

THE CONTINUITY OF THE ARCHAIC PASTORAL ELEMENTS IN THE THIRD MILLENNIUM

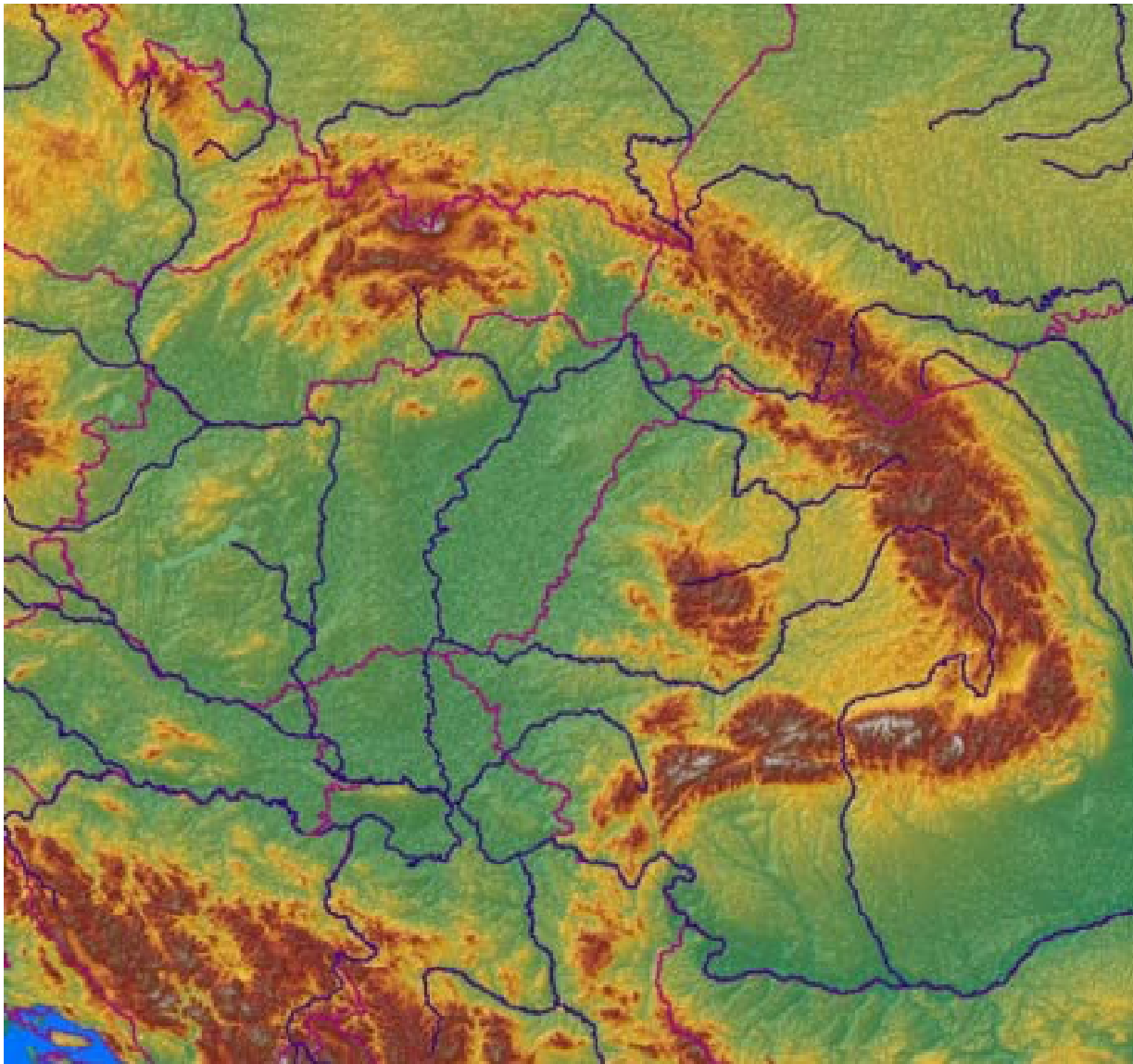
working on including Carpathian Transhumance in the UNESCO
Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

National Agency of Mountain Area Romania

6th Meeting SARD WG

26-27 April 2023

Vatra Dornei, Romania



The Carpathian Mountains represent a mountain range, belonging to the great central mountain system of Europe. The Carpathians between the Vienna Basin (which separates it from the Alpine chain) and the Timoc valley form an arc with a length of about 1,700 km and a maximum width of 130 km. 2/3 of the length of the Carpathian Mountains is on the territory of Romania.

Map of ethnographic landscapes

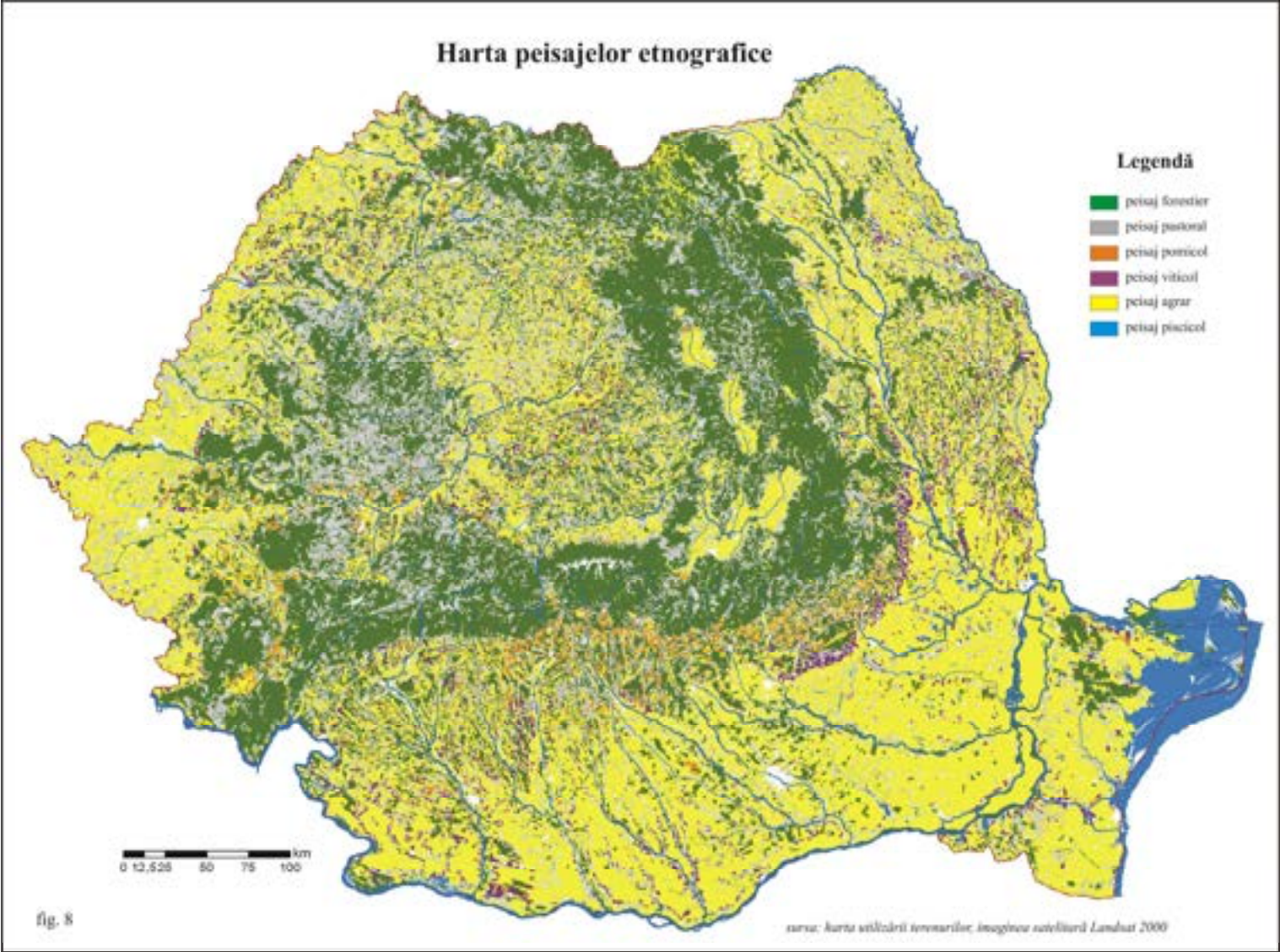


fig. 8

sursa: harta utilizării terenurilor, imaginea satelitară Landsat 2000

- For a long time the peasant has gradually and slowly modified the land on which he lives and which he uses. In recent years, the same space inhabited by them is altered in an alert way. The ethnographic landscape undergoes changes and, in some cases, a radical transformation that endangers the entire cultural heritage. It is no coincidence that "rural territories are at the center of Europe's important stakes in terms of sustainable development" (Collignon 2009, p. 102).
- Ethnographic phenomena and processes have endured throughout the millennia even if they were not recorded in writing, due to the fact that they were lived and transmitted by social memory from generation to generation, becoming a clear proof of the genesis and continuity of the Romanian people in the Carpathian space - Danubian-Pontic.





