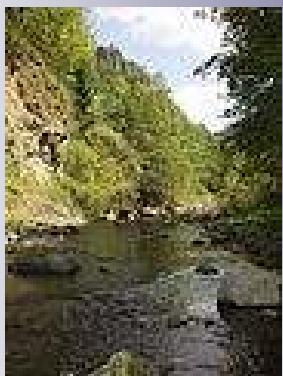


# **THE RIVER BISTRITA**

## **HISTORY OF THE RIVER BANK ECOSYSTEM**

- Length: 65,4 km
- It springs from Calimani Mountains, volcanic in origin.





**Bistrița** river flows into the Șieu, near Arcalia, where there is a famous tree reserve.

**Arcalia** is located 15 km away from Bistrița. The Șieu river is flowing nearby and the centre of the Arcalia village is on its alluvial terrace.

The dendrological park includes around 150 autochthonous and exotic species: the silver fir tree (*Abies concolor*), the Caucasian spruce fir (*Picea orientalis*), the silk tail (*Pinus strobus*), the American nut tree (*Juglans nigra*), the liriodendronum – the tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), the American oak (*Quercus imbricaria*) etc.



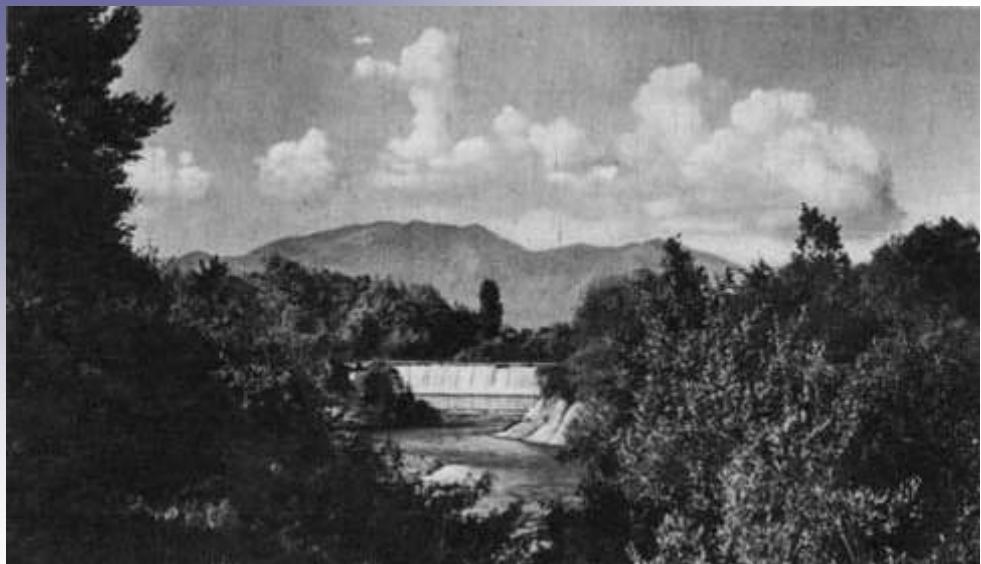
- Bistrița was crossed by some rivulets which were accompanied along the banks by rows of willows and alders among which the water was flowing. It was impossible not to notice Mill's Canal, when osier willows on the banks were spreading the perfume of their flowers all over the place.
- The rivulets had hygienic and sanitary functions, for lack of a sewerage system but they were also ensuring the necessary water for the numerous mills of the time.





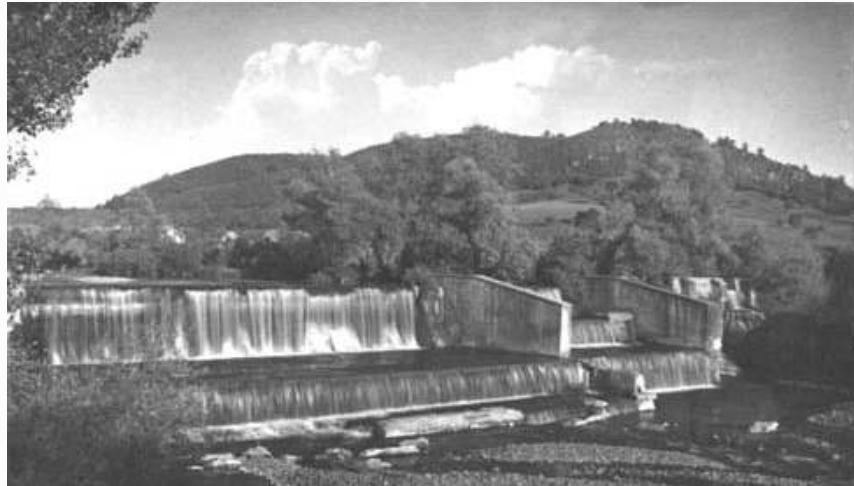
- Some of them were draining the rain water from the southern side of Burbergh, such as “Valea Rusului” (The Russians' Valley), “Valea Castanilor” (Chestnut-trees Valley) or “Valea Boilor” (Oxen Valley), others were flowing from the river of Bistrița.
- Among those flowing through the town, The Mill's Rivulet (Pârâul Morii) was the one with the highest discharge. It was flowing from the Waterfall, where it parted with the river of Bistrița and kept on flowing through the town from east to west.

- Bonnet's swimming places had been built at the beginning of the century (bearing the owner's name).
- This place had a wooded area on one bank, where citizens used to sit in sunny summer days. There were many bathing huts where people could change their clothes and leave them safely there and comfortable resting benches around.



- The Mill scaffolding, made up of thick beams, was often used as a jumping board for those who were diving into the deep foamy water whirled by the ever-spinning mill arms.





- People enjoyed “The Waterfall”, three km upriver away from town.
- The waterfall itself was a complex of dams, canals and pools with their adjacent water stops. There was also an uncovered canal for the water leading to the hydroelectric station turbines. Near the dam the water was deep, allowing divers to make stunning jumps.



- When the river flow was high or the turbines were not working, the water was pouring over the dam into the two swimming pools: the big one 50 m long and 1.60 m deep and the smaller one 30 m long and 1 m deep, offering the possibility of choosing the most suitable pool, depending on everyone's height, age and swimming abilities.
- People used to play polo and volley-ball in the foamy water, over watched by the hundreds of people lying in the sun on the hut concrete bulwark of the waterfall.



# Lake COLIBITA



- The dam was built between 1977 and 1991
- It is 92 m high and 250 m long.
- The volume is  $90 \text{ km}^3$
- Area:  $3,14 \text{ km}^2$
- Reception pool:  $113 \text{ km}^2$
- Altitude: 900 m



Unfortunately, there are still places like this on the river banks. What's more, such places are on private properties!

