

**SETTLEMENT AND TOPONOMY IN THE PĂTÂRLAGELE
DEPRESSION: THE BUZĂU VALLEY SETTLEMENTS BETWEEN
VALEA LUPULUI AND POIENILE DE JOS.
PART TWO: THE PLACENAMES**

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Abstract: A previous paper has introduced this Subcarpathian area as one that has been well-settled since early times. But it is also evident that many settlements are relatively modern and reflect the expansion of subsistence farming from the major valleys on to the hillsides during a period of acute population pressure and economic restructuring in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Some areas used today for hay, pasture and plum orchards were well cultivated until cereal lands were acquired in the Bărăgan under the 1923 land reform and economic diversification accelerated after 1945. Since the documentary evidence for this important phase of development is very limited we pay particular reference to the toponymy emerging not only from large-scale maps, key texts (especially Iorgulescu's epic works of 1885 and 1892) but also a very rich oral evidence. Toponymy is therefore presented as a major source for understanding an important phase of rural settlement. But while the placenames contribute much of interest in terms of ecology and environmental potentials in the light of survival by extended families and other small communities there is little reliable information on the origins of settlement.

Key words: agriculture, colonisation, Pătârlagele, rural settlement, settlement history, Subcarpathians, toponymy

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INTRODUCTION

This paper follows a previous publication (Muică & Turnock 2009b) outlining the situation of this Subcarpathian area and also its settlement history; noting a primary settlement phase (to c. 1800) involving a number of key settlements situated (mostly) along the Buzău valley as well as a wave of secondary settlement – mainly in the nineteenth century – which also involved the landslides and structural surfaces on the higher ground. This latter phase is poorly documented apart from the cartographic evidence although it is a logical development given the growth of population at this time as well as the expansion of the capitalist system when the better terrace lands were needed for commercial; agricultural production and subsistence farming was diverted to more marginal land. However we have been impressed by the richness of the local toponymy

which extends to numerous locations of agricultural significance as well as settlement, streams, hills and mountains. We have collected this evidence from both documentary and oral sources and present it in this paper. Although we cannot be sure just when these names were first used it is a reasonable assumption that they reflect, at least to some extent, the nineteenth/early twentieth century period of heavy population pressure on the limited land resources of the district. This paper concentrates on the local toponymy against the background study of the area presented in the previous paper which also includes relevant maps and tables.

THE VILLAGE NAMES

We may begin by referring to the village names. Some of them are named after people like Valea Lupului - meaning wolf's valley which is linked with a shepherd of this name (Lupu), while Buruenești is thought to refer to a nickname (deriving from "buruiană" meaning a weed) later adopted as a family name and still known in the area. Țoca may arise from a personal name of Bulgarian origin, while Constantinescu (1938) recalls Iorga's belief that Pătârlagele derived from the Teutonic name "Peterlak" or "Peterlager": "Peter" would produce "Pătru" or "Petru" in Romanian, while "Lager" (meaning a habitation) would be "sălaş" in Romanian: hence "Peterlager" would become "Sălaşul Pătrului" or "Cetatea lui Pătru" ("Cetatea Pătrului" in the old form). But there are also possible associations with the Teutonic Knights who may have built "Cetatea lui Pătru". The name Mărunțișu indicates a small sum of money – perhaps payments received by peasants for their handicraft work; although there is a tradition (already referred to) relating to tribute paid to an Ottoman tax office in the sixteenth century, recalled by the Băciucu's (1970, p. 3) phrase "se schimbau bani mărunți". Satu Nou points to a new village while Sekui could infer an "Ungureni" influence which is strong in this area and Benga incorporates the element "beng" which indicates evil in the Roma language (already noted): there are Roma associations with this village but any more precise local context is unavailable. Physical features are involved in the case of Malul Alb, dominated by its white cliff, with a name that indicates a rocky place without soil or vegetation. Valea Rea is the bad valley, while Crivineni derives from the Serbian "krivina": a humid hollow place. Prundeni indicates gravelly ground and Redeny means a small oak forest while Poienile de Jos/Sus points to clearings and Kornet derives from DI/V. Cornetului referring (quite appropriately) to a coppice of cornel trees. Valea Gorneasca incorporates the "gorân" element alluding to an oak forest although there could be an alternative explanation through the Serbian "gor" referring to a mountain. Gura Bâscii indicates the mouth of Bâsca (i. e. Bâsca Chiojdului) river which is appropriate for the confluence with the Buzău. However, some names do not make good sense e.g. Valea Seacă means a dry valley – reflecting the prominence of permeable gravel and an absence of water. But the gravels are found only in the valley bottom (also on Cornet hill and the torrential fans of Valea Seacă) and there is no absence of woodland along the Buzău river (including the land occupied by the settlement in question) or the Bâsca Chiojdului. Again, Lunca traditionally suggests a horizontal surface in hill or mountain country (e.g. Luncani from the Orăștie Mountains) or alternatively an alluvial plain in the modern sense; whereas the village is actually situated on a 20-30m terrace. The meaning of Hărădău and Walere is unknown although Constantinescu (1938) considers the latter has a Hungarian origin.

