

GEO-CULTURAL LANDSCAPE – LANDMARK OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RURAL AREA OF BUCOVINA

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Abstract: The geo-cultural landscapes (G-CL) of Romanian villages typology are, beyond their visual nature, determined by the quality of their assets. The analysis of these assets' quality, both nationally and regionally, places the region of Bucovina in the middle of the territorial range. A desire to increase the domestic and international tourist inflow has led to plans to conserve the authentic heritage in Bucovina's villages, a potentially difficult task given the geo-cultural evolution of the rural space. We focus on the analysis of typology of villages from the point of view of G-CL and their sustainable development. Since 2013, the Association of the “Most Beautiful Villages of Romania” has held a nation-wide contest in collaboration with the Embassy of France, following the Western European (French and Spanish) traditions. This process has stimulated competitiveness among rural communities to improve rural tourist attractions. Unfortunately, most of these efforts take the form of cultural festivals, but it is unclear how far they are likely to lead to sustainable rural development because they appear to offer very little that is new. The paper proposes as main research results identifying the multiple-criteria (matrix-type) territorial analysis of the components of villages in Bucovina in order to determine the most relevant criteria to designate the cultural village and, also are identified a typology of villages from the different shaping of geo-cultural landscapes criteria.

Keywords: Geo-cultural landscape, heritage, local governance, sustainable development

1. INTRODUCTION

Summarised axiomatically, according to Atkins et al., (2014), the features of geo-cultural landscapes are the result of their formation within a particular area and a particular national and regional cultural context.

Research conducted over the years has highlighted the systemic character of landscape (Schenk et al., 1997), in addition to its capacity to reflect all the territorial components (Koreleski, 2008; Hart, 1998). Among these, the human component appears as a dominant factor in shaping the geographical space (Hart, 1998; Fellmann et al., 1999; Claval, 2012) and, consequently, in imprinting on a human community a certain type of geo-cultural landscape.

Accordingly, geo-cultural landscape has been examined as a complex spatial entity, characterised by specific dynamics, organisation, attributes and structures, whose genesis and evolution are

conditioned by the human factor (Argent et al., 2014; Jula & Jula, 2013). Its evolution is closely linked to the local/regional spatial-temporal dynamics, indicating specific ways of interaction of natural, cultural and anthropic components (Ilieș et al., 2012).

The first idea of the proposed topic is induced by the definition of landscape according to the Florence Convention in 2000. So that, landscape is an assumed spatial sequence (consciously or not) associated to a community both objectively (based on community's spatial perception of it) and subjectively (in sensory, spiritual, familiar terms). Landscape may serve as source and may even rank as a prime asset. The same Convention imposes the legal recognition of landscape as an essential component of the living environment and it calls for policies and instruments for landscape protection, management and planning. In connection with these themes, landscape must be integrated in land development policies and in cultural, environmental,

agricultural, and community policies, by laying down measures to raise awareness in society about the importance of landscape protection and of training professionals in the field.

The second issue relates to the complexity of geographical landscape associated with the relationship between human and ecological values and, the result is the geo-cultural landscape. Different cultures often associate particular features in environment, civilization and human values in the territorial definition of specific landscapes (Berge et al., 2012; Jordan-Bychkov & Domosh, 2003). In this context, the article highlights the role of geo-cultural landscapes in the sustainable development of the Romanian village, aiming to decipher the underlying mechanisms of the formation and dynamics of geo-cultural landscapes, by connecting environmental features to the societal ones with which they interact (in the specific sense of human ecology).

2. THE METHODOLOGY APPLIED IN ANALYSING THE GEO-CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN BUCOVINA

A typology of geo-cultural landscapes was developed starting from decoding the successive development and historical stages in Bucovina – in view of its administrative role as a province of the Austrian Empire, till 1918, and as a geographically complex space (Fig 2A and 2B), having a cultural identity originating in successive cultural infusions. From this perspective, the paper aims to identify those community and development stages that impacted the organisation, structure, physiognomy and texture of villages in Bucovina, where, on top of the traditional Romanian native element, historical circumstances have created a unique space of cultural interrelation (Fig. 1). Romanian natives of Bucovina entered in contact with the other nationalities coming colonized by spontaneous migration and it was created a so-called *supranational identity* that determined changes in all components of the territory. These changes were also reflected in terms of territorial structure and landscaping due to cultural interferences between the Romanian population and the other nationalities.

