple
	RO #2397, Y #1953, M #2223, S #1591, G #3089	40 bani	House of Village Museum	blue-green
	RO #2398, Y #1954, M #2224, S #1592, G #3090	55 bani	House of Village Museum	sepia
	RO #2399, Y #1955, M #2225, S #1593, G #3091	75 bani	House of Village Museum	yellowish green
	RO #2400, Y #1956, M #2226, S #1594, G #3092	1 leu	House of Village Museum	brown
	RO #2401, Y #1957, M #2227, S #1595, G #3093	1,20 lei	House of Village Museum	olive
	RO #2402, Y #1957, M #2228, S #1596, G #3094	1,75 lei	House of Village Museum	blue and brown
Iul. 1986	RO #4453, Y #3684, M #4275, S #3387, G #5052	50 bani	House from Sălcium de Jos - Alba	
	RO #4454, Y #3685, M #4276, S #3388, G #5053	1 leu	House from Stănești - Argeș	
	RO #4455, Y #3686, M #4277, S #3389, G #5054	2 lei	House from Ostrov - Constanța	
	RO #4456, Y #3687, M #4278, S #3390, G #5055	3 lei	House from Sârbova - Timiș	
	RO #4457, Y #3688, M #4279, S #3391, G #5056	4 lei	House from Audia - Neamț	
	RO #4458, Y #3689, M #4280, S #3392	5 lei	House from Cutișoara - Gorj	

Table 1. The description of stamps on the theme of traditional architecture (continuation)

Release date	Catalog code	Nominal value	Description	Comments
Feb. 1989	RO #4702, Y #3827, M #4524, S #3549, G #5215	50 bani	House from Zapodeni - Vaslui	
	RO #4703, Y #3828, M #4525, S #3550, G #5216	1,50 lei	House from Berbești - Maramureș	
	RO #4704, Y #3829, M #4526, S #3551, G #5217	2 lei	House from Voitineli - Suceava	
	RO #4705, Y #3830, M #4527, S #3552, G #5218	3 lei	House from Chijdiu Mic - Buzău	
	RO #4706, Y #3831, M #4528, S #3553, G #5219	4 lei	House from Câmpeni de Sus - Bihor	
	RO #4707, Y #3832, M #4529, S #3554, G #5220	5 lei	House from Năruja - Vrancea	
Mar. 1994	RO #5139, Y #4140, M #4961, S #3894, G #5595	70 lei	Windmill from Sarichioi - Tulcea	
	RO #5140, Y #4141, M #4962, S #3895, G #5596	115 lei	Windmill from Valea Nucarilor - Tulcea	
	RO #5141, Y #4142, M #4963, S #3896, G #5597	125 lei	Windmill from Caraomani - Tulcea	
	RO #5142, Y #4143, M #4964, S #3897, G #5598	245 lei	Watermill from Romani de Jos - Vâlcea	
	RO #5143, Y #4144, M #4965, S #3898, G #5599	255 lei	Windmill from Nistorești - Vrancea	
	RO #5144, Y #4145, M #4966, S #3899, G #5600	325 lei	Watermill from Enisala - Tulcea	
Feb. 2001	RO #5739, Y #4663, M #5556, S #4431, G #6183	1.300 / 245 lei	Watermill from Romani de Jos - Vâlcea	overprint with brown wheat spice
	RO #5740, Y #4664, M #5557, S #4432, G #6184	2.200 / 115 lei	Windmill from Valea Nucarilor - Tulcea	overprint with brown corn cobs
	RO #5741, Y #4665, M #5558, S #4433, G #6185	5.000 / 115 lei	Windmill from Valea Nucarilor - Tulcea	overprint with green corn cobs
	RO #5742, Y #4666, M #5559, S #4434, G #6186	16.500 / 70 lei	Windmill from Sarichioi - Tulcea	overprint with brown rye
Iul. 2007	RO #6404, Y #5235, M #6220, S #6815, G #6220	50 bani	Bistra Postcard and a picture of the Colonia de Jos with a carriage	wooden cottages

