



# Roșia Montană

## *Mining Landscape*

(1552 rev. Romania)

**State of Conservation Report UPDATE**

[in compliance with Paragraph 169 of the Operational Guidelines]

**February 2023**

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The property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2021 - and simultaneously inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger – see **44 COM 8C.1**.

A **State of Conservation (SOC) Report** was prepared, submitted in **February 2022** and published on the World Heritage Website, to be examined by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session (scheduled for July 2022, postponed and rescheduled for September 2023).

A desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the World Heritage in Danger List (DSOCR) to be presented to the World Heritage Committee has been prepared during a process that started in December 2021 and came to an advanced **Draft DSOCR in February 2023** (see attached document).

In addition to the DSOCR provisions and as a response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee, the State Party also committed to improving the state of conservation of the property and its monitoring, to generally enhancing the visitor experience, and to improving opportunities within the local economy for residents and others. These actions are thoroughly presented in the following pages as a technical **UPDATE to the SOC Report**.

■ 2 Restoration/conservation interventions funded by the Ministry of Culture (MC) through the National Institute of Heritage (INP - Institutul Național al Patrimoniului) through the National Restoration Program (PNR): one is in an advanced construction stage, close to completion (the Greek-Catholic parish house), and for the second the design phase is completed and the construction works have been assigned and will start in early 2023 (the Reformed parish house). Funding of approx. 2.150.000 euro is granted by MC-INP.

■ 2 Emergency intervention works financed by INP-MC through TMI (Timbrul Monumentelor Istorice - Historical Monuments Stamp Duty): one finalised (the Roman-Catholic Church), one in progress (the Greek-catholic Church), on a total budget of approx. 73.500 euro (plus 20% co-financing from owners).

■ 9 Repair works financed by INP-MC through TMI (Historical Monuments Stamp Duty)(mostly finished), the "*Rosia Montana - World Heritage in danger*" section - total amount of approx. 170.000 euro granted by MC-INP, plus a minimum of 20% co-financing by owners or partners. The buildings are on private property (churches and other private owners), but also of the municipality, and the interventions were carried out in partnership with local schools, NGOs and entrepreneurs.

■ 2 Technical conservation design and permitting dedicated to historic buildings, financed by INP-MC through TMI (Historical Monuments Stamp Duty) (completed): one historic building in the administration of the Local Council (the local cultural center), the other of the Unitarian Church (the cantor's house). Budget granted by MC-INP: approx. 37.000 euro, plus 20% owners co-financing.

■ 8 Repairs of historic buildings, financed by The Ministry for Development, Public Works and Administration through the National Resilience and Recovery Plan (to begin in 2023). The buildings are owned by local administration and churches, and the budget for each building is set to max. 65.000 euro, totalling an approx. 500.000 for the entire program.

■ 4 Other heritage interventions, carried out by professional and/or local NGOs (in progress).

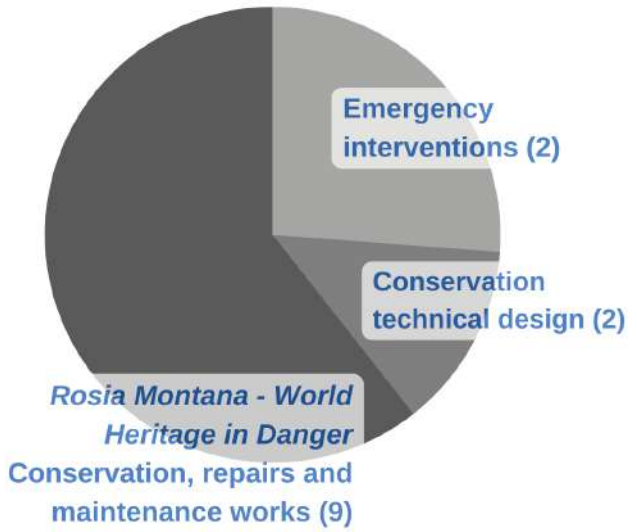
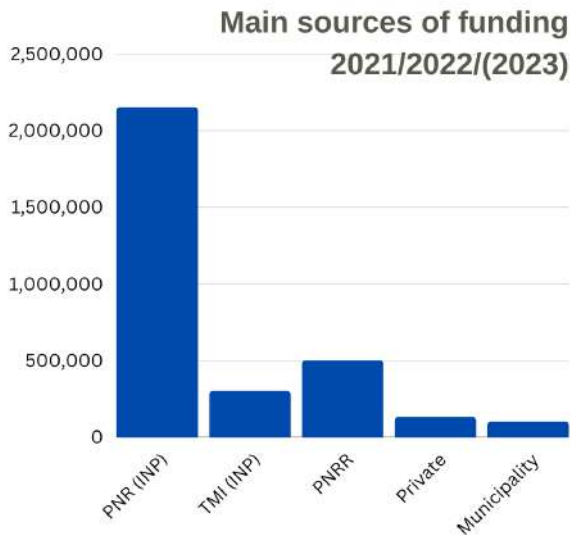
We highlighted some of the most relevant interventions, part of a larger community program (Adopt a House) financed both from private donations and grants offered by The Administration of the National Cultural Fund (AFCN-MC) and the Romanian Order of Architects through the architectural stamp duty (total campaign budget of approx. 75.000 euros in the past 2 years).