- On April 3, 2020, the process of registering the cultural element Carpathian Transhumance, part of traditional pastoral life, in the National Inventory of Living Elements of Intangible Cultural Heritage was completed.
- The registration of the cultural element in the National Intangible Cultural Heritage is only a first step, the process of registering the Carpathian Transhumance in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity has also been started, as part of a multinational file in which 10 states participate. Inscription in the UNESCO heritage will allow a better appreciation of the economic and social dimension of this living cultural phenomenon and the adoption of measures to allow its transmission to future generations.
- Carpathian transhumance is an economic, cultural, social, demographic and ecological phenomenon, which determined the exploitation of new grazing areas, the exchange of cultural elements between individuals and communities, the appearance of trade routes, the establishment of new settlements, the creation of toponyms and anthroponyms, thus contributing to maintaining the unity of the Romanian people.





Despite the decline that transhumance shepherding has suffered in recent decades, this occupation with a historical character of the Romanian people continues to represent the main means of existence of a significant number of shepherds in the mountain areas, which preserves the features of a pastoral economy created over the centuries.

Today, transhumance represents a complex set of practices and knowledge regarding animals, grazing at altitude, the crafts and products of the herd, the pastoral community and its rituals, giving identity to the mountain pastoral village with transhumance specificity and to the pastoral peasant household.



The document for the inclusion of the Carpathian Transhumance, part of the traditional pastoral life in the National Inventory of Living Elements of Intangible Cultural Heritage was drawn up through the collaboration between experts from the National Commission for Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture, specialists from the National Agency for Mountain Area and the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests.



- Within this registration process, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development had an important contribution to the whole procedure, the establishment of the working group was carried out at the initiative of the National Agency for Mountain Area team in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests.
- The inventory of active practitioners of transhumance, their involvement in the registration procedure, the facilitation of connections between transhumance shepherds and experts nominated by the National Commission for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in order to culturally document the phenomenon, as well as formulating protection and conservation proposals, are just a few among the activities carried out in this endeavor.
- In Romania, transhumance is still practiced today, it is true, a short transhumance of 100-200 km, but also a multiple transhumance with the flock of sheep to the folds in the mountain area (sometimes together with the cows from the village). The wintering takes place from November to January is done in the low, plain area. From 15–20 January and until March, the herds return to the temporary settlements for calving, and the spring of the sheep (March–April) takes place again, in the same low-lying area of the plain.



- The involvement of the team of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in the procedure of registering a cultural element in the National Intangible Cultural Heritage was a necessary action, which meets the needs of shepherds who still practice a real transhumance and one of the ways to protect shepherding in the Carpathians. The preservation of this still alive phenomenon will allow the transmission to new generations of an extremely complex baggage of practices, knowledge and pastoral rituals related to the human-animal-nature relationship.
- The contribution of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in highlighting the cultural dimension of transhumance shepherding, creates the necessary premises for a better appreciation of the products of the herd. In the future, accompanying herds in transhumance can be a unique tourist experience, transhumance roads digitized in a virtual map of transhumance can become tourist routes, and the herd can become a sought-after mountain objective, where the traveler can live an experience of life in harmony with nature, with animals, with food and its origins.



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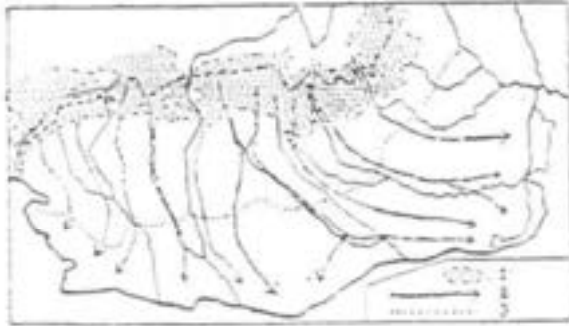
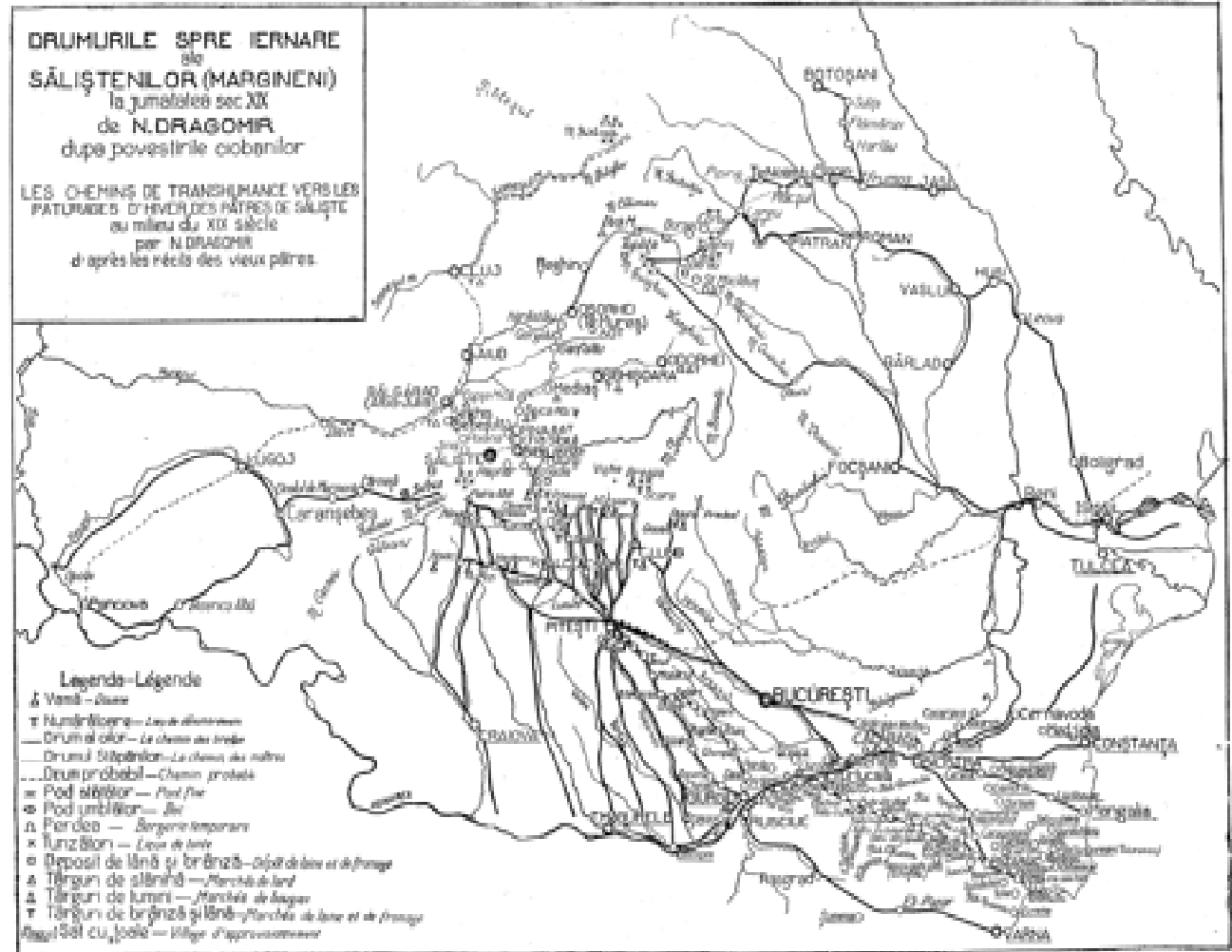


Figure 3. Esquisse des principales voies de transhumance en Valachie.
 1. surfaces supérieures à 1000 mètres d'altitude. —
 2. voies de transhumance. — 3. limite de la région
 de caractère steppique.

