

UTILISATION OF THE TERRITORY OF ÓBUDA GAS FACTORY FOR CULTURAL PURPOSES

ERZSÉBET KÓCZIAN-SZENTPÉTERI

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The Ministry of Cultural Heritage (NKA) has a survey made on the utilisation of the territory of Óbuda Gas Factory for cultural purposes in 1999, after the idea of transferring Hungarian Museum for Science and Technology to the Gas Factory had been dropped.

The Ministry's cultural deputy undersecretarial and the Department of Museums of the Division of Public Collections asked upon the maintenance of the most important industrial complexes struggling with placement problems (Transport Museum, Hungarian Museum of Architecture, Museum of Physical Training and Sports) to examine the possibility of transferring the entire museum or some parts of it to Óbuda if they find a solution.

In the plan, the authors discuss the maintenance and development of the industrial buildings and other cultural work areas, that would, beside the museums of traditional profile, give place to institutions of "21st-century" character too.

As a result of the survey the full conception of the utilisation of Óbuda Gas Factory was completed by the end of 1999, in spite of it was given by the Division of Measurements and Instruments, which also prepared and studied the plan of expenses and other indices of the investment. Unfortunately, by the end of the first quarter of 2000 the draft lost its momentum and was not practised within the Ministry, now submitted for agreement among ministries.

As to the placement of the Hungarian Museum for Science and Technology, the 1999 draft meant the first turning-point, after searching about for decades; its publication is justified partly for this reason, and partly because since the second half of 2004 Óbuda Gas Factory has come to the front again as possible location of the Institution.

The material published here might serve as a good basis for the planning that might, in the future, turn to reality, in spite of the fact that several questions were raised and ideas have already taken a new turn. E.g. the Museum of Physical Training and Sports would move to new premises in the course of 2005, similarly as the "Palace of Flowers", which would be placed in one of the buildings of the Millenary Park.

A very important step forward was the declaration of protection by the Bureau for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, decree 21/2004. (X. 12.) NKA/IM explained the declaration of protection for the group of buildings of Óbuda Gas Factory in Újbuda street, 3rd district of Budapest.

It pointed to a similar important intention of the Government that a ministerial commissioner was born approximately October 2, 2004. (X. 2.) of the Minister of National Cultural Heritage for preparing the coming into being in the next autumn quarter.

The final decision of the situation of the Hungarian Museum for Science and Technology might be within reach, both in time and pragmatically, by moving to the group of buildings in Óbuda Gas Factory or its

ENGLISH ABSTRACTS OF THE PAPERS

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Transport Museum, 1146 Budapest, Városligeti körút 11.

The Ministry of Cultural Heritage (NKÖM) has a survey made on the utilisation of the territory of Óbuda Gas Factory for museum purposes in 1999, after the idea of transferring Hungarian Museum for Science and Technology to the Ganz Factory had been dropped.

The Ministry's cultural deputy undersecretariat and the Department of Museums of the Division of Public Collections called upon the maintainers of the most important technical museums struggling with placement problems (Transport Museum, Hungarian Museum of Architecture, Museum of Physical Training and Sports) to examine the possibility of transferring the entire museum or some parts of it to Óbuda (if they find it necessary.)

In the plans of the ministry not only the maintenance and rehabilitation of the protected factory buildings were included but the construction of new establishments as well. As early as at that time the bringing into being of a cultural park arose, that would, beside the museums of traditional profile, give place to institutions of "science center" character, too.

As a result of the survey the full conception of the utilisation of Óbuda Gas Factory was completed by the end of 1999; a report on it was given by the Division of Monuments and Investments, which also prepared and attached the plan of expenses and other indices of the investment. Unfortunately, by the end of the first quarter of 2000 the draft lost its timeliness and was not presented within the Ministry, nor submitted for agreement among ministries.