■ 1 Emergency intervention for the access roads and assistance to the Emergency Situations Department ensured by the Municipality of Roșia Montană in response to the risk situation occurred at the Tăul Mare header pond in october 2022 - 90.000 EUR.

INP-MC provided specialized professional assistance on the emergency interventions needed for the header pond (in progress). A larger, more complex intervention is prepared and will ensure the safety and the conservation of the entire ensemble of the historic header pond.

■ Road infrastructure improvements financed through the PNLD - National Local Development Programme - and co financed by the Roșia Montană Municipality. The project also covers historic roads in the world heritage property and is developed with INP-MC assistance.

■ Other infrastructure enhancements for the energy supply system, the sewage system etc. are provisioned for the next period, with European and local funding, by the Roșia Montană Municipality.



**PNR** - National Restoration Program (MC-INP).  
**TMI** - Historical Monuments Stamp Duty (MC-INP).  
**PNRR** - Recovery and Resilience Plan for Romania.  
**Private** - co-financing or NGO programs.  
**Municipality of Roşia Montană** - local budget spent (not including the new provisions for 2023)

The INP - MC Historical Monuments Stamp Duty funding program (TMI) / 2022  
**Rosia Montana - World Heritage in Danger** (85% implementation progress).



\_ location of main heritage interventions within the property finalized in the last 2 years, in progress or to start in 2023.

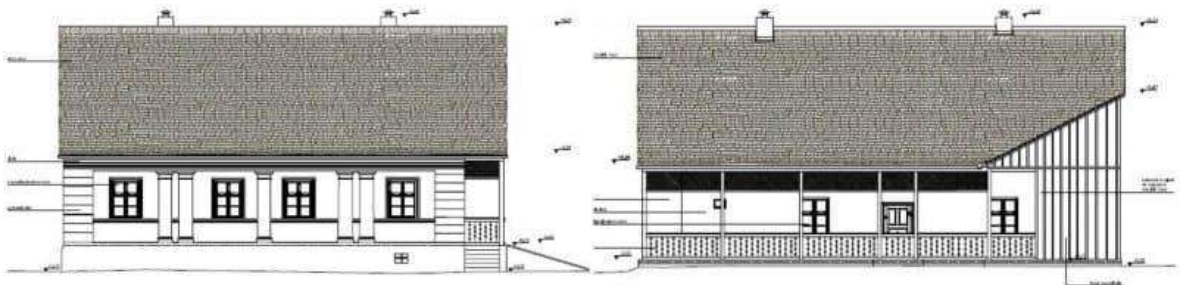
## 1. Restoration / conservation interventions financed by INP-MC through the National Restoration Program

### ► The Greek Catholic parish house in Roșia Montană (in progress).

The building in the form prior to the recent transformation dates from 1854, when Simion Balint (1818-1880, one of the 1848 Romanian revolutionaries who fought alongside Avram Iancu as prefect of the Arieș Legion) built the house and annexes. The parish house extends an earlier building (c. 1700), of which the cellar and one of the ground floor rooms have been preserved. It also preserves the underpitched barrel vault both on the ground floor and in the basement (cellar). The cellar below the ground floor room and two other vaulted spaces are preserved at the basement level, one of which contains a wall with a spring catchment. It is possible that the cellar had an industrial function ('jomp cellar' - basin for washing rich ore in winter).

The house follows the traditional rambling typology, but has a more complex functional layout, determined by historical transformations. The adjoining annex was probably built together with the parish house in 1864, and the annex at the back of the plot was built in 1864. In the vicinity of the stone annex there is another wooden annex, probably also built in 1864, for storing wood.

The intervention aims to recover the community role of the parish house and the premises, becoming an important centre for the community. The intervention aims to preserve the historic material and restore it in such a way as to ensure continuity and preservation in its formal integrity and authenticity. The restoration works will be completed in 2023.



\_photos: the main building before and during the intervention, detail from the project.

► **The Reformed parish house in Roşia Montană** (in progress).

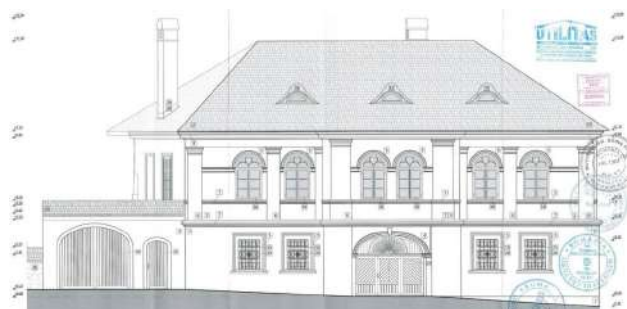
The Reformed Parish House was built in the mid-19th century as a parish office and dwelling, with commercial premises on the ground floor facing the street. In the post-war period it functioned as a pharmacy and a pharmacist's house. After 1990 the commercial space was also used as a general store and grocery store. Since the 2000s the building has not been used and has steadily deteriorated to its present state of ruin.

INP-MC commissioned a restoration technical project and the intervention is set to start in early 2023.

The following conservation interventions / restoration works will be carried out at the parish house:

- local plastering, preservation of original plaster and replastering using lime plaster and traditional techniques, restoration of historical mouldings, based on traces preserved, using traditional materials
- the outer gallery will be restored according to preserved traces (sockets in masonry, wooden elements, etc.) and archive photographs
- the roof volume will be rebuilt and shingle roofing will be made, according to archive pictures, which show that all the houses in the area were shingled and had dormer windows, and chimneys will be restored, the basement and attic will be renovated and a staircase to the attic
- the joinery will be rebuilt according to the models retained, respecting the dimensions, profiles and ironwork, and in the areas housing the interior glazing be fitted with two sheets of glass.