The geo-cultural village has always served as an a priori model for the organisation of rural areas, being a benchmark in terms of physiognomy and morphology for the status of authentic landscape (Meyer et al., 2008). The methodology applied in identifying authentic geo-cultural landscapes in Bucovina sought to frame typologies into territorial structures based on community developments specific to the succession of historical eras

(Ungureanu et al., 2002) and subsequently to identify current geo-cultural landscapes as functional territorial expressions. In this respect, we must emphasise that the typical village of Bucovina is a faithful custodian and treasurer of the concrete ways in which the geographic space integrates culture, its cultural identity being reflected in traditions and customs as well as in landscape architecture. This reflects the continuity of traditions in the architecture and organisation of Carpathian and sub-Carpathian rural space, frequently associated with a venerable civilisation revolving around wood. Cultural infusions into Bucovina produced a territorial dynamics which successively infused traditional Romanian landscape subsystems with new elements.

The topicality of the theme lies in the analysis of the structural dynamics of space, reflected in the examination of spatial subcomponents, housing structures and functionality, expressed by the structuring vectors (Chiriță et al., 2014).

Shaping geo-cultural landscapes in Dornas Land (Țara Dornelor) represents the quintessential complex relationships established, at local and regional levels, between nature and community. Territoriality relationships led to a typology of geo-cultural landscapes. Most of them are the result of simple relationships developed inside the human habitat. Thus, the first level of interconnected factors in shaping geo-cultural landscapes (G-CL) is represented by the abiotic and biotic components of Dorna geographical space (Fig 1).

All these elements correspond in the matrix: the dynamic geographic landscapes, human habitats and therefore perennial values of geographical landscapes (Ianoș et al., 2014). Genetic-evolutionary levels of geographical landscapes are shaped continuously from the physiognomic and functional points of view. The proposed matrix includes the upper level: territorial system landscape; different rhythms of evolution and dynamics of the human habitat; perennial values of the landscape culture (Fig. 1).

3. THE GEO-CULTURAL CAPITAL OF BUCOVINA'S LANDSCAPE

The value of geo-cultural rural landscapes of Bucovina derives from the combination of structural and functional elements of the territorial system: natural resources, fragility of the habitat, potential for sustainable development, cultural and environmental value of the landscape.

Cultural villages can thus become tourist attractions not only due to local festivals, but also to