As to the placement of the Hungarian Museum for Science and Technology, the 1999 draft meant the first turning-point, after searching about for decades; its publication is justified partly for this reason, and partly because since the second half of 2004 Óbuda Gas Factory has come to the front again as possible location of the institution.

The material published here might serve as a good basis for the planning that might, in the future, turn to reality, in spite of the fact that several questions were raised and ideas have already taken a new turn. E. g.: the Museum of Physical Training and Sports would move to new premises in the course of 2005, similarly to the "Palace of Wonders", which would be placed in one of the buildings of the Millenary Park.

A very important step forward was the declaration of protection by the Bureau for the Protection of Cultural Heritage: decree 21/2004 (X.12) NKÖM contained the declaration of protection for the group of buildings of Óbuda Gas Factory in Gázgyár street, 3rd district of Budapest.

It pointed to a similar important intention of the Government that a ministerial commissioner was been appointed by order 3/2004. (K.K.5) of the Minister of National Cultural Heritage for preparing the coming into being of the new museum quarter.

The final solution of the situation of the Hungarian Museum for Science and Technology might be within reach, both in time and geographically, by moving to the group of buildings in Óbuda Gas Factory or its

territory. Time is, however, urging as the Capital's Gas Works left, by January 1, 2005, the territory, which – without real maintainer and keeper – might face quick deterioration.

THE TV SERIES “FACTORIES IN HUNGARY AROUND THE MILLENNIUM” AS A MEANS OF “SAFEGUARDING” INDUSTRIAL MONUMENTS

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The 12-part TV series “*Factories in Hungary around the Millennium*” prepared by the EPS Producers’ Office Ltd. processed, in films of 24-28 minutes, the material of 12 factories in Budapest and 6 in the countryside. The paper is dealing with the Budapest factories only.

The authors mention the Budapest mills, which date back to the first boom of Hungarian industry in the 1830s. The success of the Hungarian milling industry was due to high-quality wheat, the then high-tech machine industry, and the expertise of the millers.

Budapest water-works were initiated after the cholera epidemic of 1866. An English expert was commissioned to build a network of water-pipes in 127 streets. The paper gives an account on the individual sections of the huge construction process. The first ferro-concrete water tower was installed in 1905. The water-works comprised a tunnel under the Danube built in 1936.

László Láng’s machine factory was located in an industrial district, in Váci street, where another 26 machine factories were to be found at that time.

The Ganz imperium was founded in 1814 by the Swiss foundryman Ábrahám Ganz. After his death, András Mechwart took over the huge company, and established the Department of Electrotechnics. The foundry, which today is an industrial monument, houses the Foundry Museum.

The railway-carriage factory Ganz was founded in 1867, with the participation of the Ganz foundry. In 1888 the foundry joined the Ganz imperium, then under Mechwart’s leadership. The film shows 14 big production halls and gives an insight into the activities of the inventors, engineers and workers that had contributed to the company’s worldwide fame.

The Machine Factory of Royal Hungarian Railways was dealing not only with repair-works but also with the manufacture of railway engines and carriages. In 1925 it was enlarged to form the Royal Hungarian Iron-, Steel- and Machine Works MÁVAG.

The power plant Kelenföld was built in two years, and started to supply electric current from 1914 on. The control room was, according to the filmmakers “*the materialized beauty of industry and function*”.

Finally, the film shows some of the Kőbánya Breweries. As soon as in 1910 there were 5 of them, and 75 % of the beer produced in Hungary was manufactured in this district of Budapest. The buildings, which

range among the most beautiful industrial monuments of the country, were all designed by the age's most outstanding architects.

THE 105-YEAR-OLD GAS FACTORY OF JÓZSEFVÁROS – ROMANTIC BUILDINGS IN INDUSTRIAL ARCHITECTURE ANIKÓ GULYÁS-GÖMÖRI

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In 1855 the Gas Company applied to the Mayor of Pest for the possibility of buying a piece of land in order to establish a gas factory there. They had in mind the site of the horse –fair. Their request was given a favourable reception, and they purchased a territory of over 16 thousand square meters. Construction was started in the same year, and the factory started production at the end of 1856. In 1860 enlargements, i.e. the erection of new buildings started. Enlargements and rebuilding of existing premises continued in 1869-69. In 1874 the workers houses were built. The last enlargement took place in 1881.