The proposed function is that of a parish centre, with ground floor spaces for presenting the history of the Reformed community of Rosia Montana and spaces for public activities. The large size of the plot allows several types of outdoor activities. The upper floor and attic levels can be used as accommodation for participants in activities organized by the Reformed Parish Centre. The activity spaces on the ground floor can also be used for local community activities and events.



\_photos: state of conservation and excerpt from the survey and the intervention design.

## 2. Emergency intervention works financed by INP-MC through TMI (Historical Monuments Stamp Duty)

### ► **The Roman-Catholic church in Roșia Montană** (completed).

Located above the village, on the crest of a hill south of the central square, the Roman Catholic Church is the most recent of the historic churches in Rosia Montana, built in 1860 on the site of an earlier stone church built in 1783 and destroyed during the 1848 Revolution. With its simple, large volume, punctuated by the bell tower, designed against the rocky backdrop of the Cârnic Massif and surrounded by a grove of fir trees, the church dominates the central area of the settlement. Together with the main buildings of the parish grouped in the vicinity: the Parish House (no. 317), the Bellringer's House (no. 319), the Confessional School ("White House"), the Church illustrates, as in the case of other parishes (Unitarian Parish), a characteristic of the centre of the settlement: organization in confessional nuclei.

State of conservation: the roofing, due to inadequate repairs, deterioration is advanced in areas essential for the stability of the roofing. The dynamics of deterioration were active, with severe intensity, sometimes critical. The tile cladding mounted on small section battens (3x5 cm) in relation to the large spacing between the rafters (85-90 cm) did not ensure the watertightness of the roof. The connections of the tile cladding with the sheet metal cladding were improvised and large areas, such as the connection of the roof to the eave, did not have sheet metal flashings. Thus, the degradation caused by infiltration at the rafter level reached a critical stage at the joint between the chords and the rafters. Works carried out: replacement of degraded parts of the roofing, revision and re-roofing, introduction of flashings and revision of the rainwater collection and routing system.



\_photos: images during the intervention works/ rosiamontana.community (partner).

► **The Greek-Catholic church in Roșia Montană** (in progress).

The Greek-Catholic Church of Rosia Montana is a building that is part of the compositional typology common in Transylvania, whose origin is identified in the Romanesque-Gothic architecture: a succession of volumes composed in an additive manner and in increasing volumetric hierarchy, consisting of apse, nave and bell tower. The church and the Greek-Catholic Parish House are closely linked in the memory of the community to the life and personality of Simion Balint, one of the Romanian 1848 revolutionaries who fought alongside Avram Iancu as prefect of the Arieș Region. Simion Balint studied theology and was appointed chaplain priest in Roșia Montană. He was decorated by the Emperor of Vienna and the Tsar of Russia for his bravery during the Revolution after which he retired as a parish priest of this church where he remained until the end of his life.

The building currently has structural issues (masonry cracks and fractures), mainly in the area of the superstructure of the altar apse, but also in the vaulting system of the nave, marked by a series of cracks along the longitudinal axis. The dynamics of deterioration is active, with severe intensity, sometimes critical (arches/vaults); superficial or deep damage to the building material, especially to the wood of the complex structures of the nave and tower roofs. Materials from former interventions, incompatible with the historic ones, in particular Portland cement, are a risk factor for the long-term protection. The dynamics of deterioration is active, with mild and severe (locally) intensity.

Works to be carried out by June 2023: The construction of three transverse metal tie rods, mounted at the arch's spring, to take the lateral thrust of the arches and vaults; Reinforcement of the load-bearing masonry of the main transverse arches by restoring/realizing the continuity at cracks, fissures or in the area of the non-woven joints of the different construction stages; the continuity of the masonry will be restored by injecting the cracks with specific injection materials for historic buildings and weaving the deeper cracks with metal inserts, or by locally reinforcing them with reinforcement in horizontal joints; Local replacement or reinforcement of all compromised, displaced, broken, decayed roofing elements; Removal of all improper roofing interventions; Inspection of all joints between roofing elements and restoration of compromised joints; Replacement of degraded sheet metal cladding with original shingle cladding on nave and aisle; Review of rainwater collection and routing system.



\_photos: the main problems addressed by the intervention / rosiamontana.community (partner).

### 3. *‘Rosia Montana - World Heritage in Danger’* - Conservation and repair works financed by INP-MC through TMI (The Historical Monuments Stamp Duty).

#### ► **Repairs at the Orlea Roman mining gallery, Mining Museum in Roșia Montană** (completed)

More than 150 km of galleries can be found underground in Rosia Montana, deep in the four mountain massifs - Cetate, Cârnic, Orlea and Jig-Văidoaia-Lety - the most extensive gold mining system of the Roman era has been documented (sec. II BC) known to date (7 km), an extensive modern (17th-18th century) mining system with gunpowder (10 km), supplemented by dynamite mining (53 km) of the contemporary period (19th-20th century). The Roman gallery in Orlea is for the moment the only publicly accessible section of the huge underground network of Rosia Montana, represents a significant sample for understanding the historical mining tradition.