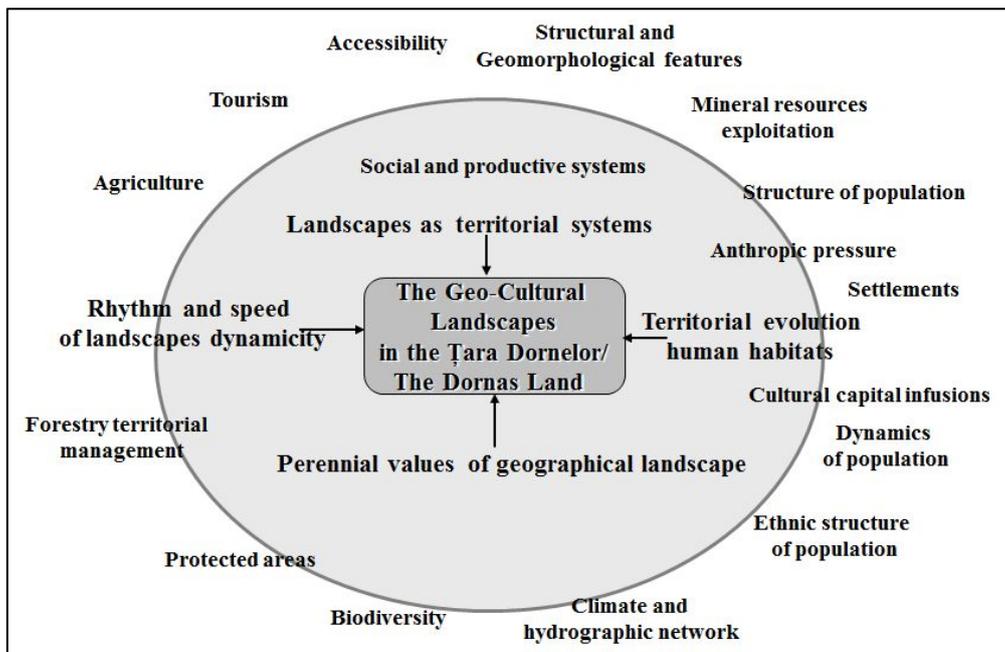


Figure 1. The diagram of the pattern matrix of complex relationships and levels in the geo-cultural landscape genesis structure in Țara Dornelor (Dornas Land)

the role and status they could acquire as part of a larger process of rediscovery of traditional local Romanian architecture and functional components of rural space. The villages from Țara Dornelor comprise households, residential houses that are scattered between forests, meadows, pastures, thus creating a functional agro-forestry space: agricultural morphology; woods households in traditional architecture; wood household annexes for hay storage, harvest and animal shelters.

In this regard, a subordination relationship is established between the structure of geographical landscapes, their functions and the pace of geo-cultural dynamic flows.

The following equation results (1):

$$(1) GCL = \sum VLS \times EF$$

Where geo-cultural landscape (GCL) represents the sum of viable landscape structures (VLS), greatly influenced by economic fundamentals (EF) that determine the dynamics of landscapes and the pace of transformation of existing landscapes over time.

The functional dynamics of the rural (or geo-cultural) landscape emerges through its structural vectors generated by resource use, by the creation of communications networks, by the settlements organization, and by their complementary and polarization functionalities (Chiriță et al., 2014). Thus, villages from Bucovina have known changes in functional terms as a result of the succession of development cycles. Along these lines, the following structuring elements of geographical space serve as

benchmarks for the distinct status of the geo-cultural village:

1. the preservation of traditional architecture (forms, construction material, colour, roofing, relationship of window size to that of walls);
2. the typical organisation of households (inner courtyard area; distance between the house and annexes; degree of enclosure of the household; functionality of annexes; quality of gates and access to the household; relationships between the household and the plot of land or estate with functionality in the proximity of the house);
3. distances between households;
4. the size and orientation of the communications network in built-up areas;
5. the connection between the household and waterways;
6. the distance from the farmland to the household;
7. other elements: year of construction, level of sanitation, quality of rural functionality and of agricultural produce.

4. CONFIGURATION OF GEO-CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN BUCOVINA

The presence of such diverse geo-cultural landscapes in Bucovina is the result of the adaptation of this space to various historical and development circumstances that shaped the territorial configuration and the physiognomy of the landscape and determined a particular spatial approach to residential areas and land use.

