

GLOSSARY OF GEOLOGICAL LOCALITIES IN THE FORMER AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE, NOW IN ROMANIA

ȘTEFAN NICOLESCU¹

Department of Geology, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington 99164-2812, U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

This paper gives the Romanian equivalents of geologically relevant historical German and Hungarian locality names in Romania. Finding a locality in eastern Europe, usually within the borders of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, has in general proved to be a challenge. This listing of equivalents is intended to help mineral collectors and museum curators.

Keywords: Austro-Hungarian Empire, Romania, Transylvania, Banat, type localities.

SOMMAIRE

Le but de cet article est de donner les équivalents roumains de noms d'endroits importants en Roumanie exprimés en allemand et hongrois dans la littérature géologique. Il s'avère en général assez difficile de trouver un endroit en Europe de l'Est, surtout s'il s'agit d'un endroit dans le territoire de l'ancien empire austro-hongrois. Cette liste d'équivalents vise en particulier les collectionneurs de minéraux et les conservateurs de collections.

(Traduit par la Rédaction)

Mots-clés: empire austro-hongrois, Roumanie, Transylvanie, Banat, localités-types.

INTRODUCTION

Many geologically and mineralogically important localities in present-day Romania, for example in Banat, Bucovina, Maramureș and Transylvania (Fig. 1), became famous during the last century, when these provinces were part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After World War I, the provinces became Romanian. Although this happened eighty years ago, the scientific community is still unaware of the political changes and the consequent changes in locality names. However, a very competent update on locality names for Central and Eastern Europe was published by Slavik & Spencer (1928). Despite this, labels in mineralogy museums worldwide on samples from this part of Europe give locality names that actually no longer exist, like "Nagyág, Hungary", or "Szászabánya, Hungary". The situation is not better in mineralogy textbooks and dictionaries (e.g., Clark 1993, Blackburn & Dennen 1997). Thus, an update on the matter is necessary, to serve not only Romanian interests, but most importantly, the international scientific community. It would be misleading to expect to collect a type material, for instance pseudobrookite from "Arany-hegy" instead of Uroi; this name, like many others, is simply not valid.

The list is structured in seven parts: *Provinces, Major mining localities, Other localities quoted in the geological literature, Mountains or Hills with geological relevance, Rivers with geological relevance, Major cities* and finally *Poorly located places*. It is not the intention of the author to give an exhaustive list for all localities in Banat, Bucovina, Maramureș and Transylvania. For further details, the interested reader is referred to the work of Suciu (1968).

Note that Romanian legislation enacted in 1997 allows for bilingual names in localities with at least 20% of the population belonging to a national minority. The law might bear direct consequence on type-locality names for mineral species, especially in Transylvania and Banat, where it could happen that both the Romanian and the German or Hungarian names of some localities are now in use. However, the Romanian locality names listed below are to be found on any map or in any geographic atlas.

LINGUISTIC BRIEFING ABOUT MODERN ROMANIAN

In order to facilitate both reading and understanding of Romanian locality names, a short linguistic briefing is given.

¹ E-mail address: stefan_nicolescu@wsu.edu

Romanian is a phonetic language. After Italian, it is the closest to classical Latin of all Romance languages. Thus, Italian, French, Spanish and Portuguese speakers find written Romanian more or less comprehensible. Romanian evolved from Dacoromanian (the Latin dialect spoken north of the Danube, in the Roman province of Dacia) by the end of the first millennium AD, after incorporating some Slavonic words in its basic Latin framework. Very few Dacian words are preserved in modern Romanian. Romanian dialects are also spoken in restricted areas south of the Danube: Macedoromanian in parts of the Pindus Mountains (Greece) and parts of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Meglenoromanian around Thessaloniki (Greece), Istroromanian in the Istria peninsula near Rijeka (Croatia), and Aromanian in parts of Albania.

Romanian has a 27-letter Latin alphabet, with four unique letters: two vowels: *ă* (like the English indefi-

nite article in "a map"), and *â* or *î* (same sound; no phonetic English equivalent), and two consonants: *ș* (like "sh" in "shape") and *ț* (like "ts" in "deposits"). Being a phonetic language, every letter is separately read. There are four exceptions to this rule: *ce* (like "che" in "check"), *ci* (like "chi" in "chicken"), *ge* (like "ge" in "gem") and *gi* (like "gi" in "ginger").