The author describes the main buildings, and gives a short account on the steps of lighting gas manufacture.

HISTORY OF THE POWER SUPPLY PLANT IN KAZINCZY STREET, BUDAPEST ILDIKÓ ANTAL

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The building of the Museum of Electrotechnics of HMST – an industrial monument – is described from the aspects of the history of industry, technology and architecture. The different properties of the systems of alternating and direct current appeared best at this plant as here the direct current transformer run with rotary rectifiers built in 1893, and the transformer station of 30/10 kV established in 1934 were operating one beside the other.

The operation of the power supply plant that had been reliably working for a long time, was discontinued by our days, and the equipment was dismantled. However, its eight-decade history helps us to learn about the evolutionary process of power supply that cannot be separated from the achievements of world standard of the golden age of Hungarian electrotechnics either. The building of the transformer station keeps serving electrotechnics today by housing the Museum of Electrotechnics of HMST.

A TECHNICAL MUSEUM IN A HISTORICAL BUILDING

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Among the measures taken to improve the Hungarian chemical industry, the idea arose of presenting the development of the chemical industry in historical Hungary. In order to search for the relics of chemistry, to save and collect them, measures were taken as soon as in the 1950s. The castle standing in the centre of the town Várpalota in county Veszprém, not far from Highway No. 8, seemed to be an appropriate place for housing the Hungarian Museum of Chemistry and Chemical Industry. It is an impressing monument of art, Gothic, Baroque and neoclassic elements can be equally found in its architecture. Its most ancient parts date back to the 14th century.

The building suffered hardly any damage from World War II; later a decade was sufficient to nearly ruin this relic of five centuries: its roof was demolished, its stones were used for building dwellings, a. s. o.

Reconstruction started in the 1950s; it was, however, often hindered by the lack of finances. Thus, the first small exhibition could be opened in the castle in 1969 only. Reconstruction was going on permanently but still did not come to an end. The castle was declared, in 1990, part of the National Cultural Heritage.

The Museum has been working for nearly four decades in a monument of art in the countryside. Its permanent exhibitions are more than 30 years old and can be shown – for the lack of heating – between April 1 and October 30 only. The question arises if it was a right decision to place the Museum in a monument castle.

BAROQUE PLANETARIUM TOWERS IN HUNGARY

(TO THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MATHEMATICS TOWER OF NAGYSZOMBAT UNIVERSITY)

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Research and development of 17-century astronomy required more and more separate solid buildings. In order to place astronomic instruments, in Western Europe big, “castle”-style buildings were erected in the 17-18 centuries, in the central observation room of which all the parts of the sky could be surveyed through huge windows. Influenced by the “ecclesiastic” Baroque style (and spirit), mainly the high “astronomic towers” of many stories spread in Central and Eastern Europe. They impressed the onlooker and – at the same time – rose

above the smoke and vapours of the towns.

One of the most characteristic and earliest “*towers*” was the observatory erected upon the Vienna Jesuits’ convent in 1733 which became an example for observatories in Hungary. The observatory built to the Jesuits’ University in Nagyszombat (Tyrna, today Trnava) was relatively of lesser height and reached as far as 2 stories above the building. On its upper story the big observation room could be found with windows to all the cardinal points. On top there was the flat observation terrace with 4 cupolas at the corners (out of which 2 served for placing the instruments). When the university was transferred to Buda, a higher tower was built (1777-1781). The tower of Buda Royal Castle was, for half a century, a characteristic feature of the town’s panorama.