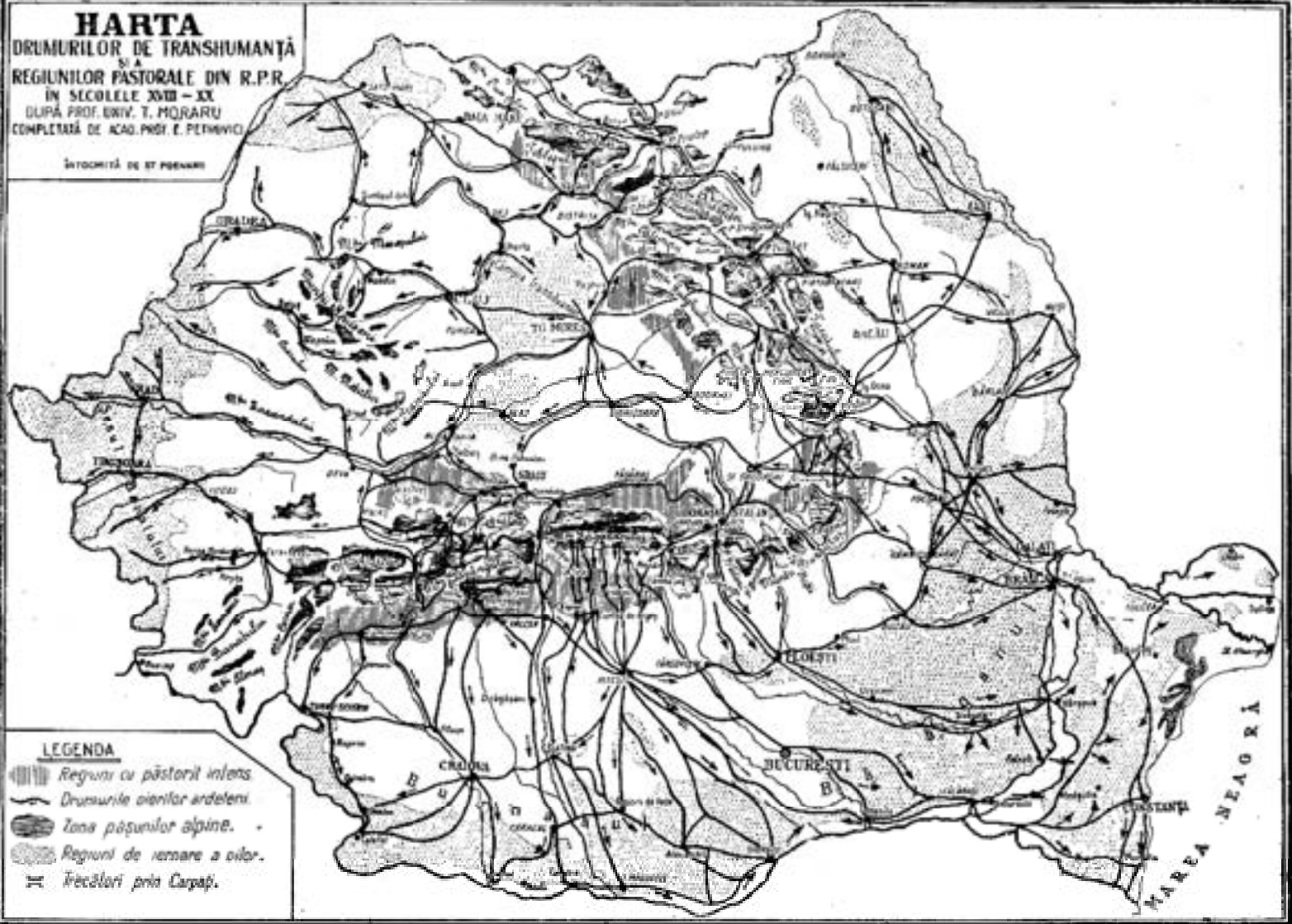
Sketch of the principal transhumance routes in Wallachia, Emmanuel de Martonne, 1904








The winter roads of the Sălișteni (Mărgineni) in the middle of the 19th century according to the stories of the shepherds, Dragomir Nicolae, 1926

HARTA
DRUMURILOR DE TRANSHUMANȚĂ
ȘI
REGIUNILOR PASTORALE DIN R.P.R.
ÎN SECOLELE XIII - XX
 DUPĂ PROF. UNIV. T. MOURARU
 COMPLETATĂ DE ACAD. PROF. E. PETRIVIC

Introducere de Șt. Popescu



LEGENDA

-  Regiuni cu păștori intens
-  Drumurile oienilor ardeleni
-  Zona pășunilor alpine.
-  Regiuni de iarnă a oilor.
-  Trecători prin Carpați.

The SWOT analysis

Strong points:

- the mountain massifs are located near the hearths of the villages;
- special mountain landscapes;
- the exposure of the slopes and the inclination of the slopes favorable for the installation of barns;
- the relief, by altitude and variety, allows the practice of different types of tourism;
- average temperatures below 30 degrees in summer;
- numerous rivers, streams, springs;
- the large expanse of natural meadows;
- the existence of a rich and ecological floristic carpet;
- extensive areas of forest;
- rich and varied fauna;
- lack of pollution sources;
- access to various information sources: internet, mobile phone, etc.
- organic dairy products;
- traditionally arranged stables (mostly);
- rich and varied pastoral ethnographic heritage;
- the practice of transhumance and traditional shepherding.



Curd type (puppeteer), Voinești, Covasna

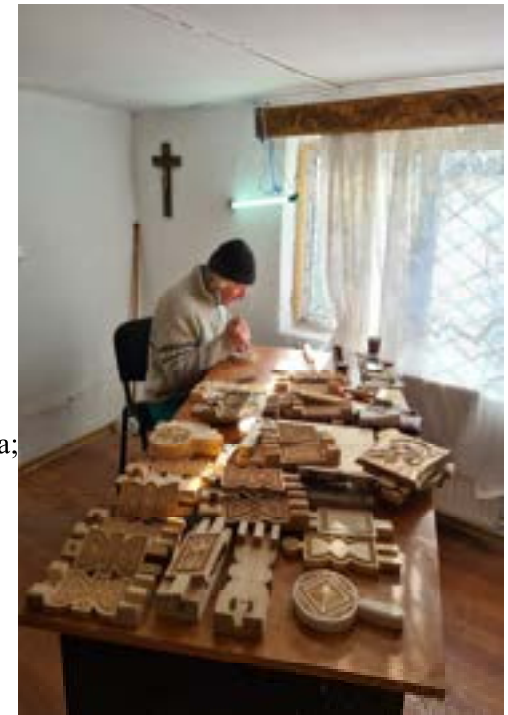


Weaknesses

- intensive exploitation of wood;
- the long duration of the snow layer (200 days) allows grazing in the mountain area only in summer;
- predators: wolves, bears, etc.
- reduction of livestock;
- negative natural growth;
- the lack of staff, of men to practice shepherding;
- difficult access to dairy markets;
- the disappearance of the barn with cellar and the appearance of the barn with 4-5 rooms;
- urban-rural migration, but mainly international migration;
- the legislative framework is laconic and inconsistent with reality;
- the negative impact on the pastoral landscape through the faulty practice of rural tourism;
- the insufficiency of markings for tourist routes, panels and information centers;
- the popularization of city holidays in the mass media – Valentine's Day, Halloween, etc.
- the chaotic circulation of ethnographic elements between landscapes - kitsch;
- storing household waste in inappropriate spaces;
- the lack of computerization and awareness of the inhabitants regarding the cultural value of the landscapes, the effects of the changes, the capitalization.