Special mention should be made of the vowels *â* and *î*. Although they look very different, they are pronounced in exactly the same way as one would pronounce the "y" in Chernobyl in the original Russian spelling. Things are more complicated for foreigners, however, and even in some cases for Romanians, because a new rule recommended by the Romanian Academy in 1990 states that if a word starts with "î", this is the letter that should be used, whereas if the letter occurs within a word, "â" is the letter to be used. As this is merely a recommendation, both letters are to be found in Romanian texts.

GLOSSARY OF HUNGARIAN, GERMAN AND ROMANIAN TERMS

The glossary of Hungarian, German and Romanian terms given below, expanded after the one of Slavik & Spencer (1928), is intended as a help in "making sense" of the names in the locality list that follows.

HUNGARIAN

ág = branch
akna = mine (single shaft)
alsó = lower
arany = gold
bánya = mine working
erdő = forest
falu, falva = village
fehér, fejtér = white
fekete = black
felső = upper
ház = house
hegy = mountain
hegység = mountain range
kereszt = cross
király = king
kis = little
kő = stone
kőzet = rock
magyar = Hungarian
mező = meadow
nagy = big, great
német = German
Ó = old
oláh = Romanian
patak = brook
réz = copper
só = salt
szekér = cart
szent = saint, holy
tót = Slovak

új, új = new
vár = fortress
város = town
vas = iron
veres, vörös = red
víz = water
völgy = valley

GERMAN

Alt = old
Bach = brook
Bad = bath, spa
bei = near
Berg = mountain
Deutsch = German
Dorf = village
Eisen = iron
Feld = field
Fels = rock
Gebirge = mountain range
Gross = big, great
Grube = mine
Jung = young
Klein = little
Kreuz = cross
Neu = new
Ober = upper
Salz = salt
Stadt = town
Stein = rock
Thal, Tal = valley
Unter = lower

Wald = forest
Wiese = meadow

ROMANIAN

aramă = copper
aur = gold
baia = mine workings
cetate = fortress
deal, dealu = hill
de jos = lower
de sus = upper
fier = iron
mare = great, big
mic, mică = little
mină = mine
munte = mountain
munții = mountain range
negru, neagră = black
nou = new
ocna = mine (single shaft)
oraș = town
pădure = forest
pârâu, pârâu = brook
piatră = stone, rock
poiana = meadow
român, română = Romanian
sare = salt
sat = village
sfânt, sfântu = saint, holy
vechi, veche = old
vale = valley

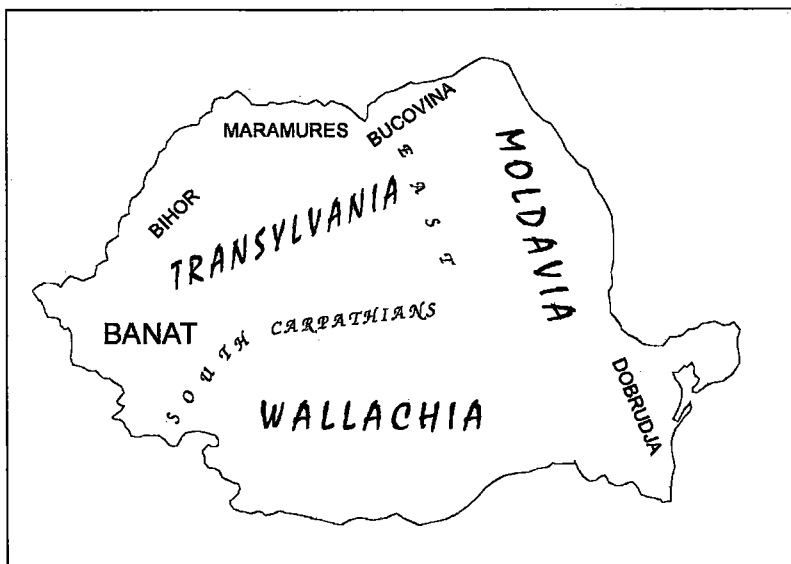


FIG. 1. Map of Romania, giving location of historical provinces.