State of conservation before the intervention: Since the closure of mining activities in 2006, minimal maintenance work has been carried out (wooden deck, removal of tailings, local scaffolding, replacement of light bulbs), but in the absence of approval for more substantial investments, the degradation process has already taken hold. The mine drainage facilities were locally degraded. The underground route must ensure safe and optimal conditions for visitors, without areas of earth deposits, without broken steps and with adequate lighting. It was also necessary to introduce a minimum explanatory infrastructure, accessible to all categories of visitors.

Works carried out: Repairs to the entrance portal, repairs to inclined access planes and horizontal gallery (cleaning and completion of steps and side rails, evacuation of soil (sterile) and repairs to treading surfaces), repairs and reconfiguration of lighting system, parapets and rebuilding of demonstrative timber support. Installation of explanatory panels for presentation and interpretation. Since the 15th of December 2022 the mine is again open to visitors.



\_photos: images during and at the end of intervention / [rosiamontana.community](https://rosiamontana.community) (partner).



► **Repairs at the local cultural center** (in progress).

The building belonged to the Roman-Catholic Parish, which built it as a space for community activities and is now the property of the Municipality of Roșia Montană. The construction system (entirely masonry) and the architecture of the building place the time of its construction in the first three decades of the 20th century. In the contemporary period, the building was extended by adding annexes on the south side.

The overall composition of the main facade, with its proportions and disposition of openings, the ornaments applied and the distinctive solution of the entrance hall, betrays the persistence of Eclecticism in local taste. At the same time, vernacular elements introduced into the repertoire of cultured architecture (wooden gables, tracery, wooden grilles) are also used.

The state of conservation was average, with active deterioration processes determined also by recent excessive use during the previous year's floods as emergency shelter for evacuees. The necessary repairs must be properly coordinated, in keeping the character of the historic building, so that the consequences of previous inadequate repairs can be resolved.

The project that will be finished early 2023 aims not only to restore the original use of the historic building, and repair all the elements that require intervention, but also to restore the way the community relates to the building. Thus, through maintenance works, the building will be able to host again the current community events for which there is constant demand, but also a series of new events in relation to the project partner, Simion Balint Secondary School in Rosia Montana, which thus gets access to additional spaces so necessary for extracurricular activities that they run and that in recent years have increased in number and interest.



\_photos: before and during the intervention.

► **Repairs to the former Roman-Catholic confessional school ("The White House")**  
(completed).

The building of the former Roman-Catholic Confessional School of Rosia Montana most likely dates from the early 20th century, it is an atypical building in terms of construction (entirely of masonry), compared to the traditional background of the mining town. The building has a restrained architectural expression, but is distinguished by the use of elements of neo-classical inspiration similar to those used in the Roman-Catholic Church. The distinctive molded cornice, the raised plinth and the orderly arrangement of the four windows on the two long façades compose the register of inspiration, adapted to the particular local context by the use of the slender shingle roof, as almost all buildings in Roșia Montană.

The lack of routine maintenance works has led to a process of deterioration, which is becoming more and more extensive year by year. To bring it back into use, interior work, heating installations and various repairs were needed. Outside, the degree of deterioration was more advanced.

Works carried out: removal of cement mortar plastering, filling of gaps with lime mortar, repairing molds with lime mortar and lime washing, repairing and painting carpentry, adding glass sheets, inserting shingle cladding.



\_photos: before and during repairs / rosiamontana.community (partner).

► **Repairs at the Unitarian Church in Roşia Montană** (completed).

The Unitarian Church, No. 530, in its present form, dates from 1796, when the tower was erected and the previous helmet-shaped roof was reconfigured in Baroque fashion, with a curved profile and slope break. Inspired by urban ecclesiastical architecture, especially the interior, the Unitarian temple is the work of local craftsmen and has a rational, rigorous, late Baroque-inspired appearance. The Baroque expression can be recognized in the silhouette of the steeple tower - the vertical dominating feature of the building - and in the shapes of the portico on the side façade. The latter's façade is characterized by a simple, undecorated pediment with arched forms, while the massing is robust, typical of vernacular architecture. The Baroque contours are complemented by the simple exterior, where the decoration is limited to the moulded cornice surrounding the nave, portico and tower.

State of conservation. The interior and exterior plasterwork, inadequately repaired with cement mortars, shows particularly marked deterioration at the base, caused by capillary damp, over a height of about 2 m, while on the remaining exterior plastered surfaces there are isolated gaps in the underlying layer or areas of peeling. The interior floor, made of rectangular stone slabs, shows signs of degradation due to lack of ventilation and routine maintenance. The woodwork is still functional, but requires routine repairs, caulking and rust cleaning of the ironwork. The fixed furniture is functional but requires local repairs, cleaning and painting.

Works carried out: removal of cement-based plaster, filling gaps with lime mortar, repairing mouldings with lime mortar and painting, cleaning stone floors, painting carpentry and repairing degraded components, cleaning and repairing gutters and downspouts, traditional stone paving around the church.



\_photos: during and after intervention works / rosiamontana.community (partner).

► **Repairs and maintenance works at the memorial of Simion Balint (completed).**

Simion Balint is probably the most important local personality of Roşia Montană, being intrinsically linked to the 1848 Revolution, which is why he is recognised throughout the region and Romania, together with Avram Iancu, as one of the most important revolutionaries.