Opportunities

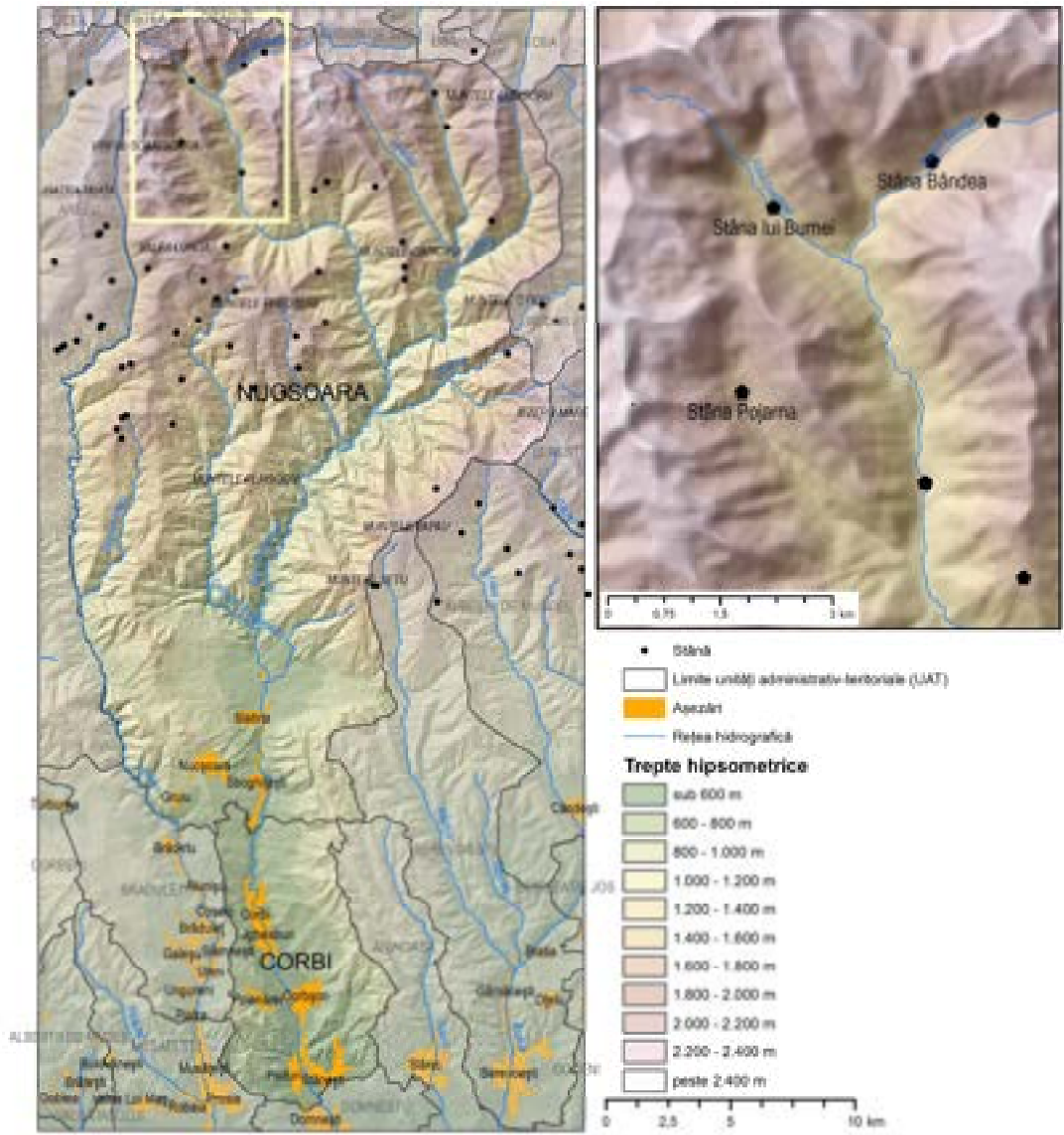
- increasing the level of awareness and informing the population about the possibility of selling organic dairy products at their true value;
- access to dairy markets: hypermarkets, etc.;
- practicing agrotourism;
- capitalizing on the natural tourist potential: spectacular landscapes, karst relief, unpolluted environment;
- the revival of traditional crafts;
- the restoration of traditional houses and their introduction into the tourist circuit;
- identification, hoarding, preservation and valorization of pastoral heritage;
- access to non-refundable funds for the practice of traditional and ecological shepherding and tourism;
- the promotion of tourist villages should be done by mentioning the ethnographic landscape or the ethnographic area;
- the existence of professional training programs for the inhabitants, so as to protect the ethnographic heritage.



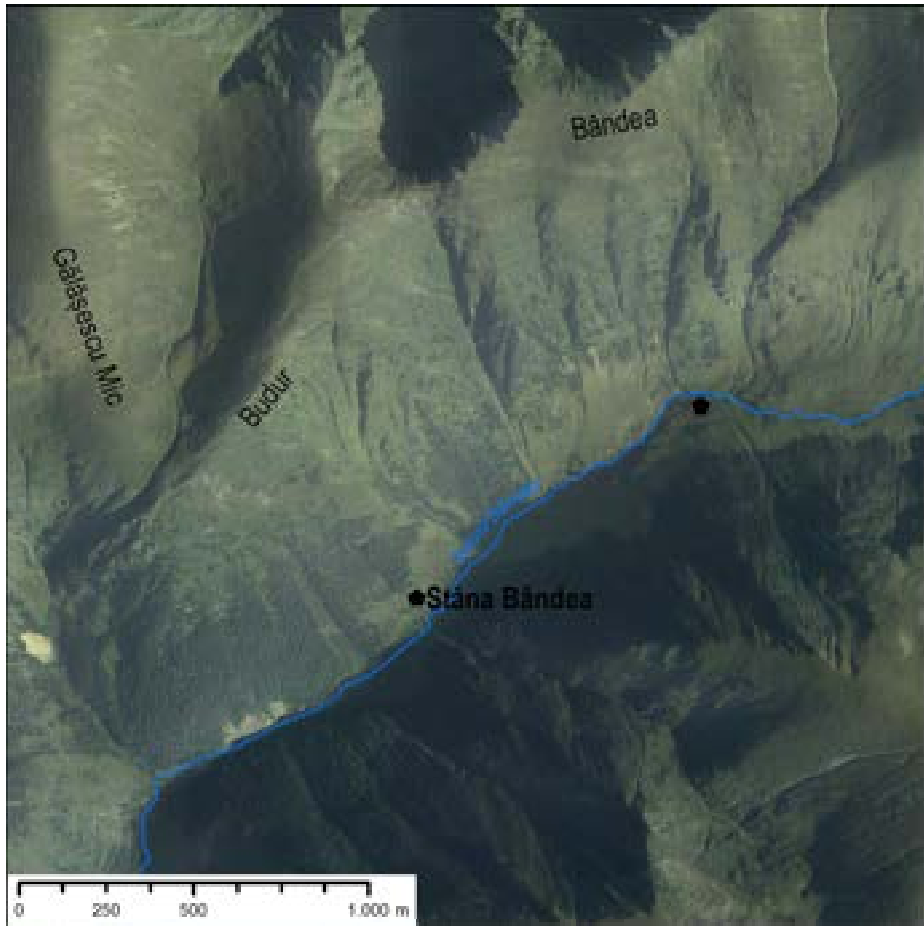
Curd patterns, Vrancea

Risks

- re-urbanization: the ever-increasing expansion of urban architecture in villages, by building guesthouses and hotels on 2 or 3 floors;
- the fluctuating and lacunar legislation;
- irrational exploitation of forests;
- the "emptying" of villages - the migration of the young population;
- the low interest of the authorities regarding the tourism exploitation of the pastoral landscape;
- the loss of traditional crafts;
- the use of chemical substances in the production of dairy products;
- the disappearance of skilled shepherds, who would practice the job with pleasure and passion;
- inactive flock - imitating shepherding: raising animals in small herds (barren sheep) in order to obtain subsidies from APIA;
- the disappearance of the transhumant shepherd.



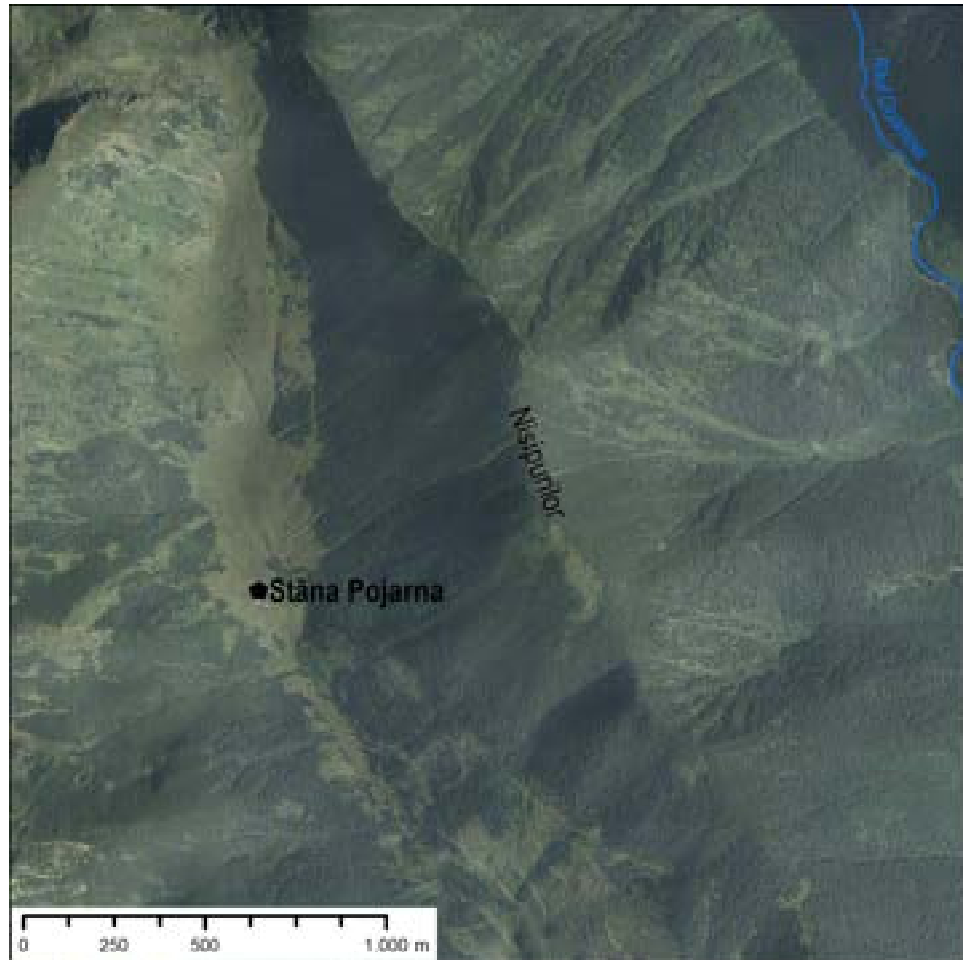
Corbi – Nucșoara, Argeș county
Fagaras Mountains