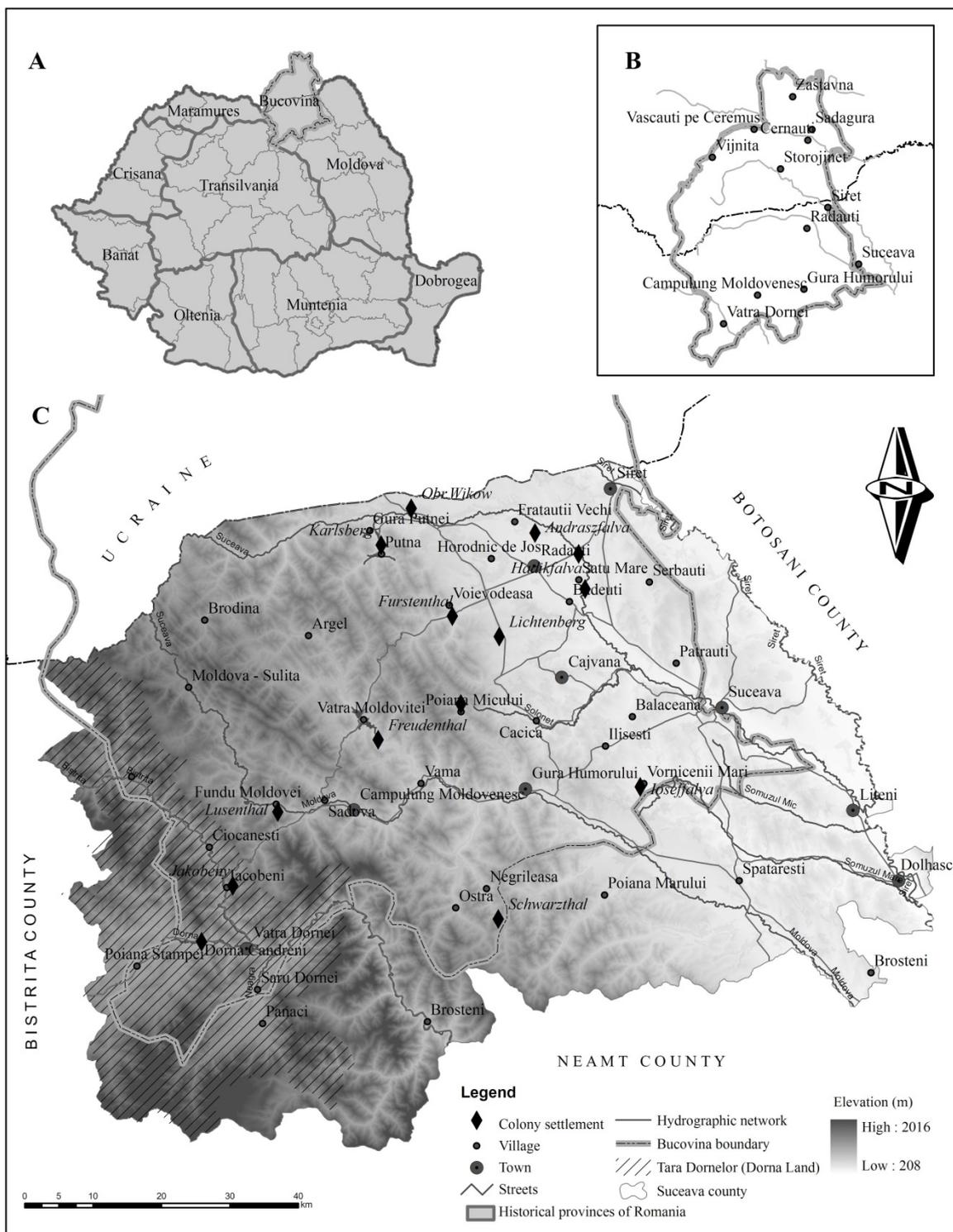


Figure 2. Suceava County, Bucovina's historical limits and colony settlements established during the Austrian Empire (1778-1918) (C), province of Bucovina and Romanian historical provinces (A), The Region Bucovina split by Romanian border with Ukraine (B)

During modern stage in Bucovina, several development cycles unfolded in succession:

- the development of mining and logging under exclusive state management;
- the implementation of non-traditional models of rural environment development, linked to

the pro-socialist model of demographical and planning policy;

- the establishment of rural peri-urban structures acting as bedroom or dormitory communities, an offshoot of excessive growth due to industrial urbanisation. The deep rural communities

remained outside the political and administrative spheres of interest and retained cultural structures which owe their authentic value to their rural traditional agricultural landscape.

