



A MEDIEVAL COUNTY ABOLISHED BY THE ROMANIAN MODERN ADMINISTRATION. THE CASE OF SĂCUIENI COUNTY

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Abstract: *The administrative reforms applied in the beginning of the XIXth century are one of the main factors that influenced the functionality and spatial planning of modern Romanian state. Although the issue has been a priority in the Romanian historiographical research, it is far from being solved. This article bring in the subject of the administrative reforms carried out on Wallachian counties level, in the seventeenth-nineteenth centuries, following step by step the major changes which took place with one of the Romanian counties. Therefore, the case study is limited to the transformations supported by Sacuieni medieval district in the begining of the modern age, and also to the authorities' attempts keeping it functional. Moreover, the article based on several unknown archive documents, discuss the causes of its abolition, on January 1, 1845.*

Key words: *Săcuieni County, Prahova, Buzău, administrative unit, Romania*

1. INTRODUCTION

In the context of recent debate on Romania's administrative-territorial reorganization is important to note that the decisions to establish / merge / dismantle administrative entities are mentioned early in the past of Europe (Oroveanu, 1986). The last two centuries has shown that administrative reforms have been an indispensable component in the organization of space, and their specificity and impact has depended on the perspective of the political powers that exerted their influence on the Romanian territory (the Ottoman Empire, the Tsarist Empire).

Another aspect to be noted is that most reforms have had a provincial-scale effect. However, local reforms in the modern era were also lacking in order to correct some administrative structure inherited from the past. Săcuieni gives us the example of a county as prosperous and well integrated with the medieval economic system, so anachronistic and dysfunctional in the modern age. What has caused its rise and fall can be pursued on



several levels (social, economic, political), but most clearly we can observe in the evolution of communication ways and in the changing of its capital. The abolition of Săcuieni County, beginning with January 1, 1845, opened in the history of Romania one of the most important chapters of the modern age, after which the foundation of prosperity of Prahova County was established.

2. METHODOLOGY

The main source of documentation was the Saac County Fund within the State Archives - Ploiești Branch, where some of the acts of the administration of the former county were filed. Some collections of general documents (DRH, DIR) or with particular reference to studied area (Documents from Vălenii de Munte, Documents from the Teleajen Valley, etc.) were also investigated. Among the primary sources that served us in the study, we can also mention the princely editions of the works of Dionisie Fotino (1819) and the Brothers Tunusli (1806). The relevance of the study derives from the rigorous selection of spatial data, the use of GIS analysis methods, the importance of the map (as a work tool and, at the same time, the finality of geography) and the use of field research. As with any scientific approach, there have been limitations: time component, access to data, original language and language, transcription from Cyrillic paleography into Latin alphabet.

3. STUDY AREA

Săcuieni County (abbreviated Saac) was located in the north-eastern part of Muntenia and included all the major relief categories from the Carpathian Curvature area (mountain, hill and plain). At the beginning of the nineteenth century, after a long period of administrative adjustments, Săcuieni County occupies the 11th place by its surface. (Anuarul Pr. Țării. Rom., 1842, p. 54). The northern part of Săcuieni County has long since covered the upper basin of Teleajen and Buzau, together with the mountains that have been fragmented with their waters. The conventional boundary with Transylvania, even though fluctuated over time, has followed the landmarks of the natural framework (ridges, peaks), generally highlighted by landmark signs: Zănoaga Bratocei (1665 m), Ciucaș (1954 m), Zăganu (1785 m), Tătaru Mare (1481 m), Siriu (1664 m).