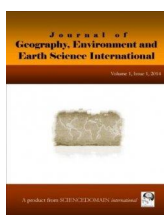
Table 1. The description of stamps on the theme of traditional architecture (continuation)

Release date	Catalog code	Nominal value	Description	Comments
	RO #6405, Y #5236, M #6221, S #6816, G #6221	2,10 lei	Postcard Bistra and an image from Colonia de Sus, with the postman of the resort	wooden cottages
Sept. 2009	RO #6575, Y #5388, M #6392	3 lei	Folk Art in Maramures	Fragment of a peasant house and wooden church
Mar. 2013	RO #6874, M #6686	3,6 lei	Guest House in Valea Zălanului (Covasna County)	
	LP 1971a		Block 554 has as background a farm house with annexes in the household	Block numbered with black (215x135 mm)
Oct. 2013	RO #6940, M #6752	14,50 lei	Roman mill at the Astra Traditional Folk Civilization Museum	The 4-stamp page contains 2 vignettes and a cuff with the watermill building
Mai 2016	RO #7261, M #7073	2,40 lei	Household Jurilocva	
	RO #7262, M #7074	8 lei	Household Șurdești	
	RO #7263, M #7075	15 lei	Household Chiojdu Mic	

There is, as can be seen from Fig. 1-8 and Table 1, fractions of images - in terms of stamps - with people and places, with traditional architecture, houses, churches and other dependencies (including mills), with what we want to remain in collective memory - as a an essential component of the promotion policy in the spirit of an environment (habitat) and a healthy community.

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Reflections and Implications of Philately in the Promotion of Mining and Mineral Samples, Fossils and Gems in Romania (I): 1945-1960

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. Author BC designed the study, performed the chronological and descriptive analysis and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. Authors ALP and MC managed the analyses of the study and complete it with valuable philatelic details. Authors BC and ALP managed the philatelic literature searches. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

The natural heritage is defined and accepted as the set of physico-geographic and biocenotic (floristic, faunistic) components and structures of the natural environment, whose ecological, economic, scientific, biogenic, sanogenic, landscape, recreational and cultural-historic significance and value has a relevant significance for present and future generations. Constantly promoting philatelic themes that address the natural heritage, different philatelic associations and post office entities performs a series of postage elements in whose pictures we also find the Romanian

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industrial preoccupations over time. In this paper we propose an insight into the history of mining-philately and bring into discussion the first significant concerns in promoting mining activity and mineral samples, fossils and gems in Romania. In this context, the main objective of this paper is to identify, index and describe the main philatelic pieces issued in Romania (postal stamps, FDCs, occasional envelopes, postcards and maxicards etc), from the beginning of issuing in this field, namely the period 1945-1960.

Keywords: *Natural heritage; mining activities; philatelic appearances; mineral samples.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Philately can be defined as the activity of collecting and studying philatelic products, especially stamps. However, philately signifies more than a concern for beauty; challenge, information, education, friendship and fun are some of the characteristics of one of the most popular hobbies in the world [1].

By closely scrutinizing the etymology of philately, beyond the franchise business, in the broad sense of the word, we realize that this is more than a preoccupation, a pleasant and instructive means of recreation, which consists in collecting and studying postage stamps and other philatelic-postal items [1]; practically, the two parts of philately - collecting and studying philatelic parts - are very closely linked, constituting an organic entity.

In fact, we think that the mistaken idea that philately represents only gathering, brand collection, without careful, thorough and multilateral study of them, makes one lose from the beginning the opportunity to to enrich themselves in a pleasant and surprising way, the knowledge of general culture, which is equivalent to emptying philately from its instructive-educational content.

Today, after over 160 years of philately in Romania [1], our preoccupations for this extremely vast field is to study not only of the postage stamps of various kinds and types, but also other categories of philatelic- postage envelopes (first day envelopes, homage envelopes, postcards, postcards and maximum postcards, etc.), summarize and focus on everything intimate to mining and mineral, fossil and gemstones.