HUNGARIAN OR GERMAN NAMES OF ROMANIAN LOCALITIES AND THEIR EQUIVALENTS

Old name (Hungarian, German, or both)

Modern (Romanian) equivalent

PROVINCES

Bánát, Bánság

Banat (partly in Serbia)

Bukovina, Bukowina

Bucovina (partly in the Ukraine)

Erdély

Transilvania, Ardeal

Máramaros, Mármaros, Marmarosch

Maramureş (partly in the Ukraine)

Siebenbürgen

Transilvania, Ardeal

MAJOR MINING LOCALITIES

BANAT

Csiklova(bánya)

Ciclova Montană

Dognácska, Dognaczka, Dognatschka, Dognazka

Dognecea

Eisenstein

Ocna de Fier

Moldava, Moldawa¹

Moldova Nouă

Moravica, Moravicza, Moravitza, Moraviza

Ocna de Fier

Neu Moldowa

Moldova Nouă

Oravica, Oravicza, Oravitza, Orawicza

Oravita

Ruszkica, Russzkitza, Ruszkitza

Ruschita

Ruszkabánya, Ruszkberg

Rusca Montană

Szászka(bánya)

Sasca Montană

Új Moldova, Újmoldova

Moldova Nouă

Vaskő

Ocna de Fier

¹ In other instances, but not usually in the geological and mineralogical literature, the same name refers to the historical province of Moldavia.

BIHOR COUNTY

Rézbánya
Vale Sacca

Băița (Bihor County)
Valea Seacă (Băița) (Bihor County)

BUCOVINA

Fundul Moldovi
Jakobeni
Kirlibaba

Fundu Moldovei
Iacobeni
Cârlibaba

MARAMUREȘ COUNTY

Bajutz
Borpatak
Borsa-Makerlo
Borsabánya
Erzsébetbánya
Felsöbánya
Herzsa
Iloba, Illoba
Kapnik, Kapnikbánya
Kisbánya
Láposbánya
Láposbánya (Oláhláposbánya)
Miszbánya, Misztbánya
Nagytarzna
Oláhláposbánya
Strimbuiu, Strimbulu
Szaszár
Turc, Turcz
Zazar

Băiut
Valea Borcutului
Baia Borșa
Baia Borșa
Băiut
Baia Sprie
Herja
Iiba
Cavnic
Chiuzbaia
Băița
Băiut
Nistru
Tarna Mare
Băiut
Strâmbul-Băiut
Săsar (Baia Mare)
Turț
Săsar (Baia Mare)

TRANSYLVANIA

Abrudbánya
Altrodna
Aranyosbánya
Balán, Balánbánya
Boica, Boicza
Bucsum
Csertés
Facebaj, Facebánya, Faczebay, Faczebaja
Felsőcsertés
Gross Schlatten
Gyalár
Járabánya
Keresbánya
Kirisbánya
Kisbánya
Klein Schlatten
Körösbánya
Kriscsor
Muncsel, Muntsel
Muska
Nagyág, Nagy-Ág

Abrud
Rodna, Rodna Veche
Baia de Arieș
Bălan
Băița
Bucium
Certeju de Sus
Fața Băii (Zlatna)
Certeju de Sus
Abrud
Ghelar
Băișoara
Baia de Criș
Baia de Criș
Băișoara
Zlatna
Baia de Criș
Crișcior
Muncel
Mușca
Săcărâmb

Offenbánya	Baia de Arieș
Óradna	Rodna, Rodna Veche
Szekeremb	Săcărâmb
Szvregyel	Băița
Telek	Teliuc
Verespatak	Roșia Montană
Vöröspatak	Roșia Montană
Zalathna, Zalatna	Zlatna