One of the main characteristics of the mountain sector in the territory of Săcuieni County is accessibility, proven by the age, importance and number of transcarpathian ways of communication. The economic specificity of the mountain sector, conferred on the one hand by the exploitation of wood for the extension of grazing areas and, on the other hand, by specific occupations (such as livestock farming, fruit growing or guarding the northern border) was closely linked with the establishment of areas, administrative-territorial subunits of the counties. Due to the location and the features of the relief, the county of Săcuieni was considered one of the mountain counties, along with Slam Râmnic, Buzău, Prahova, etc. The middle area of Săcuieni County was roughly between Slon and Bucov and was the connecting region between the mountain and the plain. Due to its position, favorable living conditions and high economic potential (forests, salt, fuel oil, etc.), the sub-Carpathian sector housed the most important part of the population and the first regional exchange markets (fairs) (C. Popescu, 1979). The increased degree of

fragmentation of the relief is provided by the hydrographic network (Teleajen, Vărbilău, Slănic, Buzău, Cricovu Sărat, Nișcov etc.) and the depression system (Slănic, Măneciu, Drajna-Chiojd, Surani-Șoimari, Mislea-Podeni, Lapoș, Valea Neagră, Salcia, Nișcov).

In the southern part, Săcuieni County included a territory occupied exclusively by the plain. The passage to this was less evident in contact with the Teleajen Subcarpathians than with those of the curvature, where the imposing massifs end through the slopes (which inspired the name of the Great Hill – “Dealul Mare”), (Tufescu, 1966, p. 144). Săcuieni County included parts of Ploiești Plain (west), Gherghiței Plain (south) and Sărată Plain, being bordered by the more important rivers of Teleajen, Crivocul Sărat, Sărata, Năianca, Istău, Ghighiu and others. The typical landscape consisted of agricultural land, forest clusters (near the village of Ruși) and pastoral areas, populated with sheepfolds and dwellings. As a result of the large development of the county in latitude and altitude, the study area can be characterized as a diverse and non-homogeneous territory from a physico-geographical point of view.

4. THE BORDERS OF SĂCUIENI COUNTY

According to Mihail Cantacuzino, Săcuieni County would have stretched eastwards till the outskirts of Moldova (Tunusli, 1806, chapter LV), however the administrative reality of Wallachia (of which Buzău County never lacked) gives us the guarantee that is a mistake (Iorga, 1912, p. 31). After the Organic regulation (1831), Săcuieni County was made up of two *plaiuri* and three *plăși*: Plaiul Teleajen, Plaiul Despre Buzău, Plasa Câmpului, Plasa Podgoriei and Plasa Tohanilor. A careful retrospective look brings to light less well-known aspects of administrative reforms. The most important administrative reform in the history of Săcuieni County seems to be produced under the reign of Matei Basarab, in the mid-17th century. Some clues indicate that the villages of Pătârlage and Arsele, thus the upper valley of Buzău River, was first part of Buzău County. This suggests a charter dated in 1645, issued by the Prince Matei Basarab to Ștefan Bishop of Buzău Episcopate related with an estate placed in Pătârlage "ot sudstvo [district] Buzău" (DRH-B vol. XXX, doc., p. 232-233).

Săcuieni County was familiar to the Prince who acquires himself an estate in Surani village, "without *rumâni*¹, eight lands" (Catalogul Documentelor Țării Românești din Arhivele Naționale, Vol. VII, 1999, 727, p. 252). Under his reign, namely in 1632, Vălenii de Munte appeared also explicitly in documents bearing the status of residence of Săcuieni County (DRH-B vol. XXIII, p. 600). From 1652, however, the village of Pătârlage appears constantly in Săcuieni County (DRH-B, vol. XXXVII, doc 285, pp. 261-262). The maps of the eighteenth century, starting with the map of the Constantin Cantacuzino (1700), represents Pătârlage beyond Săcuieni County, as we can see on Sulzer's map (1781), (see Figure 1). The feature was noted by Ecaterina Zaharescu: "old maps, removes all, the eastern half of the county" (1922, p. 172). The author explains the situation like a cartography error (inherited from Schmid Schraembl's map of 1638), due to the fact that until 1639, when Constantin Mavrocordat ordered stewards in each county, the eastern part of the Săcuieni had been under the care of the Captain chair of Buzău (Zaharescu, 1922).

¹ Slaves.

