

REVIEWS AND NOTES

Ioan Codruț Lucinescu, Mihaela Teodor, „Din patrimoniul istoric și cultural național: Grădiștenii și Conacul de la Grădiștea (Însemnări monografice)”, Editura ANIMV, București, 2019, 130p

Review by Bogdan Alexandru TEODOR

As the preface highlights the *Historical and Cultural National Heritage: The Grădișteanu Family and Grădiștea Manor (Monograph Notes)*, signed by researchers Ioan Codruț Lucinescu and Teodor Mihaela, is “both as a scientific effort to revive the memory of historical buildings in the patrimony of the Romanian Intelligence Service, and as an editorial endeavour, this being the first book of the series of “Culture and Civilization” published by “Mihai Viteazul” National Intelligence Academy Publishing House”.

The volume, an original initiative due to both the subject and the research, is dedicated to all those passionate on the national history through the subject addressed, the history of a building of public utility and a historical monument representative for the local cultural heritage. But the research isn't only about presenting the past and present of the building, but it also had – and met – the goal of bringing into light the destiny of the Grădiștea Manor, being the witness of the last outbursts of Grădișteanu men's nobility Grandomania.

The volume was structured in two chapters: the first one – dedicated to the family, *The national historical heritage: the Grădișteanu family*, and the second – dedicated to the estate and the manor, *The historical and cultural heritage: the estate and manor in Grădiștea*. The authors also added a special chapter of appendices, including

illustrations, facsimiles and the complete family tree starting in the 16th century and until today; in this way managing to attractively recreate both the period and modernity.

Based on archival documents, some of them unique, but also on the existing literature, the volume presents a piece of history: “the evolution of those members who left the clearest footprint on the Middle Age and modern history of Romania, and, in particular, the evolution of the Grădiștea estate and manor in Vlașca – (now a village in the Giurgiu county), the place that gives the name of the family – from being a private property to a public utility building and a historical monument.” It is what authors intended to be some monographic notes about the estate and the manor in Grădiștea, part of our national historical and cultural heritage.