After December 1989, the transition triggered new forms of adaptation of these disadvantaged areas to a process of abandoning of resources like in the case of sulphur mines in the Călimani Massif and those of manganese in the Bistrita basin, while the activity increased in favour of others as forest use. Thus, in the past three years there have been resumed geological prospections for finding hydrocarbons in the formations of the Carpathic sedimentary areas of the Eastern Mountain Region of Bucovina, Suceava County. The outcome was an organic, unplanned development of mountain area of Bucovina's rural structures, as disadvantaged areas. Under the European Union Regulation, disadvantaged mountain areas cover about 71 340 sq.km; this is 29.93% of the total area of Romania, covering almost all the Carpathians Area. In Bucovina, disadvantaged mountain areas cover almost whole the mountain area from the central and western part of the region.

The unfolding cycle generated by the intensive development of rural tourism in the last 25 years has led to a series of transformations in the collective mind, regarding the perception of the natural and cultural potential of the villages of Bucovina, often understood only in terms of the quality of the natural environment and the secular or religious holidays, the traditional gastronomic features, the various non-agricultural activities (Matei, 2012) or crafts recognised as authentic (trout festivals, painted eggs festivals, etc.).

5. TYPES AND FORMS OF GEO-CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN BUCOVINA

5.1. Shaping geo-cultural landscapes by dynamic functionality

The analysis of geo-cultural landscapes in Bucovina cannot be performed without an understanding of the major milestones that have made the region a complex geographical space, with a distinct cultural identity, separated from the larger region of Moldavia, although an integral part of it, as a result of the successive cultural infusions mentioned above. Development cycles have influenced the organisation, structure, texture and physiognomy of villages in Bucovina, generating a unique geo-cultural stratification.

Development cycles represent the different stages of community evolution in the region. Each of

them is marked by the use of certain natural resources and activities. Ceasing the use of these resources (for example, manganese), for others (forest and pastures) caused community changes. For example, the socialist cycle corresponding to the period 1947-1989; between 1990-1997, it was the final process of closing most of the mines from Bucovina (sulphur and manganese) and it resulted in the loss of heavy industry in Romania and the market of the CMEA (Council of Mutual Economic Assistance, the Common Market of the former socialist states).

The use of certain resources in specific periods was reflected in the dynamics and structure of the active population. Development cycles have had a territorial impact in reshaping villages with different activity profiles: mining villages, villages on functional agroforestry and tourist villages nowadays.

Identifying the present-day geo-cultural landscapes therefore must account both for the earlier historical stages and for the various capital and human resources infusions that Bucovina benefited from over time. The need to summarise the various cultural influences that Bucovina assimilated, prompted us to undertake a complex analysis of the rural space, which enabled us to identify three types of communities generating geo-cultural landscapes:

1. Romanian villages that incorporated foreign communities in the hearths/cores of villages existing at the end of the 18th century;

2. New villages established in the proximity of existing Romanian settlements, for example Freudenthal (Vatra Moldoviței), Fursenthal (Voivodeasa), Karlsberg (Gura Putnei), Lusenthal (Fundu Moldovei), Lichtenberg (Dealul Ederii), Poiana Micului, Ioseffalva (Vorniceni) (Iacobescu, 1993; Ceaușu, 1998) (Fig. 2C).

3. Settler villages established at longer distances from the Romanian ones (Fig. 4) and directly related to the use of resources, well-known for mining, logging, construction of railways or farms.

Each of these three categories of villages retain rural physiognomies specific to a certain period. The fundamental attribute of each of the three categories of villages is the way in which the natural component of the geographical area (border lines, morphology, the character of populated depressions and valleys, the specific climate and, obviously, the overall biogeographical landscape) combines harmoniously with the village functionality (Chiriac, 1984): mining villages; settler villages attached to wood processing plants; frontier villages or communities renowned for occupations associated with such resources.

Across these areas one may encounter geo-cultural villages – those whose homes preserve very

well the traditional architecture and the organisation of farm and forestry villages (Fig. 4).