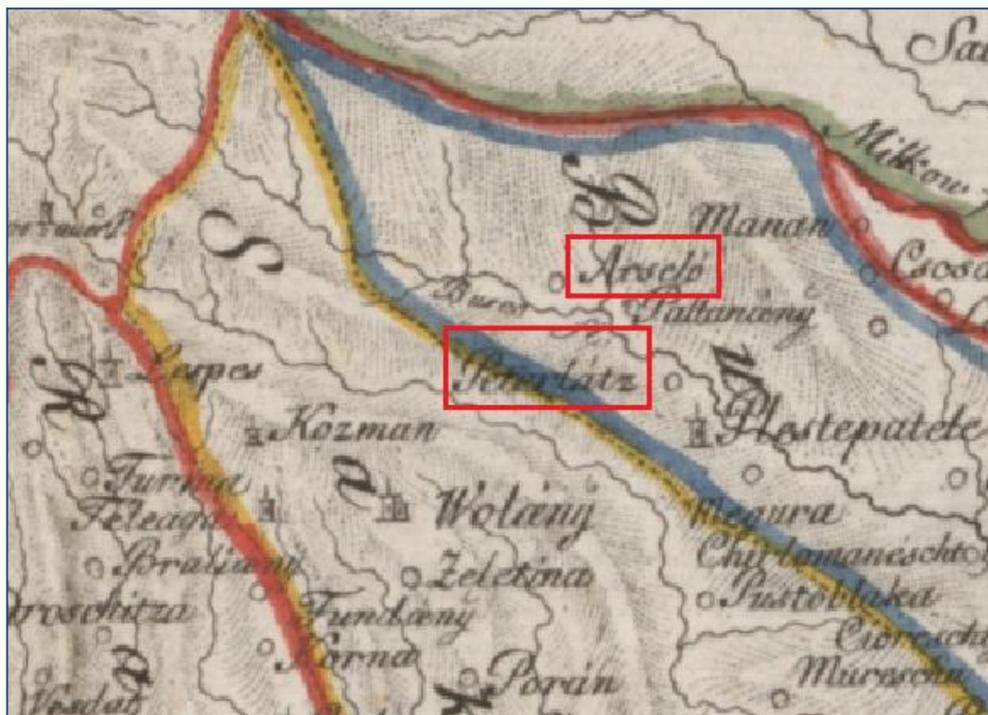


Figure 1. Pătârlagele and Arsele villages represented beyond Săcuieni County on Sulzer's map (1781)

It should be mentioned that the first administrative unification of Săcuieni and Buzău counties was made from 1543 by Radu Paisie, who granted to Episcopate of Buzău the right to trial over the counties of Brăila, Slam Râmnic, Buzău and Săcuieni (Sacerdoțeanu, 1936, p. 18). Therefore, at the beginning of the seventeenth century, the two neighboring counties were already unified administratively, being subordinated to the same ecclesiastical authority. It should be added that other medieval counties, such as Argeș, suggest that the scenario of the administrative change described was not an isolated case. Many counties originally had modest dimensions and expanded in detriment of others (Argeș at the expense of Teleorman) (Coman, 2013, p. 96). Integrating several documents from Matei Basarab's time and before, to report villages on the Buzău Valley to the county units, could bring additional information to clarify the issue. Unfortunately, locating cases such as "Pătârlagele ot sudstvo Buzău" are rare before 1645, or they have escaped to analysis. Therefore, the Buzău area is a relatively new administrative-territorial delimitation, the base of which was the Sibiciu Captain of the time of Matei Basarab.

The boundaries with neighboring counties were not always the same. Some edge villages are recorded up to one point in a county, and then to the neighboring one. According to Brâncoveanu's Anatefter (1690), Țipărești performed the function of a village of *plăieși* (village with military duties) in Prahova County, but later pass to Săcuieni. General Bauer (1778) lists some villages known also as being moved from Prahova County (Adâncata, Bărăitaru, Ciorani) to Saac County. Thus, Plasa Câmpului would suffer in the last decades of the eighteenth century a considerable constraint on the territory. If we consider that in the mid-seventeenth century Urziceni were a village belonging not to Ialomița County but to Prahova, the hypothesis seems plausible (DRH-