The obelisk shape of the funerary monument itself reflects an important feature of the social mining environment of Rosia Montana, the interfaith connection, the shape being frequently used in cemeteries, regardless of denomination during the 18th-19th centuries. The obelisk is set on a plinth, treated at the top with a succession of receding profiles (torus and bark). The pedestal is mounted on a double base with geometric, faceted moulding.

State of conservation: Damage was caused by the monument's location in the environment, being in direct contact with climatic factors: physical factors, temperature, solar radiation, the action of humidity and water, the repeated phenomenon of frost/thaw (one of the most harmful), air currents, climatic factors and biological factors.

Works carried out: prophylactic interventions aimed at preventing the development of major deterioration (biocide, cleaning of crusts, consolidation, hydrophobization); the environment of the monument itself is addressed by works to eliminate recent harmful interventions.



photos during and after intervention works / rosiamontana.community (partner).

► **Repairs at historical house no. 331 (completed).**

Although the exact year of construction is not known, historical plans show that a building existed on the present plot at the end of the 18th - beginning of the 19th century. The building is present in the memory of the community for its previous public functions, having been used throughout its history as a dwelling with a hospital, bank or cinema on the ground floor. The current function, as a boarding house (southern half, Petri property), is a new attribute, also noted and promoted by the community with quite important economic impact for the current socio-economic context.

State of conservation: The building was in an average state of preservation, with deterioration mainly caused by inappropriate local interventions (sheet-metal fencing, tin cladding, cement mortar repairs).

Works carried out: Reinstatement of traditional shingle cladding, introduction of necessary flashing to ensure water tightness at chimneys; replacement of dysfunctional rainwater system; removal of cement mortar; filling of gaps with lime mortar; repair of drawn profiles with lime mortar; limewashing; removal of parasitic elements - awnings, cables, aerials, roof-mounted service; removal of sheet metal finish of chimneys; plastering; repair carpentry, painting, reintroduction of carpentry in altered areas; repair/replace fence bases, dry stone walls, reintroduction of wooden fence/gate.



\_photos during and after intervention works / rosiamontana.community (partner).

► **Repairs at historical house no. 344** (completed).

The date of construction is not known precisely, but based on the analysis of historical plans (Austro-Hungarian Cadastre 1884, Pošepný Plan 1859), in which the building is shown on the plot in its present position, it can be stated that the main core of the building, with two rooms, a central beam and a groove on one of the long sides, probably dates at least from the mid-19th century, and later, in the interwar period, it was extended by adding an annex. The building system and plan configuration are in keeping with the traditional local typology, to which elements of urban-inspired architectural language are attached. In the inter-war period, the cladding was replaced with ceramic tiles and the façades were given decorative elements (suggestion of ashlar rows) and a configuration (central porch) typical of the mining architecture of this period, characterized by the use of this type of façade configuration, with tile cladding and gable ends expressed in the façade.

State of conservation: Interior works and various repairs were needed to bring it back into use. On the outside, the architectural elements and surfaces have deteriorated, the tile and sheet metal cladding has deteriorated, allowing water and snow to penetrate locally, the rainwater catchment and drainage system has deteriorated, and the plasterwork, particularly at the base, has deteriorated more markedly. The window cases are still functional, requiring routine repairs and replacement of glass sheets, the wooden fencing is degraded, the wooden gate requires minimal interventions, the retaining walls require minimal repairs on the north side and more extensive on the east side.

Works carried out: Cement mortar removal, removal of parasitic elements - awnings, roof-mounted service connections, repairs to plaster and drawn profiles - local additions, consolidation, painting; repairs/replacement of tile coverings, flashings; painting, additions to glass sheets; repairs/replacement of gutters and downpipes; repairs to dry stone walls; repairs, completions, replacements to wooden fencing; repairs to wooden gates; repairs to paving and guttering.



\_photos during and after intervention works / rosiamontana.community (partner).

► **Repairs at historical house no. 324 / Scouts center** (completed).

It was built in 1867 as a dwelling with commercial space at Central Square. Its architectural structure describes a particularity for the area, being built as a result of interventions carried out between 1872 and the beginning of the 20th century in the form of a house with an inner courtyard framed on four sides by buildings. Three of the four sides are still visible in their present form. Together with the building structure (entirely made of masonry) that distinguishes it from the other historical buildings in Rosia Montana, another peculiarity of the building is represented by the rigorous neoclassical architecture of the facade facing the square, which, together with the facades of buildings no. 326 and no. 325 (the former pharmacy), marks the northern front of the central square. The central axis of the facade, emphasized by the gate and the two close gaps at first floor level, was also marked in the past by a pediment rising from the cornice (now disappeared).

The ground-floor commercial spaces each have two doors with wooden shutters, clad in sheet metal; the access corridor has a\* wooden gate with classicalist decoration; the bays are framed between pairs of pilasters rising above the railing between the ground and first floors and joining in profiled semicircular arches; the 6 first-floor windows have common sills; the facade edges are marked by bosses; the cornice profiles under the eaves. The building functioned for decades as a commercial space, a grocery store.

Repair works carried out: Current roof repairs: Repair of the roofing with vented tile, laid on asphalt and foil, making sheet metal flashings in the chimney area, gables; plastering chimneys; Rainwater collection and drainage system: revision of existing system - replacement of non-functional components; installation of gutters and downspouts; centralized rainwater collection from roof and courtyard. Carpentry: restoration of access corridor gate - repairs, additions; repair of floor hinges and frames - ensuring watertightness (grouting); painting.