5.2. Shaping geo-cultural landscape by the morphology and structure of the habitat

The identification of geo-cultural villages according to their morphological and structural attributes is complemented by authentic elements of spatial organisation, planning and architecture, agricultural and forestry morphology. The matrix of geo-cultural landscape thus emerges as the functionality of rural areas is associated with specific territorial morphological structures. In determining the typology of geo-cultural villages in Bucovina, we focused on the spatial and temporal conditions of the genesis and evolution of geo-cultural landscapes.

The rural geo-cultural landscapes in Bucovina are both an illustration of organisational status of tableland or mountain areas and a functional territorial ensemble reflected in the broader territorial physiognomy. Geo-cultural landscapes encompass different typologies of territorial entities in the mountainous area of Bucovina, some of which are designated as “shires” (Mihalca, 2012), others as “lands”, basins or valleys. In Suceava tableland, geo-cultural landscapes cover larger territorial structures, owing to the greater structural homogeneity of the geographical space. Furthermore, geo-cultural landscapes are largely characterised by their unique physiognomy, as they bear the imprint of multi-ethnic or traditional Romanian coexistence throughout their territorial evolution and development (Stoica & Schreiber, 2008).

Depending on the mode of spatial and territorial expression of rural features, three fundamental types of geo-cultural landscapes can be encountered:

a. the geo-cultural landscapes of dispersed housing type areas, typical of shires (Dorna-Bârgaiei and Câmpulung), of Brodina region and in part of the hilltops adjacent to the tributary valleys of Moldovița (Ciumârna);

b. the geo-cultural landscapes of dissociated housing type areas, more broadly represented in Suceava county by the territorial organisation specific of depressions and river confluence basins (Vatra Moldoviței, Vama) and villages strung along valleys or valley corridors, both in the mountain area and on Suceava tableland;

c. the geo-cultural landscapes of dissociated housing type areas with clustering tendencies, typical of the main axes of communication: Moldova river corridor, the outer mountainous section of Suceava river corridor, where rural landscape structures of

definite heritage value are present, yet without the amplitude and pattern of the two previous categories.

5.3. Shaping geo-cultural landscapes by their functionalities on structuring the villages

This category of geo-cultural landscapes includes:

a. the geo-cultural landscapes typical of villages with agricultural functional morphology and textures, typical of strips of land stretching from hilltops to valleys in dissociated housing villages (Sadova river valley – Fig. 3) or with a quasi-circular functional disposition in the area of Țara Dornelor.



Figure 3. The dissociated valley landscape, agricultural morphology estates belts in the village of Sadova, Nearby Câmpulung (2010)

b. the geo-cultural landscapes typical of derived functional structures, with complex functions linked to rural geo-cultural landscapes (e.g. village sections where the rural landscape physiognomy bears a conspicuous urban imprint, the physiognomy reflecting private capital inflows, from the return of locals who emigrated to work abroad).

c. the geo-cultural landscapes of highly evolved housing structures and textures, where the general functionality is strongly influenced by the local tertiary sector.

5.4. Regional rural geo-cultural landscapes

A third way of identifying geo-cultural landscapes consists of the regional distribution of rural areas in relation to the larger geographical units previously identified (Ungureanu et al., 2002):

a. Brodina geographical unit corresponds to the communes of: Moldova Sulița, Izvoarele Sucevei, Ulma, Brodina and the village of Argel in Moldovița commune, localities inhabited by Hutsuls,

Slavic ethnics. These are profoundly rural areas where farming and forestry functions dominate, while the geo-cultural landscape is typical for the dispersion housing type areas, with quasi-autarkic activities and semi-closed households in terms of construction, house and annexes; ranked among the declining rural villages category.

b. Dorna unit encompasses the communes of Panaci, Șaru Dornei, Poiana Stampei, Dorna Candrenilor, Dorna Arini and Iacobeni, where the main activities generating geo-cultural landscapes are agro-forestry and agro-tourism, activities that make possible the preservation of dispersion-type housing structures. However there is a tendency of assembly and clustering of households along the axes of communication of the valleys of Negrii Șarului, Dorna, Negrișoara and Bistrița Aurie, which blends the accessibility of complex, mixed geo-cultural landscapes with the industrial and service functionality. These geo-cultural landscapes can be considered traditional cultural spaces for the dispersion housing type (traditional cultural sequences). Differences observed between the geo-cultural landscapes of Brodina and Dorna basins mostly relate to the degree of polarisation of the rural areas towards urban centres with tourist functionality, such as Vatra Dornei.