B vol. XXXVI, doc 124, p. 139)². Only the western limit seems more stable, or there have not yet been cases similar to those in the South and East. In the eighteenth century, estates in the two counties constituted a daily reality. An act in 1793 speaks of a landowner "what is called Moara Câmpineanului, which falls half in Prahova and half in the Secuienilor district" (Urechia, 1895, p. 570). Not only the estates but the villages were on the border. Also, Bauer gives the name of three villages located "on the borders of Săcuieni district with Buzău and Ialomița": "Kotuna", "Balan" and "Makowei" (Bauer, 1778, p. 132). The conclusion is that the form of the counties has experienced major changes over time and the aim was to obtain territorial systems as simple as possible. This trend is observable in the obsolete, exaggerated geometry of the counties in the historical maps as well as in the measure taken after the Organic regulation by Vornicia din Lăuntru, to set up a special commission to "round up the counties".

5. THE SUBDIVISIONS OF SĂCUIENI COUNTY

One of the open issues in Romanian historiography is the setting up of *plaiuri* and *plăși* administrative units. Constantin Brâncoveanu's Anatefter (1690) included 28 villages to Săcuieni County, five of which were located on the Buzău Valley (Pătărlage, Sibiu Mare, Mlăjet, Paltineni and Colți), (Anatefter, 1962, p. 82). We tend to believe that the division into *plaiuri* and *plăși* had not yet been adopted as long as the villages are listed. Things will change immediately after the instauration of the Phanariot regime. A document from 1793 reports that "before time", the Văleni fair stretched to Văleanca river, and beyond the water to the north began the villages of Plaiul Tejeajen, exempted by the princely privileges of the payment of the căminărit (Urechia, vol. III, 1893, p. 185-186). We correlate the inclusion of Văleni fair to the Plaiul Teleajen with the administrative reform of Constantin Mavrocordat, initiated in the first half of the 18th century. This reality leads two important ideas: 1. that the Văleni market was considered, prior to 1741, a fair of the plain region, having the same fiscal duties as all the settlements in the vineyard area. 2. That the customs border operated on Văleanca river, at the entrance of Plaiul Teleajen. Also in the time of Constantin Mavrocordat, Săcuieni County had a neighbor to the south: Ialomita County (Dic. Soc. Rurală, 2011, p. 274). The purpose of *plaiuri* and *plăși* units before the nineteenth century was linked to the needs demanded by the political context. At a time when the requirements of the Ottoman Empire and the Phanariots were increasingly, the existence of the *plaiuri* and *plăși* had primarily tax implications. This translates into the obligation to pay a fee, consisting of money and goods, depending on geographic and economic specificity. The fields were owed with the payment of the conquest, the sheepfold, and the others.

Besides these, the inhabitants also had the duty to carry out some secular debts and in a constant manner the border guard and commercial roads. Another exclusive duty of the fields was the fulfillment of the royal hawks, that is, the capture of these hunting hawks for the Sultan. In the case of payments, where the economic profile was predominantly viticultural and agricultural, the vineyards, grazing and pogoărit gather from the villages. This administrative and fiscal order imposed after 1716, which

² The membership of Urziceni in Prahova County during this period can't be doubted, as evidenced the original Slavonic version of the document. However, we note that in the DRH collection, Urziceni village is located by the editors in Ilfov County. Filling can be misleading. See: DRH, B. Țara Românească, volumul XXXVII (1652), Editura Academiei Române, București, 2006, doc. 69, p. 69.