Bandeș Sheepfold, Făgăraș Mountains







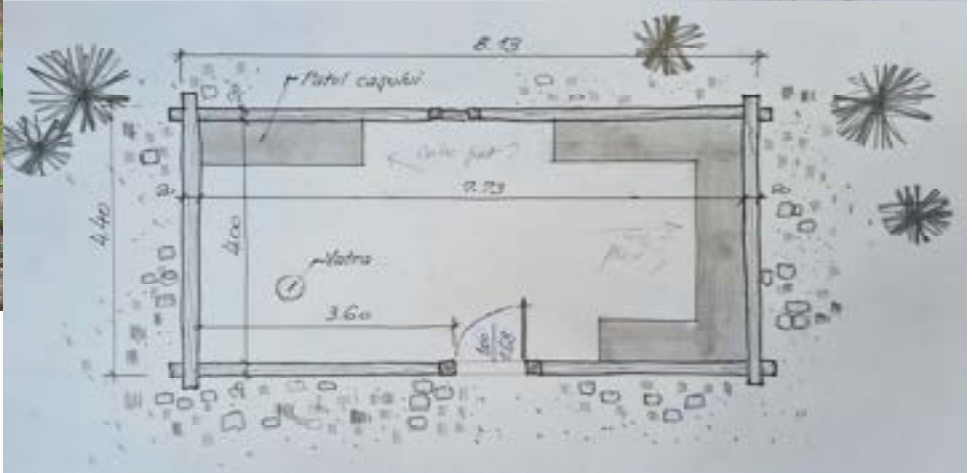
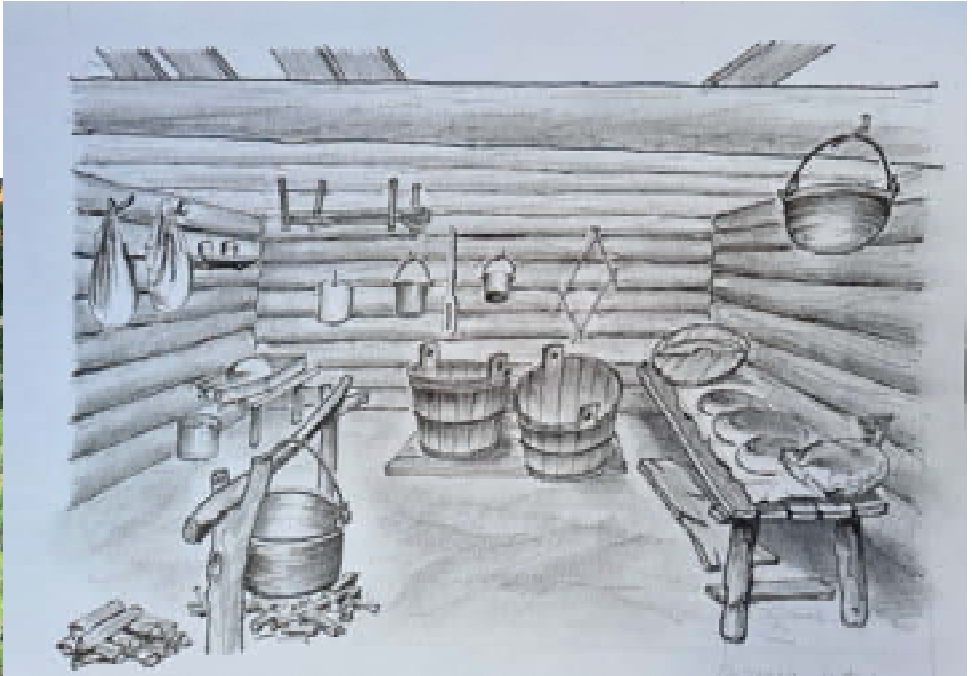
Pojarna Sheepfold (moving), Făgăraș Mountains