\_photos: during and after intervention / Local Scouts Center (partner).

► **Repairs at historical house no. 475** (completed).

The building is located in the south-eastern end of the historic centre of Roşiei Montane, near the Brazi Lake, one of the historical header ponds. The Pošepný plan (1856) shows the present-day layout of the nucleus in which the farmhouse is located, with the routes of the access alleys and several buildings grouped along them. The Austro-Hungarian cadastral plan (1884) indicates the existence of a building on the northern boundary of the plot, corresponding to the present house. A second phase of major intervention, probably in the first decades of the 20th century, involved the addition of a room in the north-east corner of the house and an outbuilding on the north side. The house has always been a mining dwelling, with outbuildings probably used to keep animals. Although it is a common building, with a configuration resulting from its transformation in the interwar period into a small ensemble consisting of a house with urban workings and purely rural outbuildings, covered with tiles and shingles, wooden gate covered with shingles, it represents a valuable ensemble for the fabric of the historic area.

Works carried out. Roof repairs: Revision of roofing of dwelling and outbuildings - replacement of damaged or missing tiles, repointing of displaced ridge or field tiles; Rainwater collection and drainage system: overhaul existing system - replace non-functioning components; installation of gutters and downspouts. Façade finishing: Fill in gap areas with lime mortar; cleaning of areas with exfoliated plaster, integration of gaps, finishing; limewashing; Windowcases: Revision windows, doors - repairs, additions; repairs to sashes, frames - ensuring tightness; painting. Household annexes: filling of gaps with lime mortar; cleaning areas with exfoliated plaster, filling gaps, finishing; limewashing; revision of plank closures - repairs, additions. Fencing: removal of cement-based plaster; removal of parasitic elements (metal fencing).



photos: during and after the intervention / Local Scouts Center (partner).



#### 4. Technical documentations for permitting dedicated to historic buildings, financed by INP-MC through TMI (Historical Monuments Stamp Duty).

##### ► Technical-economic documentation for the former cinema in Roșia Montană (completed).

The building is located in the administrative center, next to important public buildings - town hall, school, police, museum, in an area with high exposure and with great potential for inclusion in a museum-tourism scenario while maintaining the necessary food/service functions. The building was erected, along with a large part of the buildings on the site of the historic Mining Enterprise, between 1850 and 1900, to house the Mining Enterprise's staff. Later, during the communist period, the building was nationalized and transformed into a Cinema hall. After the 2000s the building fell into disrepair and could no longer be used.

For the conservation-restoration of the monument were proposed: Elimination of the harmful interventions carried out when the building was transformed into a cinema: projection room, accessways to the cinema from the main road; Restoration of the image of the main facades, in accordance with the "mining architecture" consistently preserved in the Mining Enterprise Ensemble (window cornices, shape and design of window openings, sills, etc.); Differentiated presentation of the valuable building stages of the construction; Preservation of all original elements: Masonry, plasterwork; Restoration of masonry, plasterwork, mouldings on the basis of existing in situ evidence; Stratigraphic surveys to determine the original color scheme; Archaeological surveys, necessary for the geotechnical study and structural assessment, will aim to identify possible dispositions of some of the partition walls in the area of the present cinema hall; The materials used for restoration will be historical - lime-sand mortar - the recipe will be determined by specialist analysis; The joinery will be reproduced according to the existing elements in situ and based on historical information; The solutions for the consolidation of the resistance structure must not compromise the architectural and structural configuration of the original construction by the introduction of additional elements; The interventions of recent date, where it is not possible to completely eliminate the harmful elements, will be treated differently, but at the same time the possibility of obtaining an integrated, non-contrasting image will be sought. For the refurbishment, provision has been made for: the introduction of installations. For the valorisation of the site, it was planned to introduce some outdoor circulation and landscaping; to introduce a sanitary block and a minimal preparation area, necessary for the events; to host an exhibition in the space of the former cinema hall, presenting the cultural, natural and intangible heritage values of the site; a special emphasis could be given to the history of the heritage films made in Roșia Montană; to host an information point for the Roșia Montană site; to host secondary spaces for related activities - workshops; the existing commercial space could be arranged and extended for the development of related services: serving refreshments, coffee, small snacks in indoor and outdoor spaces.



\_photos: state of conservation of the main facades.

► **Technical-economic documentation for the Unitarian Cantor's house** (finalised).

The Unitarian Cantor's House, no. 390, was built in 1872, and at the end of the 19th century local repairs were made to the roofing system of the ground floor rooms (probably the introduction of wooden floors in the corner room, or on vaults in the room diametrically opposite the one on the corner). The traditional model of a house with a vaulted cellar, overlapped by two or three rooms strung along a stringcourse, is in this case modified to respond to the double orientation towards the two streets and a more complex interior layout.

The documentation for the preservation and restoration of the historical features, refurbishment and enhancement of the Unitarian Cantor's House foresees the following operations:

Conservation-restoration operations of the monument: Elimination of all harmful interventions carried out over time; Restoration of the image of the main facades, in accordance with the historical information and the preserved traces; Reintroduction of the shingle roof, characteristic of all the historical buildings of Rosia Montana, public or private buildings erected during the 18th and 19th centuries; Conservation of all the original elements: masonry, plastering; Archaeological surveys, necessary for the preparation of the geotechnical study and structural assessment; The materials used for restoration will be the historical ones - lime-sand mortar - the recipe will be determined by specialized analysis; The original windows and doors will be restored; Special attention will be paid to the carved carpentry elements of the porch pillars; Carpentry will be reproduced from existing in situ witnesses and based on historical information where not preserved; Reinforcement solutions to the resistance structure that do not compromise the architectural and structural configuration of the original construction by introducing additional elements; Invasive structural interventions will be removed (concrete beams).