By constantly promoting philatelic themes that deal with the natural beauties and richness of our country [2], the administrative entity responsible for issuing philatelic-postal items, currently Romfilatelia, produces a series of programs in which images of the elements of the mining activity are found, especially minerals, fossils and gemstones that we consider to be part of natural capital (see Fig. 1).

Starting from the idea that Romania is, especially from the point of view of the natural heritage (see Fig. 2), a place blessed with extremely well-rounded biodiversity and geodiversity, of a rare beauty [2], we chose to present a series of philatelic-postal issues that come to refine the individual's need for aesthetics and cultural-educational development.

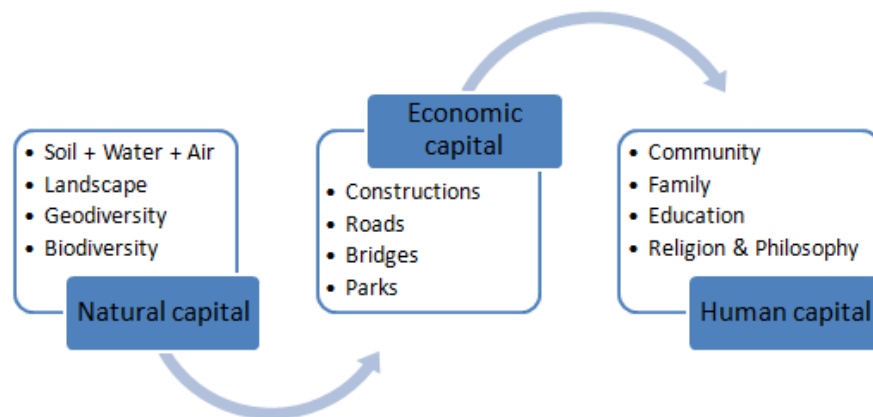


Fig. 1. The environment has the structure of the natural - economic - human capital

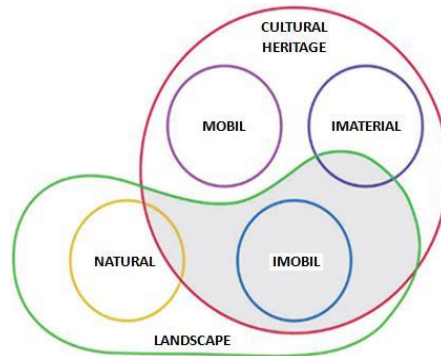


Fig. 2. Natural heritage as part of cultural heritage

The study is conducting in order to present the real history of thematic philately, especially the one dedicated to industrial activities in general, and the exploration and exploitation of resources in particular. At the same time, during the study we tried to emphasize the cultural importance of philately in society and to give the public a part of the forgotten history of mining in Romania, which has been the basis of the national economy for a good time.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The working methodology for this study comes as an accessible concern from all points of view of the current generation. As with the practice of philately, no special, long-term training is required, as in the present study, no innovative methodology, expensive equipment and / or instruments is required, but creativity is needed for the conduct of research, stamp. As we mention before no innovative methodology is

required, but we used a huge numbers of pictorial data (postal stamps, FDCs, occasional envelopes, postcards and maxicards etc) from different international open-source philatelic databases, as well as from specialized philatelic catalogs. We analyzed and interpreted this kind of pictorial data based on the descriptions made by other philatelists and collectors, respectively by consulting and comparing with other sources and specialized catalogs.

Objectively speaking, beyond the passion of the authors for philately - as satisfaction for the aesthetic need and as a cultural-educational development [2], the working methodology consisted in identifying, indexing and describing the main philatelic pieces issued in Romania (postal stamps, FDCs, occasional envelopes, postcards and maxicards), which in the meantime remain to promote mining and mineral, fossil and gem samples from 1945-1960 closely (see Fig. 3).