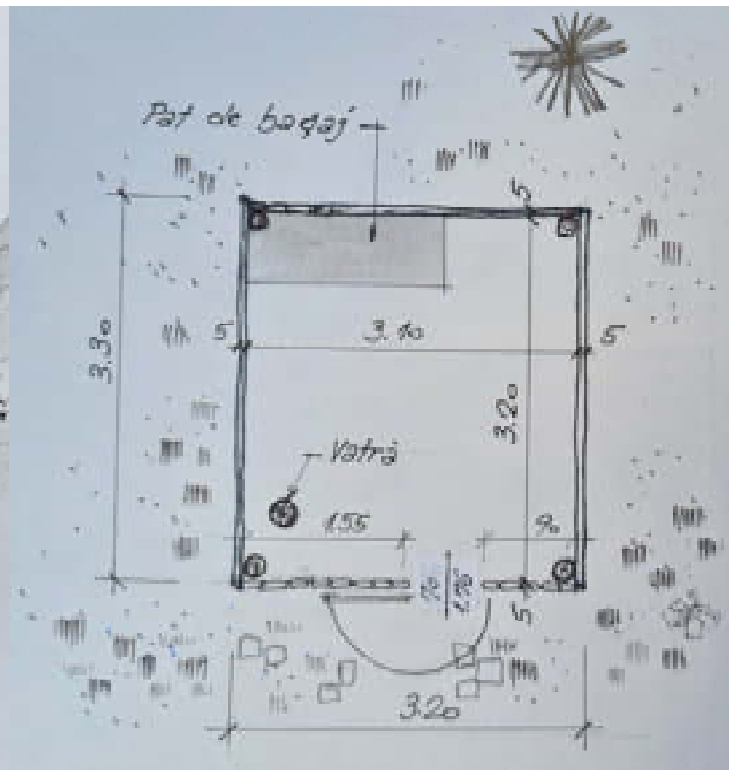


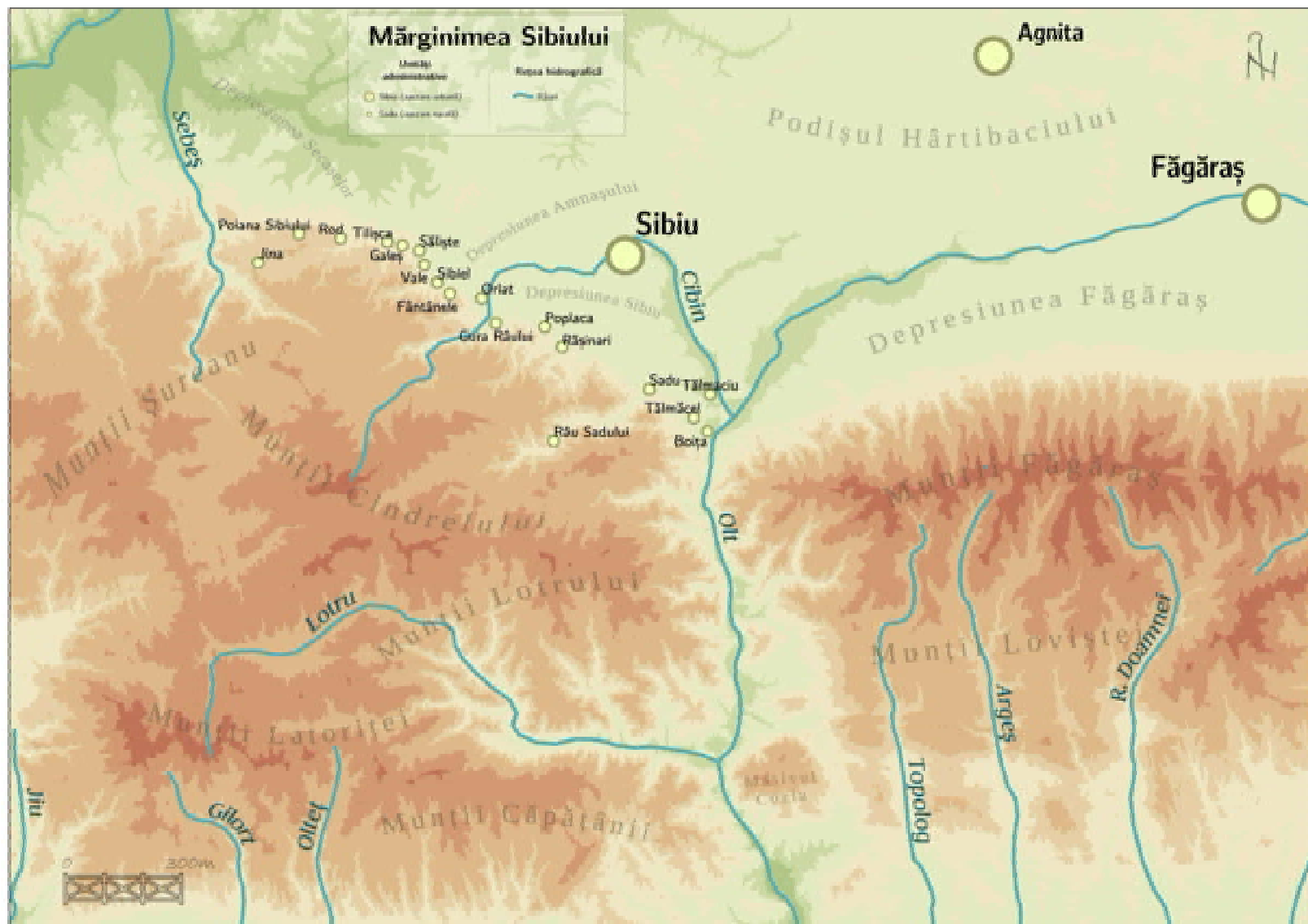
Burnei Sheepfold, Făgăraș Mountains





Bordeiul lui Ionică, Munții Făgăraș

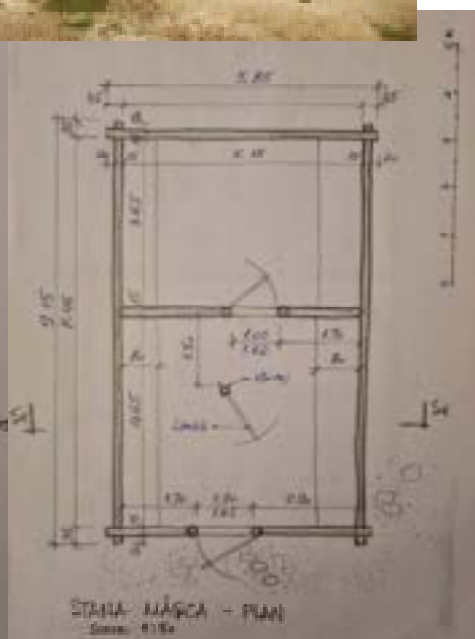




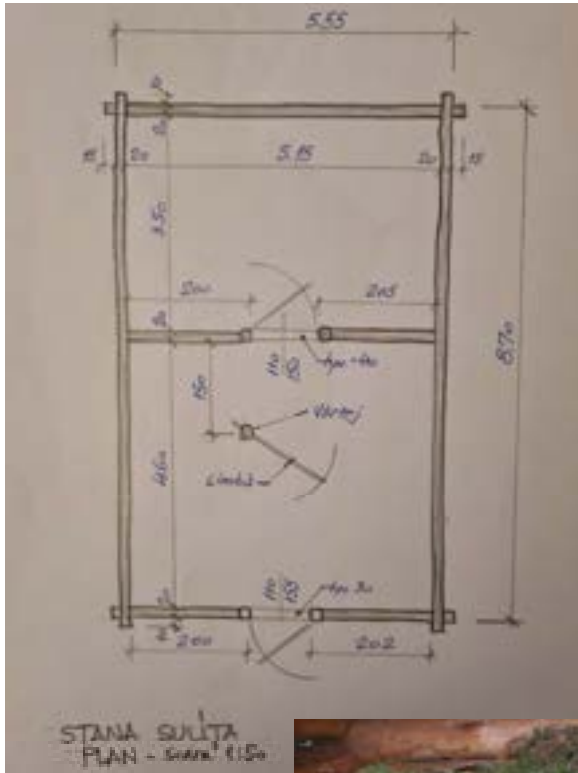
Brăneasa Sheepfold II, Lotrulu Mountains, Sadu, Sibiu county, July 2020



Mâșca Sheepfold, Lotru Mountains, place Sadu, Sibiu county, July 2020



Sulita Sheepfold, Lotru Mountains, place Sadu, Sibiu county, July 2020



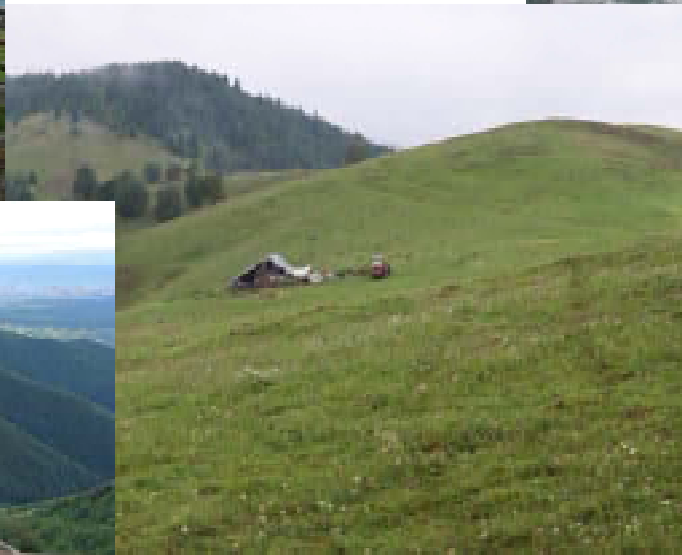
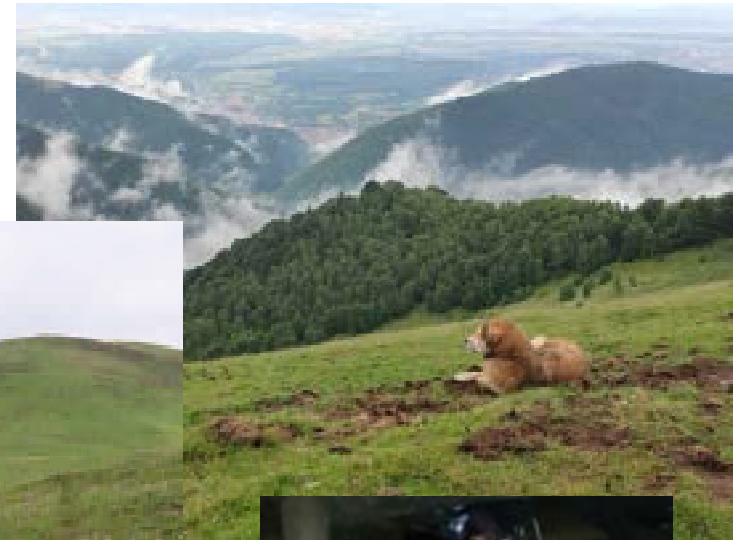
Vaca Sheepfold, Lotru Mountains, place Sadu, Sibiu county, July 2020