Refurbishment operations: reintroduction of installations (electricity, water supply, heating, centralised rainwater system, sewerage; introduction of heating fireplaces, hydrofor etc., installation of sanitary facilities corresponding to functional needs on the ground floor, first floor, attic, fitting out of the attic and first floor for accommodation.

Valorisation operations: setting up exhibition and information areas on the ground floor; appropriate refurbishment of the service areas on the ground floor; organisation of an information point for the Rosia Montana site.



\_photos: historic image and state of conservation / rosiamontana.community (partner).

**5. Repairs of historic buildings, financed through the National Resilience and Recovery Plan by The Ministry for Development, Public Works and Administration (to begin in 2023).**



▶ **The former slaughterhouse**



▶ **The orthodox parish house**



▶ **The orthodox parish house in Corna**



▶ **The Rosia Montana town hall**



▶ **The former bowling alley**



▶ **The former maternity ward**



▶ **The former cinema**



▶ **The Roman-Catholic confessional school**

## 6. Other heritage interventions, carried out by professional and/or local NGOs

The main non governmental organization that is carrying conservation, educational activities with a high participatory component in Roșia Montană is ARA (Architecture. Restauration. Archeology) Association, which started this type of action in early 2007. In 2012 ARA initiated a new programme, called Adopt a House in Rosia Montana, focused on recovering historic buildings and supporting local community to use their historic inheritance in sustainable ways, mobilizing hundreds of volunteers, specialists and local craftsmen.

Since the inscription of the historic site of Rosia Montana in the World Heritage List, ARA started several new conservation initiatives, some in close partnership with other local community NGOs, to address the new status and to support the community as a response to the need of local assistance. Among the works conducted in the past year, we mention:

### ► The Lapidarium of the Mining Museum in Roșia Montană (completed).

The Lapidarium of the Mining Museum has an important collection of 45 ancient Roman pieces, funerary stelae, cult altars and various architectural fragments. The Mining Museum of Rosia Montana is one of the few places that can provide spectacular and necessary information to tourists with expert guidance. The museum's centerpiece, the Roman mining galleries, are presented in a museum context that takes visitors on a journey through the history of mining here, displaying in the courtyard of the former State Mining Company several Roman artifacts, mostly funerary monuments, industrial ore processing machinery - from wooden stamps to those from the industrial period, an impressive collection of documentary photographs and specific tools, etc.

Under the weight of the snow, the makeshift metal structure in the courtyard of the Mining Museum in Rosia Montana, which protected the Lapidarium, collapsed. The retaining wall and metal structure collapsed, endangering the Roman artefacts on display here. ARA mobilized volunteers and funding and managed to build a new protection structure, and also provide new, relevant information for the touristic purpose of the ensemble.



\_photos: before and after the intervention, details / ARA.

► **The former Casino in the historic center of Roșia Montană** (in progress).

In partnership with the local administration, ARA obtained permits from the County Directorate for Culture for emergency works on what used to be the most vivid place in the historic center: the local casino. The building is in a severe state of conservation, so in 2022 the intervention began with works on the roof, foundations and wood beams that were replaced or repaired. A more complex restoration project is under work, along with the clarification of the legal status of the building.

The building was erected in 1886, representing a particular type of function, a private property with public use. It represents a particular functional and typological type usually found in an urban environment. The building was used as a casino, with two gambling halls and other rooms for related functions - service rooms. The spaces were also used for public events, concerts, theater performances or film screenings. After being confiscated by the State in 1948, the building was used as a cultural hostel (Free Youth Club) with space for performances and film screenings. The areas facing the public space were used as a shop and a cafeteria.



\_photos: during the intervention / ARA.

► **The chapel of the Roman-Catholic church** (in progress).

The small chapel in the Roman Catholic Cemetery is a special construction because of its location above a vaulted crypt and its particular function, having been used in the past as a space for denominational school activities. Its neoclassical architecture places it in the same architectural atmosphere of the ensemble, strongly marked by the nearby Roman Catholic Church. The chapel is an important part of the Roman Catholic confessional nucleus, which still consists of the church (no. 549), the parish house (no. 317), the former confessional school (no. 320) and a large cemetery.