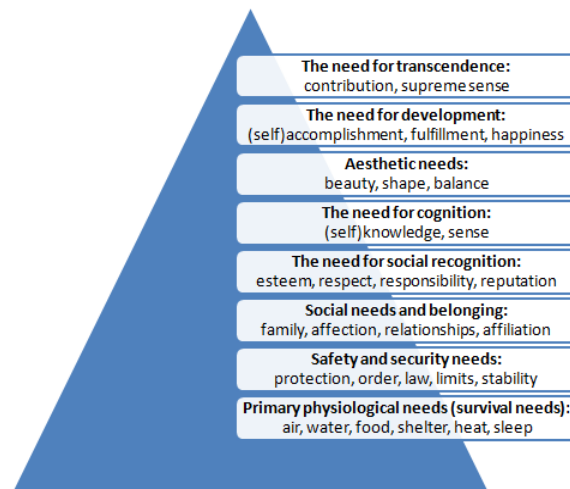


Fig. 3. The pyramid of Maslow's needs - adapted and redefined in the current context

In our research period both author collections and international open-source philatelic databases have been thoroughly consulted, including Delcampe (www.delcampe.net), Colnect (colnect.com), StampWorld (www.stampworld.com), PicClick (picclick.com) and RomaniaStamps (www.romaniastamps.com) as well as specialized international philatelic catalogs: Yvert (Yv), Michael (Mi), Gibson (G) and Scott (S) [3].

The above mentioned bibliographic resources added, for the fullness of the study, a series of specialized catalogs on philatelic errors, curiosities and varieties [4,5] as well as an important series of Romanian specialty papers with general character on Romanian postal stamps, which offer valuable information and authenticity to clarify the following parameters: *date of issue* [4,5,6-9], *layout and indexing of the pieces* [4,5,6-8,10], respectively *their description* (name, format, lace, etc) [4,5,6-9]. At the same time, the open-source philatelic content platforms, especially the discussion forums, have been of great use, where, as a result of the online meetings of philately enthusiasts, valuable information has been found that guarantees the correctness of the data presented in this study.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION: MINERAL EXPLOITATIONS IN ROMANIA REFLECTED IN FILATELY

Mining is an old occupation that has not escaped the attention and sphere of philatelic interest [11], besides the collecting of stamps and other postal material [12]. This theme also includes the present work, besides the numerous specialized exhibitions and anniversaries (dedicated to the Day of Labor and the Day of the Miner) which we mention, which come as a crowning of the prestigious activity carried out persistently by the philatelic associations.

We are talking about philatelic associations and clubs, which appeared in the full communist period, with the propagation of mass philately [12]. Through them, philately has gained momentum and new valences, including mining and metallurgy, through the appearance of philatelic (industrial) thematic issues.

By consulting open-source philatelic platforms and browsing an important series of specialized works, as presented in reference area, of general character, on Romanian postage stamps, I had the pleasant surprise of having a

handy readable material, even in its gross form, captivating us with interesting and well-thought-out things in the history of the industrial preoccupations of the time.

The history of mining and metallurgy in Romania can indeed be easily pursued by studying postage stamps and other philatelic products, using a scientific method of exposure and research similar to that presented in [13].

Presenting a history of philatelic implications in promoting mining in Romania, starting with writing about an industrial objective (some mining) or about a major event (an exhibition or an anniversary) is not too easy for information is broad, heterogeneous, sometimes even contradictory [14], and as such it must be selected, ordered as chronologically as possible or after other subjective aspects, and rendered in the most convincing way possible.

So I found out a number of interesting things about mining and miners trying to take out the natural riches of the homeland and especially about the involvement of philatelic circles in exploiting and capitalizing on the Romanian activities of the time.

Today, we find that the members of these philatelic associations have, over time, made the phenomenon of mass culturalization through philatelic education, through correspondence (thematic movements), exhibitions and anniversaries, a true act of culture, as the information they bear on postal items - philatelic self-help and will help the specialist, the researcher, the cultured man and the general public to better understand the Romanians' industrial history as well as the evolution of one of the most important mining operations in Europe.

Through the philatelic pieces, the creative and innovative spirit of the mining specialists is emphasized, reflecting the evolution over time with original elements of the methods of exploiting the resources. The philatelists address in their daily concerns both the technical and economic problems related to the mining production and the correlation between them and the social and historical events which marked the evolution of the exploitation and, implicitly, of the mining localities as a whole.

