

MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER
Tabula Hungariae

Ref N° 2006-11

Proposed by the:
National Széchényi Library, Hungary
in association with
Austrian National Library
and
Croatian National and University Library

PART A – ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

1 SUMMARY

This document is a map representing faithfully and in much detail the structure of settlements that could be found on the territory of the Hungarian Kingdom (corresponding to the territory of modern Hungary, Slovakia and including parts of modern Austria, Ukraine, Romania, Serbia/Montenegro, Croatia and Slovenia). This representation has an even greater value due to the fact, that many settlements disappeared during the Turkish wars of the 16th century fought there.

It should be noted, that for several centuries, research workers and interested persons had only an indirect knowledge of this document, up to the time, when it reappeared in the 1880's, when the collector Sándor Apponyi acquired it. He later offered it (in 1924) to the National Library, which included it in the Library's collection of rare and historical works.

As is clear from the title, the Tabula Hungariae was a collective work. The Hungarian Lazarus Secretarius made the surveys on which the map was based (with assistance from Jacob Ziegler, q.v.) and probably supplied a draft of the map; Apian's mentor Tanstetter (Collimitus), an accomplished cartographer, put it into proper shape and completed it by adding data of his own and a scale (the privilege is also in his name); and Cuspinianus published the map or authorized the funds for it and dedicated it to the king. He contributed, moreover, some place-names, mainly taken from classical sources. Cuspinianus had intended the map for his commentary on the Roman consuls in which he stated, "I have dedicated the descriptions of the Kingdom of Hungary and its map, [which] I have added, to King Ferdinand of Hungary, a map that is printed and is now being circulated and that, I may say without boasting, is an especially distinguished work."

2 DETAILS OF THE NOMINATOR

2.1 Name (person or organisation)

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Dr. Johanna Rachinger
General director

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Josip Stipanov
Director general

2.2 Relationship to the documentary heritage nominated
National Széchényi Library is the owner of the item; Austria and Croatia are involved due to the representation of parts of their country on the map

2.3 Contact person (s)
National Széchényi Library
Buda Royal Palace, Wing F
H-1827 Budapest
Hungary
Dr.István Monok

2.4 Contact details (include address, phone, fax, email)
National Széchényi Library
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Dr.István Monok
Phone: 00361 22 43 880
Fax: 00361 20 20 804
e-mail: monok@oszk.hu

3 IDENTITY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE

3.1 Name and identification details of the items being nominated
Tabula Hungariae

3.2 Description
The Lazarus/Ziegler/ Tanstetter/Cuspinianus/Apian map of Hungary was the first one made of the Carpathian basin and was copied and adapted in numerous later maps. Among these are the maps by Augustin Hirschvogel [1552], Wolfgang Lazius [1556], and that published anonymously by Vavasore in Venice.

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Bibliography:

László Irmédi-Molnár: The Earliest Known Map of Hungary. In *Imago Mundi*. 18. (1964) 53-59. pp.
Lazarus secretarius. The First Hungarian Mapmaker and His Work. Ed. by Lajos Stegena. Budapest, 1982. 114. p.
Robert W. Karrow, jr.: Peter Apian. In *Mapmakers of the Sixteenth Century and Their Maps*. Chicago. 1993.49-63. pp.
Katalin Plihál: *Tabula Hungariae and its Variants. - Die Tabula Hungariae und ihre Fassungen*. Budapest, 2003. 32. p.
History of Cartography. Volume 3. Cartography in the European Renaissance. (in process of publication)

Referee:

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4 JUSTIFICATION FOR INCLUSION/ ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

4.1 Authenticity

Authenticity was proved on the basis of the watermark (filigran) used and the characteristics of the stereotypic printing technology used.

A **watermark** is a recognizable image or pattern in [paper](#) that appears lighter when viewed by transmitted light (or darker when viewed by reflected light, atop a dark background). A watermark is made by impressing a water-coated metal stamp or *dandy roll* onto the [paper](#) during manufacturing. Watermarks were first introduced in [Bologna, Italy](#) in [1282](#); they have been used by papermakers to identify their product, to discourage [counterfeiting](#). (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watermark>)

No copies, replicas, forgeries, bogus documents or hoaxes can be prepared with the watermark used in the original paper.

Details on the watermark used in the case of *Tabula Hungariae* can be found in:

István Bogdán: *The Paper Material of the Lazarus Maps*. In *Lazarus Secretarius. The First Hungarian Mapmaker and His Work*. Ed. by Lajos Stegena. Budapest, 1982. 103-106. pp.

4.2 World significance, uniqueness and irreplaceability

The world significance of the document can be asserted on the basis of the fact that this document is one of the first maps prepared in the world to represent the complete territory of a country/kingdom (which covers the territory of several modern countries)

Although it was copied later several times, there are differences between the copies made and the original, to reflect the changes that had occurred in the system of settlements. The original is therefore unique and irreplaceable.

