

Current Challenges for the Monument Preservation in the Historical City Centre of Sopron

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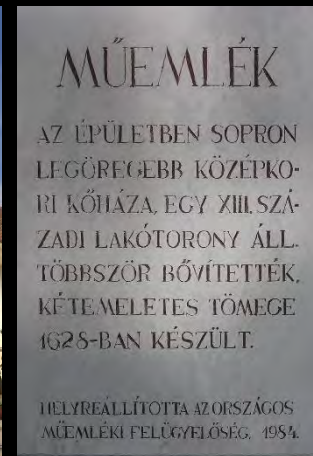
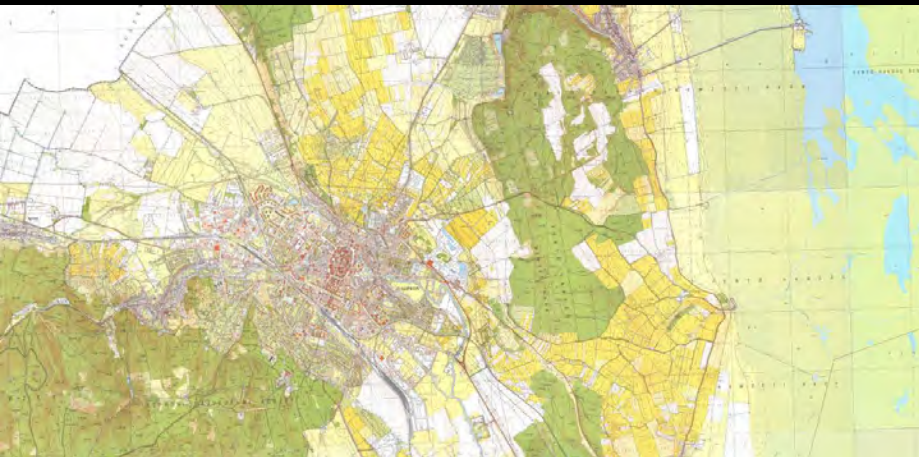
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Sopron

- Gographical location
- Population
- It's the richest countrytown in monuments in Hungary



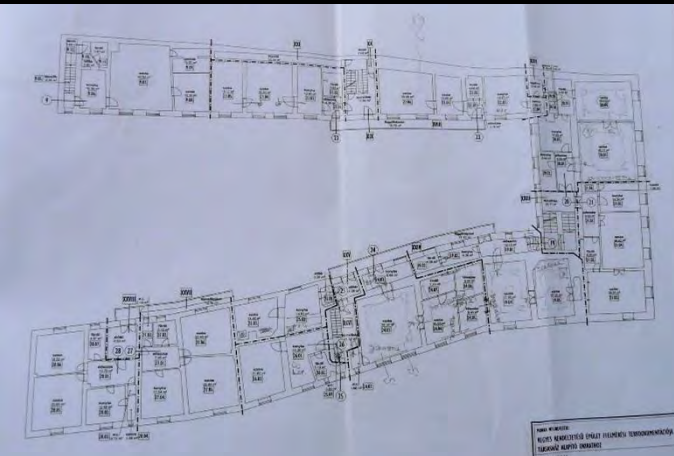
1. History of the city and its built heritage in a nutshell - Civitas fidelissima - the situation of the city after 1921

- Scarbantia –the townscape is defined by the Roman heritage
- Medieval Sopron – churches, sedilia
- 1676 –After the fire: the baroque city
- Civil houses from 19th century – the beginning of heritage protection: Ferenc Storno
- New borders in 1921 - loss of markets
- 20th Century heritage



2. The closed town after 1945

- Nationalisation: division of apartments
- Establishment of social housing
- Introduction of poor sections of the population



3. Renovation of monuments in the 1970s

- Urban regeneration selected at national level
- National Inspectorate of Historic Monuments (OMF) (Dávid Ferenc, Sedlmayr János, Kissné Nagypál Judit)
- Research, reconstruction in the spirit of Venice Charter
- Contemporary buildings in the old town



4. Open borders - everybody wants to live somewhere - the situation of the historic inner town today

a) Changes in ownership after the change of regime

- Real estate has been transferred from state ownership to municipal ownership
- Privatisation: (fragmented) flats and shops fell into the hands of different owners
- The buildings have an owner not a caretaker



4. Open borders - everybody wants to live somewhere - the situation of the historic inner town today

b) Town rehabilitation - Modern Városok Program (Project for Modern Cities)

- Open spaces: Main square, around the city wall,
- Reconstruction of important buildings
- Renewing of elevations
- ICOMOS-Price, Winkler Oszkár-Price



4. Open borders - everybody wants to live somewhere - the situation of the historic inner town today

d) Best practices

- 2009 Extension of the protected area
- 101 rules for a livable city (Jeff Speck: The Walkable City)
- Main street program
- Maximize the number of the apartments (building units)



4. Open borders - everybody wants to live somewhere - the situation of the historic inner town today

c) Sopron, a destination of immigration

- Open borders, well-paying jobs in Austria
- There is a demand for a large amount of housing
- Profit maximizing activities of construction companies
- Authority limits



4. Open borders - everybody wants to live somewhere- the situation of the historic inner town today

e) Suggestions

- Retaining the residential function, retaining city center function
- Restore the status of downtown by providing service housing for city leaders
- Keeping buildings in one hand
- Renovation of public areas: bringing the city to life: terraces, events
- Financial and other incentive arrangements



The end