c. the geographical region of Humor–Câmpulung Moldovenesc includes the administrative units stretching from Berchișești (Drăgoiești) – the communes Păltinoasa, Frasin, Mănăstirea Humor, Vama, Sadova, Pojorâta, Voroneț (a village part of Gura Humorului). The region is characterised by functional structures typical of the mountain and sub-mountainous rural areas, with diversified activities where the geo-cultural landscape habitat is represented by the dissociated housing type with significant dispersion tendencies towards the peaks of the corridor and clustering along the valley. Peri-urbanisation trends can also be observed. Along the Moldova river corridor, there is a tendency towards mixed rural geo-cultural landscapes, with mixed architecture housing, typical of structures inherited from the era of the Austrian government. The functional structure characteristic of the Moldova river corridor extends to its tributary valleys: Moldovița, Suha and Humor rivers, which have expanded as a result of the emergence of secondary development and tourism polarisation hubs in Vatra Moldovița and Mănăstirea Humor villages. The traditional morphological structure of villages includes disseminated village sections with landmark geo-cultural landscapes.

The mountain and tableland areas with limited agricultural and forestry autonomy, in the rural areas

polarised by the municipalities Rădăuți, Fălticeni and Suceava, have in common geo-cultural landscapes developed in areas open to urban cultural influences and to industrial or post-industrial activities. It is more difficult to identify traditional or landmark geo-cultural landscapes. The rural landscape physiognomies are associated with complementary trends towards the service sector development and with ex-urban or exclave trends towards regional polarisation.

In Suceava – Fălticeni region, geo-cultural villages can be easily identified in the case of traditional rural structures featuring old and very old geo-cultural landscapes, corresponding to the monastic sites dating from the medieval era. Unfortunately, the adjacent tourism facilities and the trend toward the development of tourism in these villages endanger their status as geo-cultural villages, as they are at risk of destructuring due to excessive urbanisation:

a. sacred and associated geo-cultural landscapes (outlined in the cultural and religious areas dominated by the monasteries of Sucevița and Putna, Voroneț, Humor, Hagigadar);

b. geo-cultural landscapes of hotel valleys defined by the development of tourism and agritourism function around villages with a particular cultural potential (Chiriță & Matei, 2009);

c. geo-cultural landscapes linked to the new agrarian morphology with a typically diverse physiognomy.

6. TYPES OF GEO-CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN DORNA AREA

Țara Dornelor is a landmark region for the geographical space and geo-cultural landscape in Bucovina, with authentic traditional and functional accents. Consequently, there is a high density of villages with cultural potential in this area. The first category consists of residential geo-cultural landscapes of Dorna region (Fig. 4; Fig. 5).

The comparative analysis explored areas of two compartments of Dorna Depression, Poiana Coșna and Șarului. Most of the elements specific to the dispersion housing type are similar in the two compartments; moreover, the vectors of landscape dynamics are similar, from the valley to the adjacent peaks.

This is a testimony to perennial values of rural spatial functionality. Within it, we could decipher territorial developments specific to the permanent transfer, over of the past century, from the areas of dispersed housing on the slopes to dissociated housing on plateau areas. In Țara Dornelor, the

disperse housing type area encompasses many old traditional geo-cultural landscapes, such as households scattered between forests and grassland, that nowadays make up a unique geographical landscape, typical for Dorna area. At the level of the depression core (lower area of Țara Dornelor) housing structures include hubs with dispersed households or the valley and corridor housing types. Subtypes of Dorna geo-cultural landscapes were also identified, such as the geo-cultural landscape typical of slopes, valleys or plateaus of Dealul Magan, Plaiul Șarului or Șeștină, in the Șarului compartment and on the roofs of Negrișoarei terraces in the depression compartment of Poiana (Chiriță, 2003; Chiriță, 2011).



