



# Electronic Cultural Portfolio of my Region: Architecture 1st ejournal ( March– April 2020)



Erasmus+

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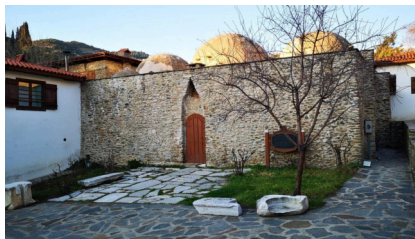


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## EDITORIAL

### *The birth of a project*

Our project "Electronic Cultural Portfolio of my Region" originated in the wish of classes working together on Etwinning the previous years to create a common support in order to make others discover their countries and culture. Our schools are working together now and our first ejournal issue here concerns architectural landmarks in our respective countries.

[The schools involved:](#)

For Romania: [Colegiul Tehnic de Industrie Alimentara "Terezianum"](#) in Sibiu

For Turkey:

[Odemis Ticaret Odasi Anadolu Lisesi](#) in Izmir

For Sweden: [Vimmerby gymnasium](#) in Vimmerby

For France: [Lycée de Vincenzo](#) in Reunion Island

For Northern Ireland:

[South West College](#) in Omagh.

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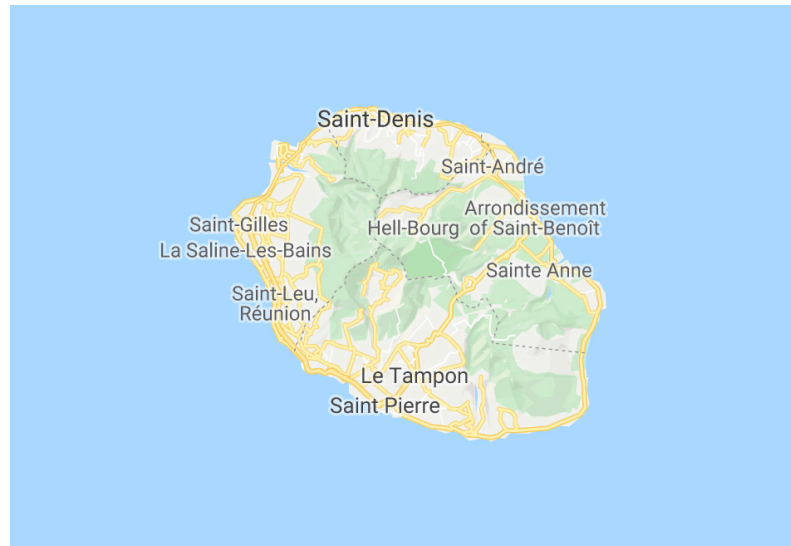


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# Partners involved in the PROJECT and their architectural landmarks



Visit architectural landmarks in our countries



REUNION ISLAND



ROMANIA



SWEDEN



TURKEY



NORTHERN IRELAND

# Architecture in Romania

## A Saxon Citadel

Transylvania is a multicultural region where Romanians, Hungarians and German settlers, called Saxons, lived together for centuries. The Saxons, invited by the Hungarian kings to settle in Transylvania in the 12th and 13th centuries, to protect the southern border of that time's kingdom, erected **seven citadels** and around **300 fortified churches** scattered in the Transylvanian villages. *Sibiu* or *Hermannstadt* in German, *Nagyszeben* in Hungarian, *Cibinium* in Latin, was one of the citadels that gave Transylvania its German name: *Siebenbürgen* (*The Seven Citadels*).

## Meet Sibiu!

Inhabited since 300 BC, first documented in 1191 AD, *Sibiu* was also a powerful political center as it subordinated all the lands inhabited by the Saxon colonists.

It was the headquarters of the *Evangelical Church* and of the *Saxon University*, the central judicial and administrative institution

of the Saxons. Strong walls and monumental towers were built to protect the city face from foreign invaders and some can be seen even today, especially those belonging to the 3rd fortification belt due to which the old city was called "*The Red Citadel*".