4.3 Criteria of (a) time (b) place (c) people (d) subject and theme (e) form and style

a) Regarding time, this document is among the "first 10 of its kind", i.e. one of **the first** ten maps **covering a full kingdom** as well as one of **the first** maps in the case of which the **stereotype printing technology** was used.

b) regarding the place, the map had an outstanding value, because:

- **it is descriptive of physical environments, cities, localities since vanished.**

- it had an impact on the European cartography, as it can be seen in the works of Lazarus/Ziegler/Tanstetter/Cuspinianus.

c) not applicable

d) Subject and theme: It represents particular historical developments in social sciences, when **the administrative structure of a complete kingdom became of major importance.**

e) Form and style:

It has outstanding aesthetic, stylistic value, due to the **combined application of wood-cutting technique and the use of movable characters in printing.** The style is unique due to its development and exclusive use by Peter Apianus and it is particularly pleasant and distinguished. Philip Apianus prepared the map of Bavaria in the same way in the 16th century.

It is also a typical or key exemplar of a type of presentation: it demonstrates the way in which at the end of the medieval period a general view of a complete kingdom's administration could be provided. **The reproduction of such maps by the means of printing differed substantially from the techniques applied in reproducing other kinds of graphical works, due to the need of presenting in a well readable way the names of localities.** The difficulties related to this task were the first to be overcome by the method developed by Peter Apianus: the stereotype printing technology, in the case of which the textual components, in particular the names of localities were castled in lead and put at the appropriate place in form of small plates. The application of this technology led to a high aesthetic quality.

4.4 Issues of rarity, integrity, threat and management

-Rarity: Its content makes it a rare surviving example of its type and time

-Integrity: It is complete and it has not been altered or damaged

-Threat: Its survival is not in danger, but while it is secure, vigilance must be applied to maintain that security, and the necessary measures have been taken, as specified in the Management Plan.

Management plan: There is a plan which reflects the significance of the documentary heritage, with appropriate strategies to preserve and provide access to it, in particular:

- the procedures for access and preservation are the following: no access is authorized to the original document, even researchers can access a facsimile only. The digitized version will be available to all users.

A preservation budget is available: it is specified every year in the budget of the Ministry in charge of preserving the cultural heritage of the country.

Conservation expertise and facilities are available: the specialist in charge is Ms. Bea Kastaly, a senior staff member of the National Library.

The physical environment of the material is appropriate for its long-term preservation, including the air quality, temperature, humidity., shelving and physical security.

Disaster preparedness strategy has been defined, specifying who should transfer this document and to which location, should any disaster occur.

5 **LEGAL INFORMATION**

5.1. Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)

National Széchényi Library
Buda Royal Palace, Wing F
H-1827 Budapest
Hungary
Dr. István Monok
Phone: 00361 22 43 880
Fax: 00361 20 20 804

e-mail: monok@oszk.hu

5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details, if different to owner) The custodian is the same

5.3 Legal status:

(a) Category of ownership
Public

(b) Accessibility
Usage on the spot

(c) Copyright status
Copyright fully owned by the institution

(d) Responsible administration
Ministry of National Cultural Heritage of Hungary

6 MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 Is there a management plan in existence for this documentary heritage?

YES

Currently the document is stored in the Library's new building, under controlled climatic conditions (efforts are aiming at keeping the temperature at 18° C, the humidity at 55% and the light at 55 Lux) . The eventual need for restoration is checked periodically, and if required, it can be undertaken by the laboratory of the Library. Access is limited to research workers studying in the Library.. Digitisation of the document has been implemented and it made this unique map accessible both to the general public and research workers, extending access to users world wide. It is this digitised version, which is offered in general, the original is used in exceptional research cases only.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 Provide details of consultation about this nomination with (a) the owner of the heritage (b) the custodian (c) your national or regional *Memory of the World* committee

a.)see 2.1.

b.)see 2.1.

c.)The Hungarian National Memory of the World Committee on the occasion of its session held on 28 October 2005 endorsed and strongly supported the Nomination

PART B – SUBSIDIARY INFORMATION

8 ASSESSMENT OF RISK

8.1 The material of the document (paper) is highly endangered by time, temperature, humidity, light, fire, theft.. Due to its precious nature it is imperative that this work of art remains under continuous vigilance by restorers, in air-conditioned rooms equipped with fire detectors, and under the surveillance of appropriate personnel and equipment.

9 ASSESSMENT OF PRESERVATION

9.1 The current preservation efforts are not adequate enough to sustain the physical integrity of the document. All forms of usage (reading, photocopying, loan, exhibition, etc.) are causing it to become worn out through wear and tear. Through digitising the document, the original can now be kept untouched.

PART C - LODGEMENT

This nomination is lodged by:

Dr.István Monok

.....

(Signature)..... (Date).....