The most beautiful astronomic tower was built by Jakab Fellner on top of the building of the planned Eger University (later secondary school, now college). The 52-m-high tower completed in 1781 comprised two big observation rooms, and a small building – the turning cupola on top – erected on the roof terrace. Even today it is a nice and characteristic view of the town of Eger. Less outstanding is the astronomic tower of Kolozsvár (Cluj) College (1759, then 1805). The last Baroque observatory – in Gyulafehérvár (Alba Iulia) in 1798 was no more of “*tower style*”. In early 19th century the Gellérthegey Observatory of the Royal University (Budapest) was entirely different, it was built in the earliest style meeting modern demands.

ENDEAVOURS OF THE HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE FOR THE TECHNICAL CULTURE DURING THE EPOCH OF DUALISM ISTVÁN ROSTA

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In Hungary, at the epoch of Dualism – between 1867 and 1918 – economy was developing to a significant degree. This cannot be traced back to a single cause or to a few of them; a wide range of causes plays a part in it. It can, however, be rendered probable that one of the most striking factors of influence was the activity and positive part of the Hungarian Academy of Science.

Among the most important reasons of our economic development during the epoch of Dualism there was – according to our assumption – the development and support of science, and within it, the activity carried out by the Academy of Science and its members. The paper aims at proving this.

DONÁT BÁNKI'S LIFE AND WORK SÁNDOR HORVÁTH

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Donát Bánki was one of the greatest Hungarian mechanical engineers and constructors. He was a university professor and dean, and corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Science.

The paper tries to present the most important moments of his life, and the professional and pedagogical life-work he bequeathed to us and which we – perhaps – will never be able to get acquainted with entirely. The author presents photographs taken of the objects of his implemented inventions that are in the possession of the Hungarian Museum of Science and Technology as well as a volume containing the copies of the Bánki patents that could be found.

The paper tries to give an idea of Donát Bánki's human grandness – in Géza Sasvári's words: "*The picture we can paint of Bánki as a person, would not be complete, if we did not stress the great kindness of heart that emanated from him, and that seized and touched everybody who knew him.*"

RE-GROUPING, FOR THE OPEN (STUDY) STORAGE, OF THE POWER MACHINE COLLECTION OF THE HUNGARIAN MUSEUM FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GÁBOR SZUNYOGH

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The Hungarian Museum for Science and Technology opened its doors to the public in November 2006. In parallel to shaping the study storage, we were working – in parallel – to make our collection serve education, too. Our several thousand objects were grouped in a way to form a didactic unit so that lectures could directly rely on it.

The paper roughly outlines – in the first place to attract attention – the arrangement of the study storage that can be directly utilised in technical education. The aim is to make our visitors acquainted with the path covered by mechanical sciences till their development reached the technical standard of today's power machines.

The Museum's visitors are taken on an imaginary journey through times. The main stations of this walk through the history of technology are briefly described.

HISTORY OF IGNÁC SCHLICK'S IRON- AND METAL FOUNDRY, AND THE RELICS STILL EXISTING

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Ignác Schlick was born in Budapest in 1920 as son of a distinguished plumber. After leaving secondary school he went abroad where he had the opportunity to study the most famous iron foundries. Returning after 7 years he first opened a foundry in Buda, later another one in Pest. After 10 years, as the demand was slight, he sold his plants and took a job. As he was not satisfied with his position he opened a factory again. He became a highly respected expert. In 1866 he was elected by the Hungarian Academy of Science among the 25 representatives of Hungarian technical and scientific life. The products of his factory were known abroad, too: 20 % of the production was exported. They sold iron constructions, kettles, pumps, bridge constructions etc. Unfortunately, the factory-founder died at the age of 48. After his death, the firm was transformed in a share company. First his son-in-law, later his son were running the company which finally merged with the Nicholson factory. This step brought about a temporary boom. World War I had an adverse effect on the production, and the factory was liquidated in 1927, when it became part of the big Ganz factory.