*The heart of the citadel*

## Wonderful architecture: a glimpse back in history

If you're planning to visit Sibiu, you're in for one of the best travel experiences in Romania, as, for many, this small city is the most beautiful in the country. Catching your attention with its unique mix of well-conserved architecture that makes you feel like you landed directly in Central Europe, medieval fortifications, monumental churches of different confessions, boutique shops and narrow romantic streets, Sibiu simply fascinates.

It's a must-see if you want to experience the magic of Transylvania and a great destination no matter the season.

But before you arrive in Sibiu, it's not a bad idea to take a glimpse into its history and architecture. You should know that Romanian architecture is diverse, including medieval architecture, modern era architecture, interwar architecture, communist architecture, and contemporary 21st century architecture. In Romania, there are also regional differences with regard to architectural styles.



*Coat of arms of Transylvania*

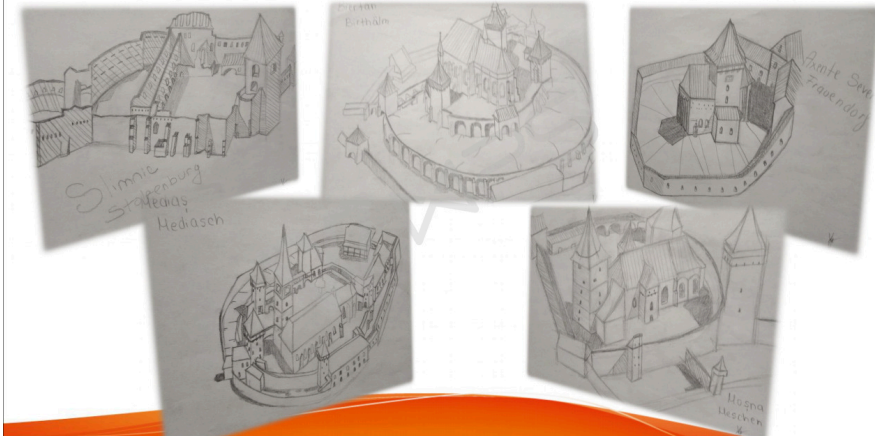
# DISCOVER

## The medieval burgh of Mediaș

Former medieval burgh, **Mediaș (pic. 3)** is a town of mysteries. Beyond its walls, towers and bastions it keeps legends, stories, symbols and exquisite experiences. Visit *St. Margaret Church*, well known for its rich collection of Anatolian carpets, *the Large Square* with its historic monuments but also the ensemble of *walls and fortification towers*.

In the late 15th century the authorities decided to build the highest church tower ever, even higher than that of St. Stephan's Dome in Vienna. It seems their wish angered God who tilted it as a punishment. Today, the tower is 8m high and it is vertically tilted by 2.28m.

Fortified churches - Drawings by Cabezaș Valentina - 9th grade



## The Moșna fortified church

A coin thesaurus found in 1780 in **Moșna (pic. 5)**, a Saxon settlement in Sibiu County, contained coins dating back from the times of the Roman emperor Nero, suggesting that the area has been continuously inhabited for many centuries. The Fortified Church of Moșna was completed in 1486, standing out through its *five defensive towers* of which the highest is seven levels tall and contains three bells, with the oldest dating back from 1515. The southern tower hosts a small exhibition of objects representative for the Saxon community, but also a collection of archeological findings from the area, such as coins, tools, and weaponry.

## The fortified church of Biertan

**Biertan (pic. 4)** was centuries ago a prosperous village competing with nearby Moșna and Mediaș for regional control.

On a hill in the center of the village there is *one of the most imposing and well fortified peasant fortresses in Transylvania*.

The church was built at the beginning of the 16th century in the form of a Gothic-style church hall.

The fortified church from Biertan, included in the *UNESCO World Heritage Patrimony*, is one of the few that preserves its original altar, pews and stone carved pulpit, all from the 16th century.