OTHER PLACENAMES: SOURCES AND INTERPRETATION

Our research has revealed 110 named features and locations (in addition to the village names already discussed) of which 68 are supported by documents while 42 are known through oral evidence only. Of the 68, 37 have only one source; while 29 have two to five sources; nine have six to eleven sources: Vf. Poenarilor, Vf. Poienii and Valea Lupului with six; Vf. Părului with eight; V. Seacă and Vf. Teiușului with nine; V. Rea (Hărădău) and Gorneasca with ten; and Vf. Stâni with eleven. The only others are DI/Vf. Cornetului with 15; Bâsca Chiojdului with 17 and Buzău with 29. As regards the higher scores there is a rough equality between mountains and rivers although the two rivers attracting 46 citations between them are particularly striking. Certain

names appear several times across the Pătârlagele Depression but this only occurs on a few occasions in the present study area: V. Lupului is known at Poienile as well as Valea Lupului while V. Mardale is also used in parts of both V. Lupului and V. Rea (whithe latter is known near Țoca as well as Valea Lupului). Dl. Strugăriei (“the hill of the lathe workers”) occurs twice in the Mărunțișu area while Vf. Stânei (referring to a “stâna” or summer sheep grazing station) and Moară-La (“at the water mill”) both occur four times.

A total of some 230 references to the 68 names that have documentary mention have been drawn from a total of 30 sources comprising books and maps (although the latter are not comprehensively listed in the bibliography) Exactly half the references (115) come from just four sources: Iorgulescu (1892) with 34, the provisional edition of the Institutul Geografic al Armatei “Harta 1:50,000” of 1900 with 25, the 1961 “Harta Topografică 1:25,000” by Ministerul Forțelor Armate Direcția Topografică Militară with 26 and the second edition of this series (1980) with 21. Another third (76) come from eight sources with 6-15 references each: Iorgulescu (1881) with 15, Bălțeanu (1983) with 13 and the 1906 “Harta 1:100,000” by Institutul Geografic al Armatei (with data collected during 1895-8) with 10. There are also nine references each from Muică, N. (1977), the “Harta Topografică 1 :100,000” by Institutul Geografic Militar (1941) and Serviciul Geografic al Armatei (1916); also six references each from Ministerul Agriculturii și Domeniilor (1914) with data for 1912 and Szathmary’s “Charta Românie Meridionale” of 1864 based on Marshall Fligely’s surveys from 1856. Finally there are 39 references from 18 minor sources generating one to five items each: five from Ionescu (1977) and the anonymous “Harta Țerri Romănesci” from Austrian sources; four from Petrescu-Burloiu (1977); three each from the work of K. u. k. militärischen-geographischen Institut in 1874 (“General Karte von Central Europe”) and 1867 (“General-Karte des Fürstenthums Walachei”); two each from Ioneanu (1893); the works of D. Pappazoglu: “Atlasu geograficu allu României” and “Charta României” (both 1864); the Russian maps of the Romanian Lands published in German (after 1853) and in Cyrillic (1835, re-issued in 1853); and von Bauer’s work of 1778. One reference each came from Ioneanu (1891); K. k. militar-geographische Institut “General Karte von Central Europe” (1881); “Vallachia” (the Romanian version of the Russian map re-issued after 1853); Kisselef’s map of 1833; and earlier maps of by Hatov (1828), Specht (1790-1) and Ruhedorf (1788).