represents the year of the establishment of the Phanariot reigns in Wallachia, was replaced by another, more efficient and anchored in the European realities of that time, upon the entry into force of the organic regulation. This modernization, made almost on the basis of the state, provided for: the establishment of fixed residences for each beach and a net, and one for the county; Establishment of competent institutions for the fulfillment of the orders, the county administration and the sub-directories of plaiuri and plăși. The first precise information on the subdivision of the counties of Wallachia into plaiuri and plăși came only from the second half of the 18th century. In the case of Săcuieni County, they are due to the first section of the taxpayer in Valahia, drafted in 1774, and are validated by works of historical-geographic content of the epoch, dealing with the Carpatho-Danubian space. During the Phanariot period, the establishment of the land residence seems to have been dictated by the Lord's relationship with the small boyars in the territory rather than geographic or strategic reasons. The residence of the stewards does not have a fixed place, the capital of the county from Vălenii de Munte to Bucov and vice versa (Zagorit, 1915, p. 75). It must not be a contradiction that during Sulzer's time in 1781 the stewards were in Bucov, and soon, during Dionisie Fotino's time, Săcuieni County was lead from Văleni and Bucov simultaneously (Fotino, 1819). In 1822, the Austrian captain Radisitz commissioned to create a description of the Principality of Danube, mentioned the Văleni Fair as the sole residence of the stewards (Călători străini, 2005, p. 71).

In the first phase, the Saac County preserved the seven administrative subunits, which were to be served by the following residences: Vălenii de Munte – Plaiul Teleajen, Sibiciu de Sus - Plaiul Despre Buzău, Fulga - Plasa Câmp, Tohani – Plasa Tohani, Bucov-Plasa Podgoriei, Urlați – Plasa Cricovului, Podenii Vechi – Plasa Scăenilor (K. Κακατσας, 1830, p. 391-399). Also, the capital of the county was definitively established to Bucov (see Figure 2). At the first modern Census (1831) in Săcuieni County there were two more plaiuri and five plăși (Donat et al., 1999, pp. 117-128). The Organic regulation will optimize the fiscal and administrative apparatus by reducing the number of payments in counties (Regulamentul organic, 1847, p. 111). The plans proposed for abolition were chosen according to the regulations, after consulting the most chosen boyars in each *plasă* and in agreement with the statistics of the number of workers (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea județului Saac, folder 55/1831). After long debates that caused the central authorities' dissatisfaction with the delay, the decision of the perpetrator was to include the villages of Cricov in the Plasa Tohani and the ones in the Plasa Scăenilor in Podgoriei (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea județului Saac, folder 55/1831, f. 5). On September 12, 1831, the High Court of the Principality of Wallachia requested the rulers of Saac County to "unite the city of Bucov with a nearby plasa" (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea județului Saac, folder 55/1831, f. 6), namely the Podgoriei. In the same year, on October 26, through a project of the Grand Court designed to facilitate the course of the Saac County office, Iorgu Știrbei found it appropriate for the Tohani to be "very far away with the villages and uncomfortable in meeting the duties of the supreme ruler. <...> to untie and stay alone with another supreme leader, and place Cricov to stay again as they were" (Analele Parlam. ale Rom. Tomul II, 1892, p. 83).

County, it is structured in two plaiuri and three plăși. For the geometric layout of plains and plateaus, one of the most credible cartographical sources is the Wallachia Administrative Map (1833), known as the Bergenheim Map. The main argument would be that it was known and intended for practical purposes by the county itself. In 1834 two copies of the administrative map, one deputy and one chancellery were sent to Saac (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea județului Saac, folder 68/1834). At the beginning of the same year, the country's Vistory called for a situation of the villages in the county that existed in the capital but on the map of the Principality were not found, for those that existed on the map but not on the list of capita (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea județului Saac, folder 68/1834). Beyond inconsistencies, we suppose that the government was in agreement with the administrative situation presented on the map. In conclusion, we believe that the administrative-territorial subdivisions of Săcuieni County were founded during the Phanariot period in order to better manage the contributing villages.