Not to mention its unique locking system of *the sacristy door and the marital prison* organized in one of its towers. Surrounded by three precincts, this is the strongest peasant fortress in Transylvania.



"Transylvania, sweet home"

# ARCHITECTURE IN REUNION ISLAND: TYPES OF HOUSING

## Hut

Minimal habitat built by the majority of the population at the beginning of the colonization of Reunion Island.



## Master mansion

18th century colonial masters mansion.



## House built with corrugated sheet

The house built with corrugated sheet is one of the different types of habitat that are part of Reunion architecture.

Another house built with corrugated sheet and wood that we saw during a visit in ENTRE DEUX village. (Lola Collet 2nd Parks)



## 18 th century colonial masters mansions in Reunion Island: Mrs Desbassayns's house.

The Villèle Historical Museum, created in Reunion in 1974 on a large colonial property located in Saint Paul, belonged to Mrs Desbassayns. Born on July 3 1755 in Saint-Paul, she was one of the most famous slave owners of the 18th century in Reunion Island. She died on February 4th 1846.



## Living Conditions for slaves

Many legends were built around the figure of Mrs Desbassayns on the island: People often associate her with witchcraft and stories of slaves buried alive, locked in dungeons and otherwise ill-treated.....



## The museum

In the main house, on the ground floor, decorative pieces of furniture and objects restore the living environment of this wealthy bourgeois family who lived on the property for over one hundred and eighty years.

## Historical monuments

On Thursday December 12, 2019, the national commission of architecture issued a unanimous favorable opinion for classification as Historical Monument for Villèle (Ines Delaunay 2nd Sand)  
(Photo credits: google/ Grondin Jemina)

# Architecture in Turkey

## ABOUT THE DERVIŞ AĞA HAMAM



domes inside the hamam

### WHAT IS TURKISH HAMAM

Turkish hamams which have hot and cold water sources have been used for cleaning. Its history stretches to ancient Rome Empire. Societies in the direction of religious beliefs changed their architecture which became a part of their social life.



*an image from the Derviş Ağa Hamam*

It was made in 15th century and it was made from rubble stones. The closed areas which were covered with dome consisted of a square place surrounded with aligned cells. It is known as Çukur Hamam as well.

The hot water source that cross under it provides its heating. The domes covered with glass provide sunlight and that in turns provides heating and illumination. The student who studied in that school supplied their cleaning needs.



*Derviş Ağa Madrasa where the students studied*

# Architecture in Turkey: GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT BIRGI



*a view of the streets from Birgi*



*always intertwined with nature*



*a view from near the hamam*

Birgi is a city which history lend to BCE. In 1308 it was added to Turkey's Land. It has been a home for a lot of nations

Its architecture is one of a kind. The buildings are a reflection of our history. And all of the city is national heritage site.

>>  
it is possible to see architectural structures everywhere

# Architecture in Northern Ireland: Strule Arts Centre, Omagh

**Strule Arts Centre is a multi-purpose arts venue in Omagh, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland.**



In 2003 Omagh's Town Hall was demolished to make way for the new Strule Arts Centre Arts. It cost £10.5 million and opened on 8 June 2007, overlooking the River Strule which flows through the town.

It is part of a wider regeneration project for the High Street, George Street and Riverside area of Omagh. It was designed by architects Kennedy Fitzgerald and Associates and features a footbridge linking the waterfront site to a new college, existing bus station and riverside walk. The centre was officially opened in January 2008 by Edwin Poots, then Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure, and Margaret Ritchie, Minister for Social Development. The Centre had been partially funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland (£4m) and by the Department for Social Development (£3.1m).

# Architecture in Northern Ireland



## Sacred Heart Church

Situated at the heart of Omagh in County Tyrone, Sacred Heart Church is an unsurpassed example of late Victorian architecture, as well as a testament to the strength of human determination. Perched on the edge of the Strule River, Sacred Heart is a charming building, perhaps more so for the effort that went into constructing it.