OTHER LOCALITIES QUOTED IN THE GEOLOGICAL LITERATURE

BANAT

Bergwerk Bogschan	Bocșa
Bogsán, Bogschan	Bocșa
Delinjest, Delinyest	Delinești
Drenkova	Drencova
Domán, Domány	Doman
Gerlistje, Gerlistye	Gârliște
Komárnik	Comarnic
Liliesch	Lilieci
Ljupkova, Ljupkova Thal	Liubcova
Lupak	Lupac
Majdan, Majdán	Brădișoru de Jos
Pojana Moruluj	Poiana Mărului
Romángladna	Gladna Română
Rumunjest	Românești
Szászka	Sasca Română
Szekul	Secu
Steyersdorf	Steierdorf (Anina)
Tilva Nukului	Tâlva Nucului
Tirnova	Târnova
Trencova, Trenkova	Drencova

BUCOVINA

Poschorita	Pojorâta
Wamma	Vama

MARAMUREȘ COUNTY

Sikarlo	Cicârlău
---------	----------

TRANSYLVANIA

Alvinc, Alvintz	Vințul de Jos
Bisztra	Bistra
Cserisor	Cerișor
Csikszentdomokos	Sândominic
Deés-Akna, Désakana	Ocna Dej
Domokos	Sândominic
Felváca, Felvácza	Vața de Sus
Felvinc	Unirea
Füle	Filia
Füzes	Fizeș
Gyalu	Gilău
Herczegány, Herczegány	Hărtăgani
Kajanel, Kajánel	Căinelu de Sus, Jos

Kis-Muncsel	Muncelu Mic
Lövéte	Lueta
Lunkani, Lunkány	Luncanii de Sus, Jos
Marosújvár	Ocna Mureş
Mezőmadaras	Mădăraş (Mureş County)
Mocs	Mociu
Nádfalva	Trestia (Brad)
Neu-Sinka, Neuschinka	Şinca Nouă
Oláhpján	Pianu de Sus
Oláhfalu	Vlăhiţa
Parajd	Praid
Pereu Dracului	Pârâul Dracului (Şinca Nouă)
Porkura	Porcurea, Vălişoara
Rákos	Racoş
Salzburg	Ocna Sibiu
Sily-Vajdej	Vulcan
Sinka	Şinca Veche
Szelistye	Sălişte (Săcărâmb)
Szentegyházasoláhfalu	Vlăhiţa
Szentdomokos	Săndominic
Szentpéterfalva	Sânpetru
Tihuca, Tihuthal	Tihuţa
Toplica, Toplitz	(Topliţa (Săcărâmb))
Trestja, Tresttia, Trestzta	Trestia (Brad)
Vajdej	Vulcan
Vizakna	Ocna Sibiu
Vályemika, Valje Mike	Băiţa
Wlachendorf	Vlăhiţa
Zsilyvajdejvulkán	Vulcan

MOUNTAINS OR HILLS WITH GEOLOGICAL RELEVANCE

BIHOR COUNTY

Biharberg, Bihar-hegység	Munţii Bihor
Királyerdő	Pădurea Craiului

MARAMUREŞ COUNTY

Totos	Dealul Totoş (Sighetu Marmaţiei)
-------	----------------------------------

TRANSYLVANIA

Arany Berg, Aranyer Berg, Aranyi-hegy	Măgura Uroiului (Uroi, near Simeria)
Braija-Berg	Dealul Braia (Zlatna)
Csetátye	Dealul Cetate (Roşia Montană)
Csetrás	Dealul Cetraş (north of Zlatna)
Erdélyi-érchegység	Munţii Metaliferi
Fericsel	Dealul Fericii (north of Zlatna)
Görgeleu	Dealul Gărgălau (Zlatna)
Kakuk-hegy	Muntele Cucu
Kereszthegy	Dealul Crucii (Baia Mare)
Kisbányahavas	Muntele Băişorii
Kreuzberg	Dealul Crucii (Baia Mare)
Siebenbürgische Erzgebirge	Munţii Metaliferi
Vlegyásza	Vlădeasa
Vulkoj Berg	Dealul Vâlcoi (Zlatna)
Wolfgang Gebirge	Cracul cu Aur (Ocna de Fier)