Although the name of the Schlick factory was soon forgotten, quite a number of its products still exist, and embellish – among others – some parts of Budapest.

ON THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN IRON CARTEL IN THE 19TH CENTURY

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Hungarian iron metallurgy started booming in the second half of the 19th century, after the Compromise of 1867. The boom of the iron industry contributed, throughout the whole Carpathian basin, to the pace of development of the industry, the transport and the whole economy rising to the European forefront.

The Hungarian iron industry was saved from the total collapse by the Austro-Hungarian iron cartel of 1886 that made the development of the iron industry possible. The iron cartel was not prolonged after 1899. Then an economic crisis, which had an adverse effect on all the members of the cartel, blocked development. That is why in June 1902 the Austro-Hungarian cartel was concluded again. As a result earlier development continued until World War I. This proves that a population composed of different nationalities, which recognize their common interests, can prosper better than if they hinder each other.

THE PROGRAM OF HOSPITAL BUILDING IN THE EPOCH OF DUALISM

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The 19th century brought about a decisive turn in the attitude related to hospitals: progress in medicine, the spreading of the principle of prevention, the “revolution” of surgery (anaesthetization, prevention of the infection of wounds, modernization of operation techniques etc.) turned the hospitals, until then nursing or welfare centres – often still joined to pauper asylums – into sites of curing. In our country, too, building of hospitals in accordance with the number of inhabitants and the size of towns, became a real state program. The legal basis was provided for by the chapter dealing with hospitals of law XIV, 1876. In 1876 there were but 8 thousand sick-beds in historical Hungary, in the year of the millennium (1896) this figure rose to 60 thousand, while in the last year of World War I it approached 140 thousand. Besides the system of general hospitals, the network of private hospitals took shape, paediatric institutions appeared, and from the turn of the century on – and in connection with the great numbers of morbidity – quite a series of TBC sanatoriums opened their doors. The state budget separately provided for financing the building of hospitals.

HOSPITAL CONDITIONS OF THE EPOCH OF ENLIGHTENMENT AND REFORM MEASURES TAKEN IN THE INTEREST OF DEVELOPMENT

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The situation of hospitals in Hungary – civil hospitals maintained by counties or settlements as well as military hospitals and those of nursing orders – showed an equally depressing picture still in mid-18th century. The institutions run with a low number of beds, and ranging mostly with poorhouses and asylums of old people, did not meet the requirements of either the population or the recurring health policy and updated medicine.

At the start of the domestic education of physicians, missing for a long time, the lack of appropriate training hospitals was the source of many problems. The decrees issued by Maria Theresa in 1738 and by Joseph II in 1796 brought about a favourable turn in the domestic hospital system. An important event was the opening, with 228 beds, of the Rókus hospital in Pest in 1798 but –with the help of the financial support from public funds – the hospitals in ecclesiastic administration also were able to achieve important enlargements.

FORMATION OF THE BUDAPEST CLINIC OF STOMATOLOGY JUDIT FORRAI

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The domestic initiative of university education of odontology in modern age is linked to the names of two outstanding experts: JÓZSEF ISZLAI and JÓZSEF ÁRKÖVY. During the last stage of the constructions at the Faculty of Medicine, on 14 February 1909, the Clinic of Stomatology was opened in the building of today's Clinic of Dental Surgery and Odontology, on the famous ground in Mária and Pál streets. Árkövy was appointed its director. One of the best equipped clinics of odontology in contemporary Europe was built, taking into utmost account – with respect to structure and the entire equipment – education and the training of specialized doctors. Near the spacious lecture room well equipped training rooms, a theatre, and laboratories for prosthetics, histology and bacteriology were in operation. The revolutionarily new in Europe was that – with two stationary wards (one for men and one for women) – the Clinic provided for the stationary treatment of operations of dental surgery and patients operated on. In the new clinic the departments and wards serving functioning and the teaching of special fields were shaped individually. In the names and in the specification of these departments the peculiar division of special fields – as Árkövy devised them – appeared, following the latest results of international research.