Throughout the paper, we have attempted to show the involvement of science and technology in solving the problems faced by the

communities in their industrial work, also emphasizing the outstanding achievements. In order to give the Romanian mining the best possible picture of the development of Romanian mining in time, we have proposed that the work should contain a rich illustrative material, addressed both to the general public and to the philately and/or mining enthusiasts, the researchers and the specialists deals with issues of technical development in general and mining in particular. Each of them will be able to find in this first work devoted to mining philately rich information chronologically structured.

3.1 Period 1950-1954

Although it may seem slightly exaggerated, the involvement and reflection of philately in promoting the intrinsic values of mining activity in Romania is felt, for the first time, in the period preceding the 1950s, when a series of postage stamps appear to celebrate the "Labor Day" later, "Miner's Day". Of those marks, we mention the stamps representing "a miner" from the "Labor Day - 1 May 1946" (RO #1122, LP #195) appeared on May 1, 1946 (see Fig. 4a) [7,15], respectively that of 1947 (RO #1193, LP #217) appeared only on June 15, 1947 (see Fig. 4b) [7,16].

The postage stamp shown in Fig. 4a, appearing on white paper with M1 filigree, lace-shaped 28×33 mm, and in a series of 86,000 pieces, is indexed by Yv #906, Mi #987, G #1803 and S #605 [7,15], while the postmark of Fig. 4b, appeared in 225,000 series on white MM filigree paper in 42×26 mm lace format, is indexed by Yv #971 and Mi #1057 [7,16].

In the 1950-1954 period, when the first carto-philatelic and maxifilatelic parts appeared, as a

laudation for the exploration and exploitation of minerals [7,8], we identified a series of issues that were not neglected. Thus, the oldest identified piece, which opens the way for philately to promote mining is the "Day of the Miner", which appeared in the form of "first day cover" (FDC) on 12.08.1951, under the Ministry of Postal and Telecommunications - the Philatelic Office in Bucharest (Fig. 5a) [17,18]. Some sources, however, mention the date of issue is on August the 21st, 1951 [5,7-9,10]. The graphic theme of this envelope was used in the making of a homage envelope on the occasion of the philatelic exhibition from 07- 17.11.1951 which took place in Baia Mare. In this sense, the color of the printing ink, as well as the legend accompanying the image (see Fig. 5b), was changed [19].

The two stamps shown met in a special composition, as part of a franchise "par airplane". As can be seen in Fig. 5c, this piece has never circulated, and we tend to believe, according to the arrangement of the stamps, that it was strictly philatelic [20].

The philatelic part of Fig. 5a [17], which appears as a 9×16.5 cm white envelope in a print of 1,460 pieces, has the semicircle stamp, filled with laurel leaves and miner's markings [8], over the francature made of stamps of the "Mining Day" show, dated August 21st, 1951 (LP #285). It also reproduces in the background, by drawing in black, the second applied stamp, representing "a miner and mining installations" [8].

In terms of the stamps used to frank the piece, symbolizing "a miner in uniform" (RO #1433) and "a miner in working clothes" (RO #1434) [21, 22], they are indexed by Yv #1162...3, Mi #1272...3, G #2121..2 and S #792..3, and



Fig. 4. Various postage stamps representing miners that appeared before 1950
a) „Labor Day - 1 Mai 1946”, 01.05.1946 - postage stamp RO #1122; b) „Labor Day - 1 Mai 1947”, 15.06.1947 - postage stamp RO #1193



Fig. 5. Variations and editions of the "Mining Day", 21.08.1951 (LP #285)

a) First day envelope, 12.08.1951, București; b) ocazional envelope - „Filatelic Exhibition”, 07-17.11.1951, Baia Mare; c) uncirculated envelope marked „par avion”; d) overprint on postage stamp “a miner in uniform” (RO #1433); e) variety of the postage stamp “a miner in work clothes” (RO #1434); f)-k) various editions marked with postage stamps of the emission

are presented in lace-shaped 26×42 mm, according to O. Adler's mosaics, in a print run of 800,000 series arranged in finite sheets of 100 pieces [5,6,7].