RIVERS WITH GEOLOGICAL RELEVANCE

TRANSYLVANIA

Aranyos	Arieş
Kis-Küküllő	Târnava Mică
Körös	Criş
Nagy-Küküllő	Târnava Mare
Sil, Silthal	Jiu
Zsil	Jiu

MAJOR CITIES

BANAT

Resica, Resicza, Reschitza	Reşiţa
Temesvár, Temeschwar, Temeswar	Timişoara

BUCOVINA

Kimpolung	Câmpulung Moldovenesc
-----------	-----------------------

MARAMUREŞ COUNTY

Máramarosziget	Sighetu Marmatiçi
Nagybánya	Baia Mare
Szathmár Némethy, Szathmár, Szatmárnémeti	Satu Mare
Szigeth	Sighetu Marmatiçi

TRANSYLVANIA

Bánffyhunяд	Huedin
Brassó	Braşov
Clausenburg	Cluj
Csifkszereda	Miercurea Ciuc
Grosswardein	Oradea
Gyulafehérvár	Alba Iulia
Hermannstadt	Sibiu
Hunyad (Vajdahunяд)	Hunedoara
Hunyad (Bánffyhunяд)	Huedin
Kézdivásárhely	Târgu Secuiesc
Klausenburg	Cluj
Kolozsvár	Cluj
Kronstadt	Braşov
Kovászna, Kowaszna	Covasna
Marosvásárhely	Târgu Mureş
Medgyes	Mediaş
Nagyvárad	Oradea
Piski	Simeria
Schässburg, Schessburg	Sighişoara
Segesvár	Sighişoara
Szászsebes	Sebeş
Szászváros	Orăştie
Szeben	Sibiu
Vajdahunяд	Hunedoara
Várad	Oradea

POORLY LOCATED

	BANAT	
Ternare		west of Drencova
	BUCOVINA	
Stronior Gebirge		west of Câmpulung Moldovenesc
	MARAMUREȘ	
Feketebánya		Ocoliș or Valea Neagră (Baia Mare area)
	TRANSYLVANIA	
Tacsá		northeast of Trestia
Teristel		north of Zlatna, perhaps Dealul Fericii or Țarațel
Timpu Gogonului		northeast of Trestia
Traiza, Troiza		northeast of Trestia; perhaps Troița, southwest of Trestia

TYPE LOCALITIES OF MINERALS IN PRESENT-DAY ROMANIA

The localities that mineral collectors and curators might come across most often are the seventeen that are type localities for the 35 valid mineral species (acknowledged by the IMA CNMMN) described from present day Romanian territory. These localities are:

TYPE LOCALITY [former name in brackets]	MINERAL SPECIES
<i>Baia de Arieș</i> [Aranyosbánya, Offenbánya]	sylvanite
<i>Baia Sprie</i> [Felsőbánya]	andorite, dietrichite, felsőbányaite, klebelsbergite, monsmédite, semseyite, szmikite
<i>Ciclova Montană?</i> , <i>Banat</i> [Csiklova(bánya)]	hörnésite, wollastonite-1A
<i>Băița, Bihor County</i> [Rézbánya]	hemimorphite, kotoite, makovickyite, paderaité, száibélyite
<i>Cavnic</i> [Kapnik]	rhodochrosite
<i>Chiușbaia</i> [Kisbánya]	fizélyite
<i>Cioclovina Cave</i>	ardealite
<i>Dealul Crucii mine, Baia Mare</i> [Kereszthegy, Kreuzberg (Nagybánya)]	fűlőppite
<i>Dognecea?</i> [Dognácska, Dognácza, Dognátschka, Dognázka]	wollastonite-1A
<i>Fața Băii (Zlatna)</i> [Facebaj, Facebánya, Faczebaj, Faczebaja (Zalathna, Gross-Schlaten)]	tellurium
<i>Herja, near Chiușbaia</i> [Herza]	parajamesonite
<i>Mădăraș</i> [Mezőmadaras]	merrihueite
<i>Măgura Uroiului</i> [Arany Berg, Aranyer Berg, Aranyi-hegy]	pseudobrookite
<i>Moldova Nouă</i> [Moldawa, Moldava, Moldova, Új Moldova, Újmoldova, Neu Moldowa]	cyanotrichite
<i>Ocna de Fier</i> [Vaskő, Morávica, Morávicza, Morávitzá, Moráviza, Eisenstein]	ludwigite, veszelyite
<i>Oravița</i> [Orawica, Oravicza, Oravitza, Orawicza]	alloclasite
<i>Săcărâmb</i> [Nagyág, Szekerembe]	alabandite, krautite, krennerite, muthmannite, nagyágite, petzite, stützite, tellurite