Vaca Sheepfold , Lotru Mountains, place Sadu, Sibiu county, July 2020



At the hut, Dumitru Capota, place Rășinari, Sibiu county, July 2020



At the hut, Ioan Banciu, place Tilișca, Sibiu county, July 2020

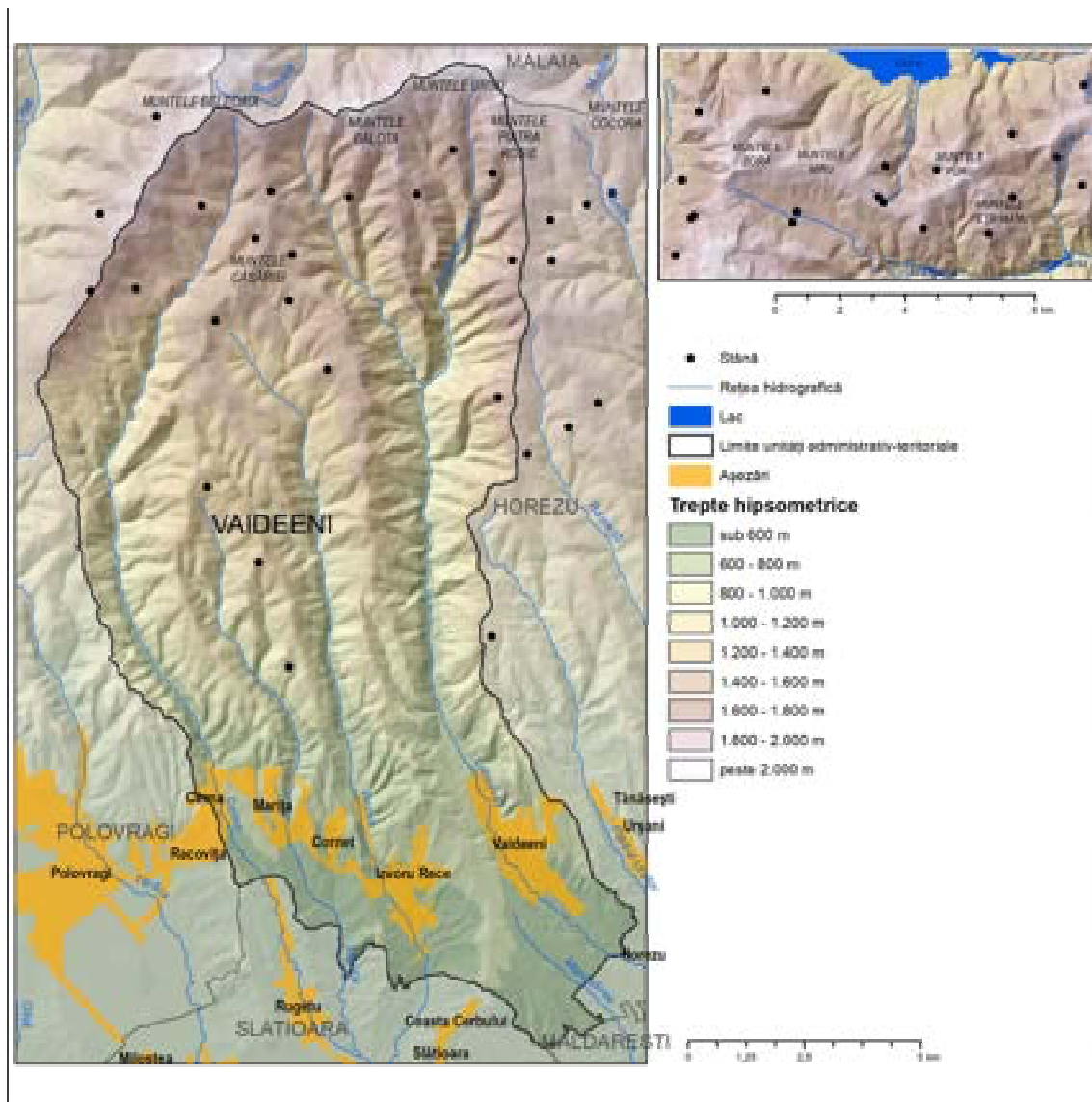


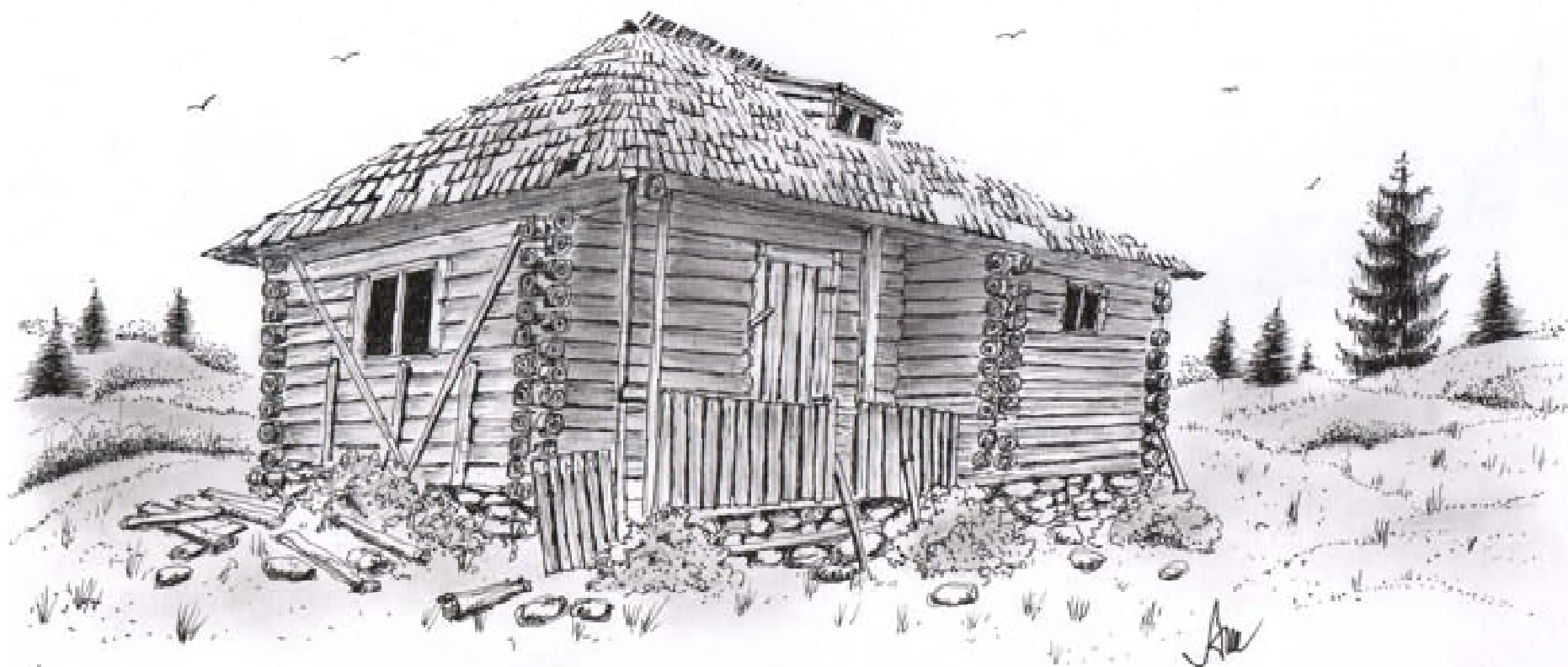
At the hut, Bogdănel Dumitru, place Tilișca, Sibiu county, July 2020