The philatelic part of Fig. 5b [19] holds the graphic element of Fig. 5a, the difference being the color of the pattern. On the occasion of the 1951 philatelic exhibition, the piece was made in a print of 1,200 pieces and was franked, besides the stamps of 1951 mining day, with the stamp “coal extraction” (ro #1444) from the “plan cincinal” (lp #292).

It is worth noting that even in 1951, with the monetary reform (1 new leu = 20 lei old), overprinting with new values appeared, including for “a miner in uniform” (indexed RO #1510), reindexed by Yv #1251, Mi #1433, G #2204 and S #854, and renominated with 55 bani, in a circulation of 187,800 pieces (see Fig.5d) [4,5,7,8,23].

Over time, philatelic researchers for this area have identified a philatelic error [4], two curiosities and a few varieties. Thus, in Fig. 5e the “scar on the miner's cheek” error [24] can be

noticed, and as a diversity. In Fig. 5f-k we present a series of circulation with the issue stamps [25-30].

The second piece on which we stopped is also entitled "Miner's Day", Fig. 6b, appeared on August 11th, 1952, but stamped on August 10th, 1952 and franked by the stamps of the "Mining Day" show of 15.08.1952 (LP #328) [31-34]. The FDC presents itself as a 9×16.5 cm white envelope and a black drawing that reproduces the 20-pound stamp (RO #1570) of the show, which, along with the 55 bani, comes stamped with the "miner badge" and circulated in a circulation of 1,400 pieces [8].

The stamps, laced, indexed by Yv #1274...5, Mi #1402...3, G #2258...9 and S #902...3, are

28×33 mm in size. They were painted by N. Popescu, in a very generous circulation (1,000,000 series), in finished sheets of 100 pieces. The graphic representation of the FDC reproduces the stamp model with a face value of 20 bani [31,32]. Along with the aforementioned FDC, in our searches we identified a series of movements that were not neglected. Thus, in Fig. 6 we have a maximum postcard made on the occasion of the philatelic exhibition in Baia Mare that took place between 06-20.11.1952. In the illustration of the postal support we can find the miner statue and the building of the Baia Mare Technical School. The circulation of this edition, comprising both the stamps of the show, was 500 copies [35]. In Fig. 6c-e we present a series marked with the 55 bani issue mark [36-39].



Fig. 6. Variations and editions of the "Mining Day", 11.08.1952 (LP #328)

a) maximal postal card - „Expoziția Filatelică”, 06-20.11.1952, Baia Mare
b) first day cover (FDC), 10.08.1952, București; c) ocazional envelope - „Ziua Minerului”, 24.10.1952, Tg. Mureș; d)-e various editions marked with postage stamps of the emission



Fig. 7. Variations and editions of the "Mining Day", 03.09.1953 (LP #350)

- a) first day cover (FDC) - „Minierul 1953”, 03.09.1953, București
 b) occasional envelope - „Expoziția filatelică”, 13-22.06.1954, Hunedoara
 c-f) various editions marked with postage stamps of the emission

The list of identified philatelic pieces continues with "1953 Miner's Day" (Fig. 7a) [40,41]. The FDC with the stamp of the issue (LP #350) is stamped on the first day of the issue, dated September 3rd, 1953, Bucharest. The occasional envelope shown in Fig. 7b, is stamped with the stamp of the philatelic exhibition organized in Hunedoara, between 13-22.06.1954 [42].

Both pieces are marked with the stamp of the issue, a "mining worker", indexed by odds Yv #1316, Mi #1443, G #2301 and S #945, stamped in 42×26 mm lace format, made by L. Kuşenco, in a circulation of 2,000,000 copies, disposed in finite sheets of 100 pieces [43,44]. They are further exposed, according to our research method, and the circulation with the mark of the issue, in Fig. 7c-f [45-48].

The next piece analyzed is the FDC issued on 08.08.1954, "Miner's Day 1954" (Fig. 8a) [49, 50,

51]. The issues denomination of 1.75 lei (LP #365) was used to reproduce Fig. 8b [52]. In Figs. 8c-g we encounter more freed traffic with postage stamp of the issue [53,54-57].

