

THE URBAN IMPACT OF THE CORVIN CASTLE OF HUNEDOARA: HERITAGE PRESERVATION AND SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT

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INTRODUCTION & AIM



Corvin Castle in Hunedoara, Romania, is an important heritage site whose preservation is closely linked to urban planning, sustainability, and local development processes. As historic cities face pressures related to tourism, economic change, and spatial transformation, heritage conservation plays an increasingly relevant role in guiding urban development. This study examines how the preservation of Corvin Castle influences planning policies, the surrounding urban environment, and local adaptation strategies.



Corvin Castle on the Hunedoara map – 1969



Corvin Castle on the Hunedoara map – now

METHOD

The research uses a mixed-methods approach that combines historical and morphological analysis of the urban fabric with spatial mapping of protected and buffer zones. Planning documents and heritage management policies were analyzed to evaluate how conservation principles are reflected in regulatory frameworks. Interviews with planners, heritage specialists, and local stakeholders provided additional insight into governance practices and institutional capacity. This approach responds to current discussions on urban planning, resilience, and sustainable development.

CONCLUSION

Overall, the study highlights the value of integrating heritage conservation into broader urban development frameworks in order to support coherent, sustainable, and context-sensitive urban transformation.

FUTURE WORK / REFERENCES

Future studies should focus on better coordination between preservation and urban development, and on managing tourism alongside modernization.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

The results show that Corvin Castle functions as a significant spatial reference point within the city, shaping land-use patterns, mobility connections, and the organization of public spaces. Heritage-based regeneration projects support local economic activity and contribute to strengthening community identity. At the same time, challenges remain in balancing preservation requirements with infrastructure upgrades and functional modernization, pointing to the need for better coordination within planning and resilience strategies.

Percentage	Impact Area	Concrete Example
Economy 40%	Economic Contribution	Tourism revenue, local regeneration, economic activities from heritage projects
Identity 30%	Community Identity	Strengthening sense of belonging, cultural symbol for Hunedoara
Public Space 30%	Public Space Organization	Influence on mobility patterns, public markets, urban connections

The impact of Corvin Castle on the city