Sacred Heart Church was the project of parish priest Father McNamee, who came to Omagh in 1866 and professed from the day of his arrival that the area needed a new church to meet the capacity of the growing parish. It took decades for the humble residents to raise sufficient funds to acquire the lands and resources required to build the church. Despite many doubts over the years as to whether or not Sacred Heart Church would ever be completed, with true grit and determination, it eventually was. It is now one of Omagh's proudest architectural achievements.

***Sacred Heart Church is one of 4 Churches situated at the top of the town, and one of 16 in all of Omagh.***

# Vimmerby: a historical perspective



The typical architecture with red houses and white window frames in old Vimmerby.



Even Astrid Lindgren lived in a stereotypical red house, which are settings in several of her stories.



Astrid Lindgren's statue lies in the main square in Vimmerby.

## Present day Vimmerby

In an interview with local resident, we learned that Vimmerby continues to have shops for the neighboring communities and also has a large brewery, sawmills, foundries as well as an agricultural sector. In modern times Vimmerby has a large amount of tourism due to Astrid Lindgren.

Research shows that the town of Vimmerby was founded in the 1300s, and it is a city filled with cultural historical buildings. More recently, Vimmerby was given the name "City of Children" thanks to the city's world-renowned author Astrid Lindgren and her encouragement for children to be treated with as much respect as adults.

Vimmerby's history goes back a long time. Archaeological findings indicate that the area around Vimmerby has been populated as early as the Stone Age as well as the

Bronze Age. Even though Vimmerby's year of birth is unknown, historical records show that Vimmerby is one of Sweden's oldest cities.

Vimmerby had two factors that made the city, the city's major markets and its ox trade. Over time, Vimmerby's most important industry over the past hundred years has been agriculture, which has often been combined with a trade or craft profession.

Many people lived in the typical Swedish red house with white trim because the paints were cheap.

# ARCHITECTURE in SWEDEN: INTERVIEW

Sweden and the rest of the EU have decided that we will live climate neutral by the year 2050. In other words, no more greenhouse gas emissions that affect our atmosphere. Today the building and warming up process of our houses results in almost a fifth of Sweden's total emissions. The question is: what are our houses going to look like the day they no longer effect the climate?

The construction business is big and to find out more about its future development, an interview has been scheduled with someone that probably knows more than the average person. In this case it is Henrik Andersson, the factory's manager of Eksjöhus .

What is modular building? Henrik explains that modular building means that the factory builds parts to a house, like individual walls and rooms, which are later transported and assembled into a complete house on the building site. "We have total control over the building process, both economically and the quality, but also the raw materials we choose, it is unbeatable," Henrik says. He thinks that modular building is going to increase in the future, but it is not going to knock out their large-scale competitor, the concrete industry.

To build with wood has become more common because of easy access in our forested nation. It is a material easily formed but most of all, it has a totally different

environmental profile than concrete, the most common building material today. Wood may limit the construction in height but already the technique has gone to the stage that even towers are built with a wood frame like the 18 meter high complex with 46 flats in the city of Kalmar. There are some difficulties when it comes to wood. In "To choose a construction" by Ekobyggportalen, Cathrine Bülow writes that wood can be hard to work with because it can rot if the construction workers do not build in the correct way.

But to build mainly with wood creates a complete cycle that does not contribute to any carbon dioxide emissions because trees bind carbon dioxide when they grow. When businesses then consume the raw material, an equivalent amount of carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere once more. Earlier in our history, wood as a material has often played an important role. It has held humans warm and dry and the future seems to be offering a re-play.

## Houses of the future



*"I am guessing that we are going to continue develop climate sufficient solutions,*

## Did you know?

Did you know that...

...Sweden is covered with 23 million hectares which is 70% of Sweden's total area of land. The forests of Sweden produce 120 million cubic m/year and only 80% is harvested.

...wood is today the only construction material that is renewable and spruce is the dominant type of lumber, followed by pine, and then comes assorted types of deciduous trees.

...concrete in itself is not environmentally dangerous; however, the production is the real danger. Production of concret