Vaideeni, Vâlcea county

Căpățanii, Latoritei mountains

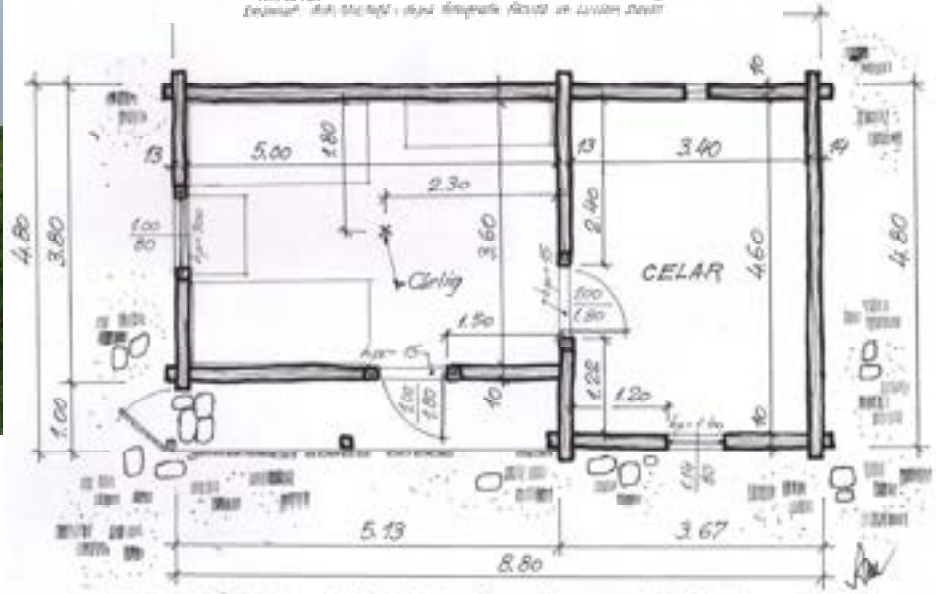




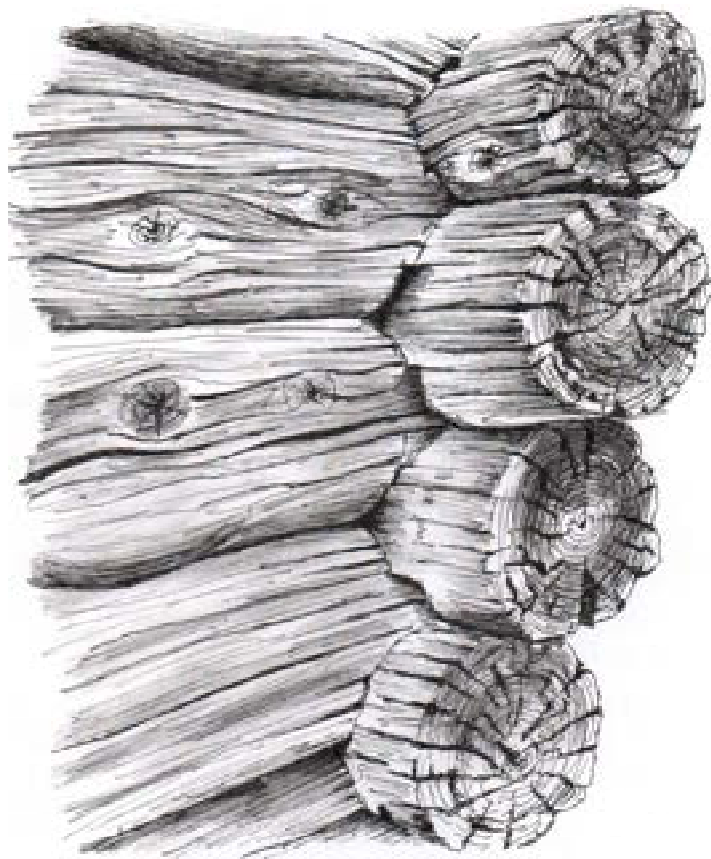
*Stâna DĂRJALA din M-ții Căpățânii, localitatea Vaideeni, jud. Vâlcea
Perspectivă
Desenat: Adrian Mustață - după fotografie făcută de Ludan David*



Stăna Dărăjale din M. M. Căpățâni, în interior, județ Vâlcea
 interior
 Desenat: Adrian Mustățea - după relevul făcut de Lucian David



Stăna DĂRŽALA din M. M. Căpățâni, localitatea Valdeeni, jud. Vâlcea
 Plan
 Desenat: Adrian Mustățea - după relevul făcut de Lucian David

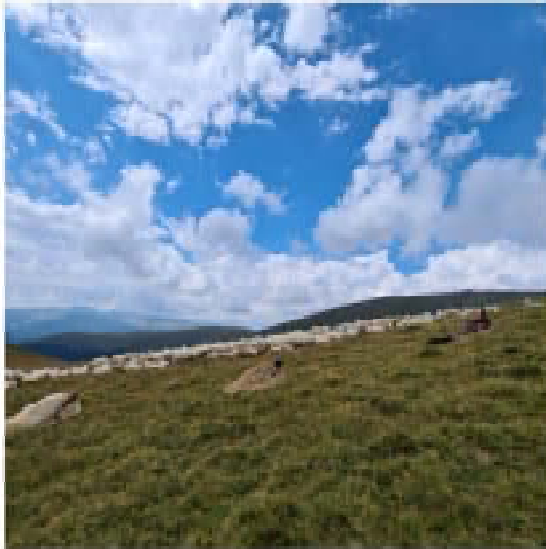
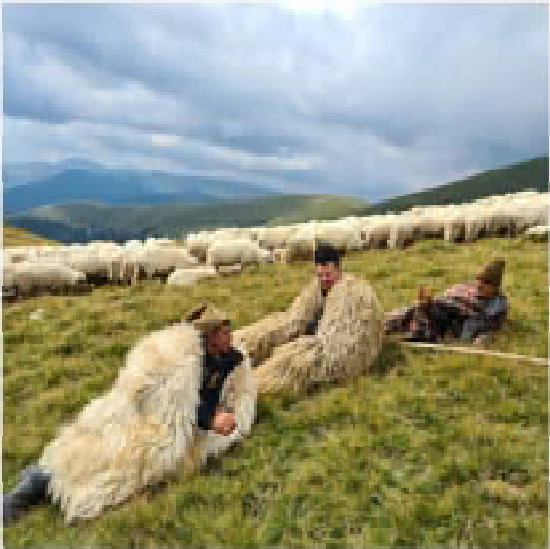
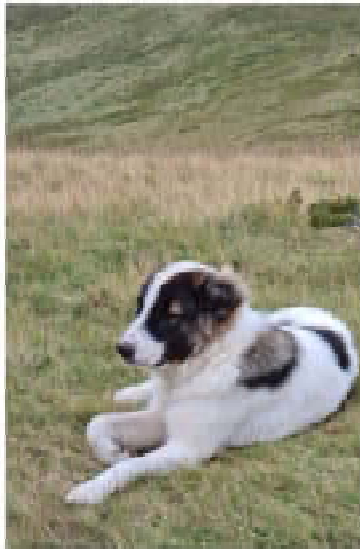


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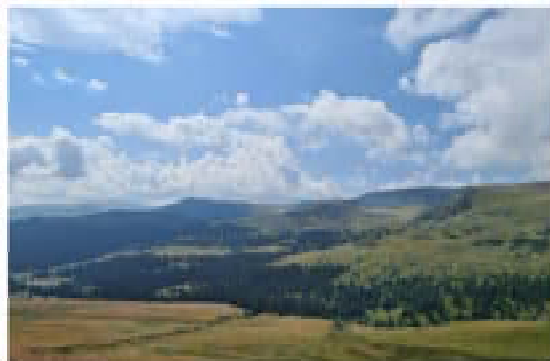
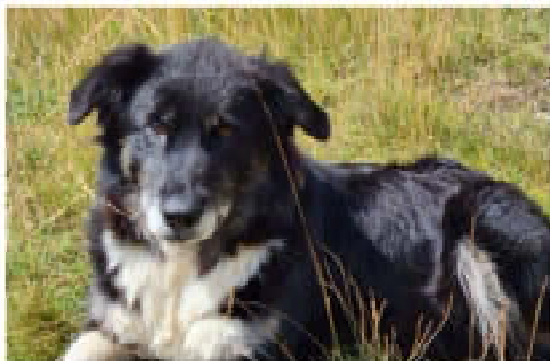
*Stâna DÂRJALA din M-ții Căpățâniilor
loc. Vaideeni, jud. Vâlcea
Îmbinare de colt - Detaliu
Desenat: A. Mușțată, după fotografie
făcută de Lucian David*



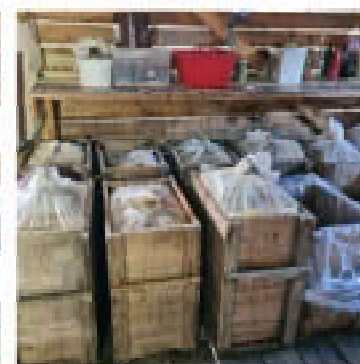
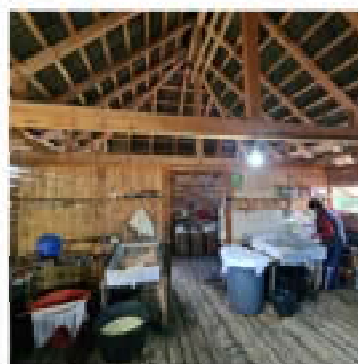
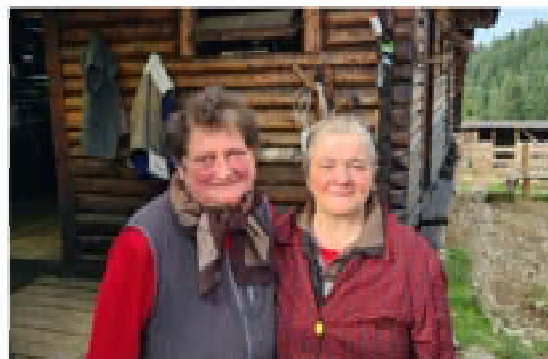
Petrimanu Sheepfold , Latoritai Mountains







BĂCIȚELE DE LA STÂNA MILESCU



MILK PRODUCTS. CHEESE.
MILESCU SHEEPFOLD



MILK PRODUCTS. BUTTER.
MILESCU SHEEPFOLD



MILK PRODUCTS. BELLOWS CHEESE.
MILESCU SHEEPFOLD



TRANSHUMANCE