The most productive Romanian mineral localities with regard to valid mineral species, are Săcărâmb (Nagyág), with eight, *Baia Sprie* (Felsöbánya), with seven, and Băița (Rézbánya), with five minerals, respectively. The original references to these mineral species are given in Clark (1993) and Blackburn & Dennen (1997).

The type locality of wollastonite-1A is still problematic and requires a few explanations. According to Clark (1993), J. Léman in 1818 renamed the "Tafelspath" from Dognecea described by Stütz (1793) as wollastonite (wollastonite-1A). However, although present at Dognecea, wollastonite has a subordinate character in the skarn paragenesis. It seems very likely that Stütz, who apparently did not visit the deposit, described "Tafelspath" in a poorly located hand specimen brought to him, probably from another skarn deposit in Banat, *i.e.*, Ciclova, where wollastonite is widespread and well developed. Thus, Ciclova and not Dognecea may be the true type-locality for wollastonite [G. Papp, pers. commun.; see also Estner (1797) and Esmark (1798)]. Beudant (1832) also quoted "Csiklova" as the sole occurrence of wollastonite in Banat. However, at this stage it seems that more data are needed to "move" the type locality of wollastonite from Dognecea to Ciclova. One can be sure, however, that the type locality of wollastonite is in Banat, in present-day Romania.

The status of monsmédite is questionable; it is voltaite according to Zemann (1992), but because it has not yet formally been discredited, it is listed in the list of valid mineral species.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Professor David H. Cornell, of the Earth Sciences Centre, Göteborg University, is thanked for help in improving the text, whereas Dr. Gábor Papp, of the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, provided expert revision of the earlier version (Nicolescu 1996). Pertinent suggestions made by Drs. E.C. Ike, Department of Geology, Zaria, Nigeria, and R.F. Martin shortened and improved the manuscript.

REFERENCES

- BEUDANT, F.S. (1832): *Traité élémentaire de minéralogie 2* (seconde édition). Chez Verdière, Paris, France.
- BLACKBURN, W.H. & DENNEN, W.H. (1997): *Encyclopedia of Mineral Names*. The Canadian Mineralogist, Special Publication 1.
- CLARK, A.M. (1993): *Hey's Mineral Index. Mineral Species, Varieties and Synonyms*. Chapman & Hall, London, U.K.
- ESMARK, J. (1798): *Kurze Beschreibung einer mineralogischen Reise durch Ungarn, Siebenburgen und das Bannat*. Crazische Buchh., Freiberg, Germany.
- ESTNER, F.J.A. (1797): *Versuch einer Mineralogie für Anfänger und Liebhaber* (II Bd., 2 Abt.). Schmidt, Vienna, Austria.
- NICOLESU, Ș. (1996): *Banat and Transylvanian Gold District, Romania*. Third International Conference on Mineralogy and Museums (Budapest), Excursion Guide, Field Trip E1.
- SLAVIK, F. & SPENCER, L.J. (1928): Place names of mineral localities in central Europe. *Mineral. Mag.* **21**, 441-479.
- STÜTZ, A. (1793): *Neue Einrichtung der k.-k. Naturalien-Sammlung zu Wien*.
- SUCIU, C. (1968): *Dicționar istoric al localităților din Transilvania*. Academiei RSR, București, Romania (vol. I: 431 pages, vol. II: 447 pages).
- ZEMANN, J. (1992): What is monsmédite? *Rom. J. Mineral.* **75**, suppl. 1, 49 (abstr.).

Received May 12, 1998, revised manuscript accepted November 3, 1998.