6. THE ABOLITION OF SĂCUIENI COUNTY

The abolition of the romanian counties is testified since the medieval times, the most well-known cases being those of Jaleș, Motru and Gilort (Coman, 2013). The decision to set up the counties belonged to the Prince and ended with an act of establishment and bordering (Oroveanu, 1986, p. 160). Also, the Princes had the power of abolition. However, we did not identify any missing counties from the beginning of the 18th century until 1845, which shows that the abolition was not seen as a solution, instead of compensatory adjustments (creation of administrative divisions), border withdrawals, relocation of the residence according to the interests of the moment). This measure is, in fact, one of the many attempts to modernize the Romanian Principalities in the first half of the nineteenth century. Therefore, before actually discussing the causes and reasons for the disappearance of Săcuieni County, let us remember the context in which the events have unfolded. The laws and decrees of 1843-1848 certify the reformist inclinations of Gh. Bibescu (Florescu, 1894). One of the objectives of his reign was the optimization of the administrative apparatus of country, the goal of which was to form a Commission for the "rounding up" of the counties, subordinated to the Vornicia din Lăuntru (Home Office). How to reach a compromise on Săcuieni is not difficult to understand, analyzing the course of its past two centuries. The county had suffered an economic downturn since the end of the 18th century.

Signs of regression can be seen by comparing the income of the Predeal, Bratocea and Tabla Butii customs. At the same time, the county had started to face a new problem caused by the distance between Bucharest and Văleni de Munte. If in medieval times it was essential for the boyards of Văleni to provide control from the middle of the county (having thus more decisional autonomy), after 1711, the subordination relationship and the dialogue carried out by the Capital with the county's devotees prevailed. For this reason it is decided after 1781, the replacement of Văleni with Bucov, which was on the southern edge of the county. However, this change has not been saved or long-lasting due to the proximity to Ploiești (3 km) - Prahova County - and the instability of Bucov. The statistics indicate a continuous decline in the population in the Bucov fair between 1831-1863, the year after which it rebounded due to the improvements made to the buildings of the Agrarian Reform (1864). The depopulation

phenomenon affecting the residence indicates a state of instability before 1845. Among the factors that generated the crisis are the pressure exerted by the Ploiești Fair and internal (social and administrative) malfunctions. In 1838, another fair (Slivina Nouă) founded by the Bulgarians nearby would be "separated" due to its owner (Zagoriț, 1915, p. 70). In 1842, a complaint of the Bucovs climbers ended with the desire of everyone not to break the village because of misunderstandings (Hanganu, 1971, pp. 39-40). The fleeing from the estate of those who provide profit through "alișveriş" (commerce) is, in our view, an important reason why it is considered appropriate to abolish Săcuieni County. It should also be noted that the abolition of the Saac County was not a new subject of discussion for the Assembly, since 1838. But there was also an alternative solution, which provided for the relocation of the retreat back to Vălenii de Munte, according to the report to the Public Assembly (May 30, 1838) (Analele Parlamentare ale Rom., tom VIII partea I, 1897, p. 168).

The abolition will materialize six years later (see Figure 3). From the correspondence kept in the Prahova National Archives (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea județului Saac, folder 133/1844), it appears that the major changes that were to come into force were fixed by the Administrative Council in September 1844. To this end, in order to act in full knowledge, the Administrative Commission requested from the Helm of Prahova, Buzău and Săcuieni, lists of villages (on each beach and part of the net), with the number of families, as "was based by the Census Commission of the 3rd Period" (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea județului Saac, folder 133/1844, f. 6, 7). The final decisions were taken at meetings held by the county rounding Commission in the towns of Ploiești and Buzău, where the governors and sub-rulers of Săcuieni County were also invited. Beyond the course of events that preceded the administrative-territorial reform, the concrete way in which the new boundary between the counties of Prahova and Buzău was drawn was questioned. The question, in particular, is whether she was random or guided by certain spatial criteria. In relation to this subject, Buterez (2015) concluded through a case study that the boundary between Prahova and Buzău, valid from 1 January 1845, overlaps "almost perfectly" with the boundary line of "Spiridon's estate" (Since 1820), the estate located between the villages of Rotarea and Fundul Cătinii (Buterez, 2015, p.248-249). The author inclines to see medieval counties as "territorial syntheses of several estates" (Buterez, 2015, p. 249).

The material of the archive is almost devoid of detail in this issue. However, some elements will help us reach a conclusion. Let us first argue that no document explicitly requires lists of estates, but only villages and populations. The emphasis was on demographic realities, putting aside the reasons for the more efficient management of the "vacant" territory. The delimitation would be done by "pulling dividing lines from the head of the county to the north, passing by Mizil and descending to the other head of the county to the south" (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea județului Saac, folder 133/1844, f. 1). No clear details again. On the other hand, we admit that this task, that is to say the establishment of the border line, came to the subordinates of the plaiuri and plăși and some boyars.