Figure 4. Residential complex geo-cultural landscape of dissociated sequence in the disperse area of Țara Dornelor (2013)



Figure 5. Dispersed area, habitation geo-cultural landscape in Poiana Negrii village (2014)

Geo-cultural landscapes typical of plateau housing are among the most representative in Țara Dornelor. These are cultural and spatial representations of a genuine “distribution of housing by specific areas”, as households are territorially

linked with meadow in orchards, a system of specific division of plots of land typical for the agricultural morphology of Dorna. Dorna geo-cultural landscape is associated with traditional architecture providing a representation of the wood civilisation in the Carpathians. This plateau’s geo-cultural landscapes have seen gradual transformations through partial blending with a new geo-cultural landscape: the dissociated valley landscape.

The dynamics of geo-cultural landscape has been defined by new vectors that structure the landscape (Chiriță et al., 2014) as the structural elements of the geo-cultural landscape have shifted from the once dominant domain of the forest and grassland to that of roads and accessibility. A landmark element in contemporary development – accessibility – fulfilled the role of transferring the used resources, while in the current stage it is quasi-mandatory for tourism development in the area. Communications routes in Țara Dornelor were drawn along the river systems becoming, over time, structural elements of geo-cultural landscapes of dissociated housing type areas.

In both compartments of Dorna Depression, Șarului Depression and that of Coșna-Poiana Depression, it is a clear fact that dispersed geo-cultural landscape, dominated by agriculture and forestry, tends to shift to the multifunctional, tourism or industrial, landscape, possibly even to the habitation landscape with clustering tendencies.

The transformation of heritage, authentic geo-cultural landscapes, into tourism or industrial function landscapes, marked by architectural reorientation and the reorganisation of household space will be elements in the destructuring of the authentic geo-cultural territorial make-up of Țara Dornelor.

7. CONCLUSION

The research conducted has enabled the authors to conclude that geo-cultural landscapes can be quantified by means of a matrix-based method to identify geo-cultural villages. Such an assessment criterion can act as a rigorous line that defines and demarcates the status of geo-cultural heritage area of Bucovina village, which has undergone and assimilated constantly new types of relations, specific to development cycles unfolding over time.

Landscape dynamics has always reflected and bound in spatial and temporal terms the various cultural flows and capital injections in Bucovina villages. Landscape dynamics was galvanised by new governments or by the more or less dramatic

contemporary cycles of development and restructuring.

The new development coordinates are marked, quite profoundly, by the reorientation of labour towards capitalising the tourism potential, with constant focus on increasing accessibility and the demand for forest resources. A new type of interaction in the typical Bucovina village stems from the return of the locals who temporarily left to work in Western Europe, as a result of the economic crisis, or through their capital influxes and their remodelling of the current rural housing landscape. Under these circumstances, the premises for rural space taking on new functions constantly evolve (tourism, large-scale local entrepreneurship, commercial services, etc.) and the new types of geo-cultural landscapes that emerge in Bucovina will take precedence over those that have a heritage value.

Geo-cultural landscapes are concrete, functionally viable, territorial expressions of anthropic activities, and they are perceived as such by the human communities wherein they are located.

On the other hand, decoding the underlying mechanisms in the formation and evolution of geo-cultural landscapes involves difficulties precisely because they are anchored in the age or stage of development of the communities that generated them.

The research undertaken to identify the functional typology of landscapes of Bucovina has provided an insight into the areas with geo-cultural landscapes considered as landmarks for the region being examined.

They are, for the most part, a continuation of field observations and a summary of the equation of Bucovina's geo-cultural values anticipated by the four pillars serving as benchmark: resources; the fragile habitat; its environmental value; and the determining factors of sustainable development.

The geo-cultural landscapes of Bucovina are, by virtue of their specificity, functional territorial delineations in a spatial ensemble marked by a high degree of entrepreneurial attractiveness and also of community vulnerability.

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