The year 1954 brings additions to the philatelic pieces with interest manifested for the mining activity through the occasional envelope with the stamp "Philatelic Exhibition", dated 10-25.08.1954, Petroșani (Fig. 9) [58].

3.2 Period 1955-1959

The 1955-1959 period is poor in graphical representations to propagate various mining activities or riches of the earth. However, in the relatively extended research framework we have identified a circulation that we consider to be very interesting (Fig. 10a) [59] and, of course, a series of errors and varieties thereof (Figs. 10b-d) [4,5,60-62] for the postage stamp "a

miner" (RO #1673) [63] of the usual "Activities" (LP #381) issue dated 29.03.1955. As it was natural, an impressive series of franchised traffic follows the postage stamp of the issue, during 5-

6 years, as shown in Figs. 10e-f [64, 65], Fig. 11 [66-75], Fig. 12 [76-85], Fig.13 [86-95], Fig. 14 [96-105], Fig. 15 [106-115] and Fig. 16, from annexes, [116-121].



Fig. 8. Variations and editions of the "Mining Day", 08.08.1954 (LP #365)

- a) envelope for the first day (FDC) - „Minierul 1953”, 03.09.1953, București
- b) maximum postcard, unmarked and uncirculated
- c)-g) various editions marked with postage stamps of the emission

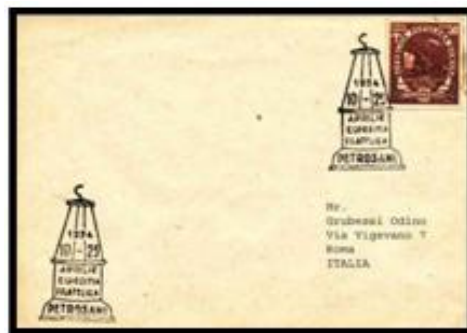


Fig. 9. Occasional envelope - "Philatelic Exhibition", 10-25.04.1954, Petroșani



Fig. 10. Various editions of postage stamps for "miner" (RO #1673)

a) postal service postmark bearing the "miner" (RO #1673), 30.12.1960, București;
 b) UFO in front of the stamp; c) white vertical stripe over the nose; d) UFO (interruption) at the neck level; e)-
 f) various editions marked with postage stamps of the emission





Fig. 11. Various editions of postage stamps for "miner" (I)



Fig. 12. Various editions of postage stamps for "miner" (II)



Fig. 13. Various editions of postage stamps for "miner" (III)



Fig. 14. Various editions of postage stamps for "miner" (IV)



Fig. 15. Various editions of postage stamps for "miner" (V)

4. CONCLUSIONS

Lately, in Romania at least, the philatelic research is almost completely missing. The novelty of this study is that we try to bring, to the

current and future generations, a hint of the mining history. Through the philatelic pieces, in a very large number of pictorial data (in the form of postal stamps, FDCs, occasional envelopes, postcards, maxicards etc), we expose, something

that has not been included in Romanian philatelic studies so far.

By publishing this study we hope that we will make available to all those interested a useful tool of information, education and philatelic orientation in what was the mining activity in Romania over time. We would like the work to be the first light to guide through the intricate philatelic galleries of Romanian mining.

Also, to somewhat revive the sober style, proper corrections and catalogs, and of course to remove the monotony specific to a purely philatelic study, we sought to present the material in the form of not so analytical, but descriptive, notes. And that is to make it easier to fully understand the evolution of mining in philately, as well as the dynamics of the preoccupations for the promotion of mineral, fossil and gemstone samples that we often find as museum pieces or as collections of exhibitors.

This study is mainly addressed to passionate philatelists, but can also be of interest to other professional categories that can develop similar studies, from geodiversity to biodiversity and beyond. It can be highlighted once again that philately has a special beauty - it is capable of being a true embassy of culture and a post of human history passage.

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COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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ANNEXES:



Fig. 16. Various editions of postage stamps for "miner" (VI)

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