BUILDING OF HOSPITALS IN SUB-CARPATHIA IN THE INTERWAR PERIOD

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Following the Trianon peace dictate Sub-Carpathia got under the supremacy of Czechoslovakia. After surveying the state of public health in the area, the health authorities started organizing health provisions. The

number of the population of the area amounted at that time to 606 568 persons.

At that time four hospitals were run in the countryside: in Ungvár, Munkács, Beregszász and Nagyszőlős. The number of hospital beds was 800, and 12 beds were maintained by the school of midwifery for teaching the pupils. On the average, 20 thousand people fell to the lot of one physician. In order to improve health care, “People’s Health Houses” were brought into being, and the Masaryk League ran 18 nursing homes.

Infectious diseases were the greatest concern of the authorities. Out of these, in the first place, typhoid fever, smallpox, tuberculosis and venereal diseases occurred in great numbers. The separation of the patients was performed, in the beginning, in pavilions erected on the territories of the hospitals, later – to improve the situation – a large-scale program of hospital building was started. It was at this time that in Beregszász the new building of obstetrics and gynaecology, in Ungvár the new Department of Surgery, the centre for patients of dermatology and venereal diseases, the departments for infectious diseases, physical therapy, psychiatry and neurology came into being. The construction of a hospital was planned in Huszt, however, the events of World War II prevented the implementation of the plan.

PROGRAM OF HOSPITAL BUILDING IN HUNGARY IN THE 20TH CENTURY KATALIN CZÁR

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The paper deals with the section of hospital history of Hungarian history of medicine, from the implementation of the so-called hospital building program No. 3 to the epoch of hospital foundations during till the late 1970s. The peace dictate of Trianon that put an end to World War I, influenced not only the political, economic, social and cultural life of the country but also its health care. Hungarian health care that boasted, during the epoch of Dualism, of 140.000 hospital beds, incurred great losses as well: the number of beds dropped to 26.000. By the beginning of World War II, hospital building made it possible to increase the number of hospital beds to 100.000. However, the repeated defeat of war meant again a decline to 20.000 beds. In the course of the reconstructions a program of hospital building was started again, however, in the spirit of the unreasonable planned economy. As it is, in the 60s the progress in infrastructure was not taken into account, and it was in the 70s only that the number of hospital beds surpassing 60.000 was “remedied” by new buildings. The paper tries to illustrate the devastating effect of communism, the aim of which – i.e. to delete the past – was “successful” in the field of monument protection only: when castles deserving a better fate were turned into hospitals.

A HOSPITAL FROM A VILLA? HISTORY OF THE HOSPITAL NAMED AFTER ATTILA JÓZSEF ANITA NAGY

Semmelweis Museum, Library and Archives of Medicine

In the villa on Rose Hill of archduke Joseph Francis of Hapsburg a sanatorium was brought into being for the employees and workers of the Capital's Electric Works. The poet Attila József was chosen as denominator. The management of the hospital on József hill was taken over, from 1950 on, by the Capital's Municipal Council, and was independently run as Attila József Hospital. Later the Methodological Centre of Psychotherapy was placed there. From 1969 on it was attached to the organization of St. John Hospital, and the Department of mental hygiene was established there. After a brief survey of the building's history from its coming into being to 1946, the paper is focussed on the Sanatorium established for the employees and workers of the Capital's Electric Works.

DANUBE-TISZA-CANAL-TORSO

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"How nice it would be, if our First Born – namely the Bridge – could be glorified by a little boy, the Canal!" wrote István Széchenyi to György Sina in 1841. The poetic picture expresses not only, how much the banker Sina was considered an important ally by Széchenyi, it also demonstrates that the Canal's cause was for him as important as that of the Chain Bridge. In spite of that, the former did not come into being, only its torso reminds us of the century-old dream.

Why could it not be built?