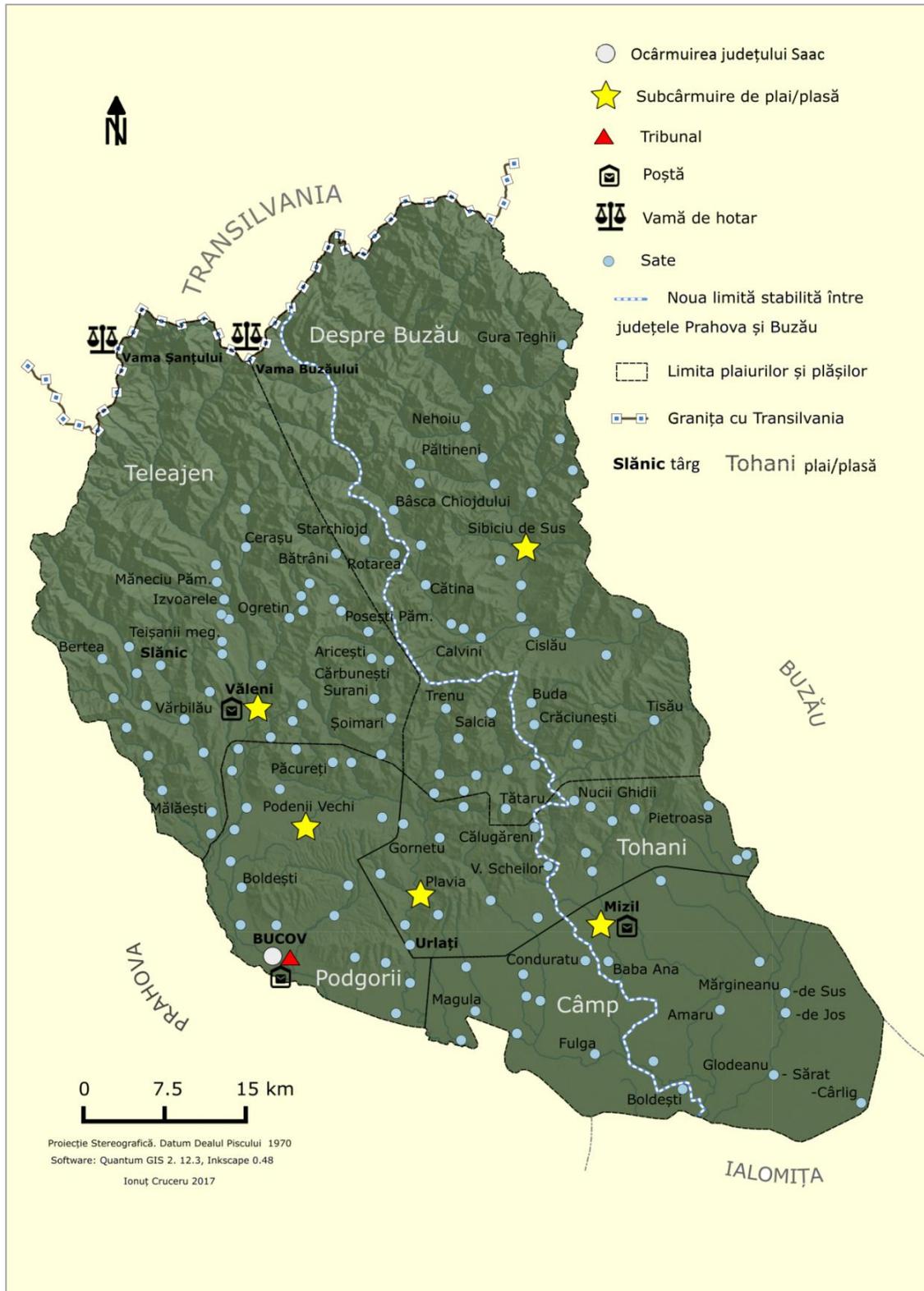


Figure 3. The Saac County before its abolition (1844)