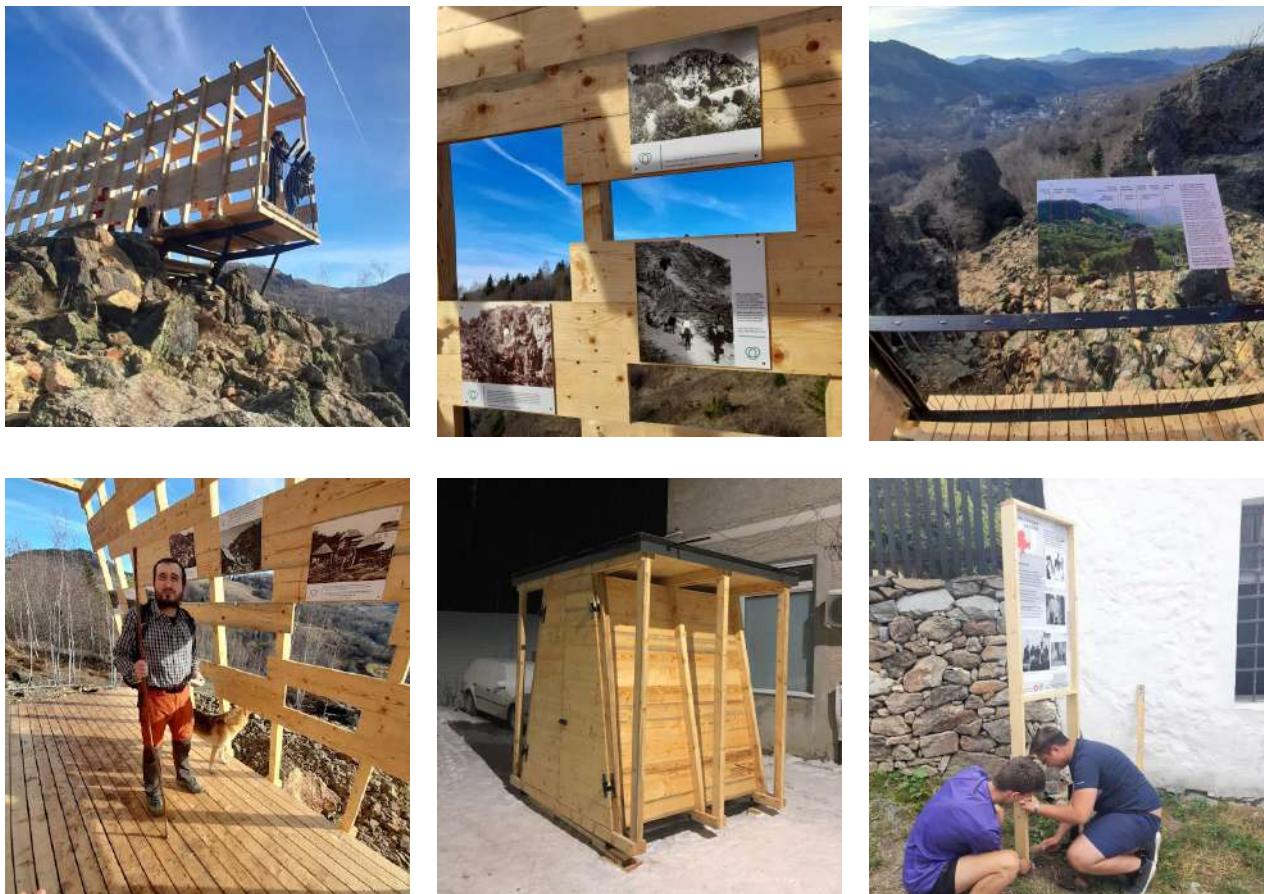
The main objective of the interventions started in 2022 by ARA volunteers was to urgently halt the process of deterioration: the cement mortar plaster was stripped and metal belts for the apse area were installed to prevent the large fractures in the east wall from becoming more pronounced. Extensive work on the foundations, replastering with lime mortar, replastering the roof, interior finishes and furnishings of the chapel is next. The long term objective is to open it to visitors, making it suitable for a small exhibition on the history of the Roman Catholic community.



\_photos: during the intervention / ARA.

► **Design and build projects for interpretation and touristic purposes** (ongoing).

From 2021, a new direction of ARA's intervention focuses on inserts in the public space, infrastructure dedicated to a better understanding of the site, viewpoints, rest stops, panels, etc. that bring visitors the information at their fingertips and lead them on the journey of understanding the world heritage site.



photos: several design & build projects / ARA.

► ARA is also engaged in informing the community and promoting the site based on its cultural and heritage values. To this end, in the last 2 years a series of books and intervention guides have been published to respond to the need for information. ARA also provides information materials to tourists, local guides and tour operators.



## 7. Specialized professional assistance provided by INP-MC on the emergency interventions needed at Tăul Mare header pond (in progress).

On October 2, 2022, a depression in the embankment occurred in the historic dam structure (18th/19th century, with 20th century interventions) of the Tăul Mare header pond. That determined emergency drainage of the header pond for safety and inspection purposes. The situation was immediately taken over by the Emergency Situations Department and other specialized institutions and the danger was removed with emergency works carried out by the local authorities, with the support of several other institutions.

This highlighted again the necessity of a thorough inspection and maintenance plan for the 18th/19th century header ponds as well as the need for the authorities to cooperate and act with an integrated common approach. Monitoring is ensured to detect any change in the current condition and the principle of 'safety first' is acknowledged. Any further action will be heritage/conservation-led and carefully respect authenticity and integrity while also ensuring safety. The final desired state of conservation should be an 'invisible' structural repair, conservation-led restoration of the dam face (especially if affecting masonry) and installations, followed by reinstatement of the water as a feature of the cultural (mining) landscape. A preliminary report was elaborated by INP together with the appropriate Agencies and technical experts and a more thorough plan is under preparation. Possible sources of funding to support the work required to restore the complex are currently being evaluated by the Municipality and other Agencies, a process in which the INP-MC has consistently participated with its specialty advice.



\_photos: Tăul Mare during the emergency interventions in October 2022