ECOLOGICAL REHABILITATION OF WETLAND HABITATS – SZIGETKÖZ TIMEA SZALKAI

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Ecological rehabilitation means making an area serviceable after a disturbance. It comprises the survey of the functions and processes of the ecosystem to be found on the degraded area. Its aim is to form a mosaic-like landscape stable from geological and hydrological aspects, in which the spaces of life and activities of man organically adjust themselves to the system of the natural landscape. Hungary has to meet, within the European Union, a number of international prescriptions from the aspects of the protection of wetland habitats, and of ensuring appropriate water quality. Thus, among others, the rehabilitation of the earlier natural associations connected to water is also an important task of us. The paper presents the rehabilitation work and the results achieved until now in Szigetköz, emphasizing the taking into account both of the preservation of the natural landscape and the social-innovative expectations.

MUSEUM ON FIRE. THE DESTRUCTION OF THE GEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS OF THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES IN THE 1956 FIRE TIBOR KECSKEMÉTI

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The acts of war of the 1956 revolution in Hungary damaged several museums. Out of them the Mineral and Stone Collection as well as the Geological and Paleontological Collection of the Museum of Natural History placed in the Hungarian National Museum incurred the greatest losses. About 80 % of their collections were consumed by fire. The paper treats the fire alarms and fires one by one, relying on the central inspection diary of the fire brigade. From this it turned out that the two collections were burnt in the course of the big fire that took place in the small hours and early night of October 25. The author – as curator designated to the

fire-patrol – had to face the sight of devastation twice. He illustrates the size of destruction by enumerating the losses incurred by the most valuable collections, irreplaceable individual pieces, the library, the collection of maps and the instruments. Finally he mentions episodes of the hopeful work of revival.

THE BREAKING POINT OF A CAREER – EMIL MOSONYI AND THE 1956 REVOLUTION LÁSZLÓ FEJÉR

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The professor still alive, who was awarded the Széchenyi prize in 2006, is an internationally acknowledged scientist of domestic hydrotechny. In 1956 he was correspondent member of the Hungarian Academy of Science, director of the company VIZITERV, Head of the Department of Hydraulic Construction of Budapest Technical University and, besides all this, president of the Hungarian Society of Hydrology.

In the enthusiastic days of October he was elected member of the Revolutionary Commission formed at the Technical University, and he was member of the delegation of two persons sent by the University's Revolutionary Commission for talks with Prime Minister Imre Nagy.

After the fall of the Revolution, in 1957 his appointment as Head of Department was withdrawn, the Hungarian Society of Hydrology elected a new president, and he had to leave his post as director of VIZITERV. It is true, he was not arrested but his career came to a turning point.

The paper tries to briefly summarize what happened in 1956, and how the professor's career worked out afterwards.

BUDAPEST UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE IN THE REVOLUTION OF 1956 LÁSZLÓ MOLNÁR

Budapest University of Medicin

In the outbreak of the 1956 revolution the universities played an initiative part. The university youth destined for being the communist elite, were the first to openly turn against Stalinism. By that time the world of universities had got over profound transformations.

Young intellectuals started organizing themselves as soon as in March, within the so-called Petőfi circle. The debating evening related to the trade of physicians fell exactly to the day of the revolution's outbreak, October 23. Thereafter revolutionary commissions were formed at the university that took over control from the rector

until then possessing nearly full powers. Teachers and students participated in acts of rescue and in providing for the wounded. They organized the supply of medicaments and bandages. The assistance of the Red Cross was directly brought from Austria by the universities. An armed guard was formed from the students to protect the buildings and stores. Some ideological departments were discontinued or transformed.

At the beginning of the Soviet attack on November 4, the University found itself in the middle of the fights. Many buildings incurred serious damages but similar injuries happened to the staff of the university, too. Besides the victims the nearly 200 physicians and employees that emigrated, not to speak of the students, meant a loss, too. The losses were aggravated by the retaliations of the Kádár regime.