One of the decision-makers, with "full knowledge of the localities of the county", was Medelnicerul Mihail Mârzea (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea

județului Saac, folder 133/1844, f. 1). However, it is unlikely that the boyars had science at the boundaries between the estates. Besides constantly changing, they were barely recognized and proved with witnesses and all the charters in hand. Otherwise, things were on the border of the country, which the forefathers of the lands were obliged to supervise with great care not to move the border. Lastly, a last argument that the geometry of the estates did not constitute an imperative benchmarking of the county boundaries: an act in 1793, about the land of the Moara Câmpineanului, "which falls half in Prahova and half in the Secuienilor district" (Urechia, 1895, p. 570). The situation can be explained by the choice of common landmarks. At the end of 1844, the county rounding commission announced that Saac County had the administrative unit to be abolished, starting with January 1, 1845, and that the villages in each of the plains and mesh were to be counted in the counties of Prahova and Buzău (The National Archives Prahova - the Fund Ocârmuirea județului Saac, folder 133/1844). In this way, the county of Dâmbovița would receive no other deputy, like the other (excepting Dolj County), but two deputies, in order to keep their number at 19 (Florescu, 1894, p. 178). All three counties, Prahova, Săcuieni and Buzău, comprised at that time a Câmpului plasa. When the Saac County was dismantled, its Câmpului plasa was joined to homonymous payments in neighboring counties, and Plasa Tohani was divided into two relatively equal parts. In turn, Plasa Cricov was re-established, going to Prahova county. On December 22, 1844, the decision was published in the Official Bulletin no. 155 (Florescu, 1894, p. 565). From the archive documents analyzed it is not understood whether the "rounding" was reduced only to the abolition of Săcuieni County and to the establishment of the new border between Prahova and Buzău or to other counties.

Can the question arise whether the measure implemented on January 1, 1845 did or did not fulfill its purpose? Certainly. The economic and administrative conflict (proximity between residences) between the counties of Prahova and Săcuieni would still require a solution sooner or later. For this reason, it can be said that the administrative reform was auspicious for neighboring counties, who have won "overnight" the factor that kept Saacul for centuries up: natural resources. The economic thaw of Prahova, from the period of the Industrial Revolution to the present day, is impressed by this administrative reorganization.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The conclusion of our research is that there was a close link between the administrative units of the country and aspects such as demography, economic performance or dynamics of human settlements systems. The periodic reorganizations in our country have generally occurred amidst the changes in the political regime and in order to better manage the previous shortcomings, which is why they have remained meritorious measures in practice. Saac or Sacuieni County was established and became a component part of Wallachia at the end of the 14th-early fifteenth century. Regarding its administrative structure, the historical sources have brought to light the following stages:

Stage I. 1644-1653: the settlements in the upper and middle basin of Buzău pass under the jurisdiction of the Săcuieni County, with the occasion of which new borders are withdrawn between the counties.

Stage II. The beginning of the eighteenth century: The Văleni fair passes to Plaiul Teleajen;

Stage III. Year 1774: are available the first information about the division of the County on plaiuri and plăși (Plaiul Teleajenului, Plaiul Despre Buzău, Plasa Câmpului, Plasa Tohanilor, Plasa Cricovului, Plasa Podgoriei, Plasa Scăenilor)

Stage IV. Between 1831-1844: Plasa Cricov is joined to Tohani and the Scăeni to Podgoriei.

Stage V. Year 1838: for the first time, the problem of the abolition of the county is raised as a measure dictated by the need of fiscal reorganization;

Stage VI. Year 1845: The County was disbanded following the administrative council meetings in September 1844.

All the transformations of Săcuieni County occur at the beginning of the century: in 1543 it was testified passing along with Buzău, Slam Râmnic and Brăila counties under the jurisdiction of the Episcopate of Buzău, around 1645 it was enriched with the upper valley of Buzău and finally, in 1845 it was permanently deleted from the administrative map of the Principality of Wallachia.

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