It should be emphasised that the names are by no means used consistently and places with abundant documentary references show remarkable variations going way beyond trivial inconsistencies and minor errors as when Iorgulescu (1881) uses Bâsca/Bâsca/Bîsca Chiojdului. Dl. Teiușului appears as such in 1961 and 1980; but Dl. Teișului in 1895, 1900, 1916 and 1941; Dl. Teișu in 1892; Vf. Teiului in 1881; and M. Teieșiu in 1864. Dl/Vf. Cornetului appears as Vf. Cornetului in 1900, 1961 and 1980 but as Dl. Cornetu in 1977b and M. Cornetu in 1892, while Vf. Kornorelu was used in 1874, 1867 and 1861; also Vf. Cornurellu in 1864. However Cornetul alone was used in 1895, 1916 and 1941 (also as a variant in 1983) while Cornetu appeared in 1977 (and again as a variant in 1983) while the spot height of 827m also appeared in the same two cases and Vf. Cătina was used in error in 1881. The greatest variation appears with the two main rivers. Leaving aside the occasional inclusion of “Valea”, Buzău was used 12 times during 1861-1983; but we have Buzeu or Buzeul – sometimes with diacriticals – four times during 1881-1893; Buzeo five times during 1810-1867 (but Bud’eu in 1864 and Buszeo in 1828); with variants on three other occasions involving Buseo in 1867 (also in 1778), Buă in 1864 and Buze after 1853. Finally Buzov was used in 1778. Bâsca Chiojdului meanwhile appears as such in 1900, 1893, 1892, 1881 (with Bâsca as a variant in 1881), while communist era spelling reform required Bîsca Chiojdului 1983, 1980, 1977b and 1961 (previously used as a variant in 1881). But before 1881 the reference to Chiojd did not appear and instead we have simply Biska (1874, 1867, after 1853 and 1778), Bisca in 1864 in Pappazoglu’s “Atlas” (though Bîsca in his “Charta” of the same year and also in 1861) and Btheneruiska in 1835. Finally, Buiska appeared as a variant in 1778 while Bâsca Chidan/Chivan was used in error in 1891.

Broadly speaking the oral and documentary evidence can be reconciled with agreement over both the names and the features to which they apply. Clearly the oral evidence is of

fundamental importance, being absolutely indigenous and also comprehensive. Quite understandably it is much more detailed than the documentary evidence which is almost always highly selective and appears to develop through widespread copying by each publication from its predecessors rather than by the engagement of surveyors with local people. Locations may differ slightly between documents and local convention when a name is used on a map in a rather generalised way whereas local convention may employ a variety of names e.g. for different sections of the river system. The Gorneasca stream is only known as such by locals below the point where all various sources (V. Rece, V. Silei and I. Ursului) have combined. However in the documents there are several variations: in 1864 and 1900 “V. Gârnetului” includes the southern part of V. Rece and subsequently in 1961, 1980 and 1983 the Gorneasca takes over V. Rece in its entirety. Even more surprising however is the appearance of two separate streams (Gornésca-I. and Gornetului-V) in the normally impeccable work of Iorgulescu (1892). Names may differ between documentary sources and local usage. Thus local people use either Vf. Parului or Vf. Poienii for a hill that was regularly documented recently as Haiu/Haiul or Vf. Haiului during 1961-83 and only in the distant past as Vf. Parului (or Pérulei in error) during 1881-1900. In another case Vf. Poenarilor has both local and documentary support (albeit with such slight variations as Vf. Poenari in 1980 and Poenele in 1892) but there is also a local alternative through Ci. Neamțului relating to a German survey marker which may date back to Fligely’s work in the 1850s. Two rather special cases concern the alternative name for the Gorneasca stream in the Mărunțișu area which not only has slight variations in the documents (e.g. Gornesca in 1892 and V. Gârnetului in 1864) but is labelled V. Mărunțișului by Iorgulescu (1881): one of number of cases when this distinguished author chooses names that are not genuine toponyms. Another example is his use of V. Poenelor for what is known in other documents (and also to the locals) as V. Purcăreața.

But the occurrence of alternative names is more widespread and the oral evidence alone can generate many such cases. Altogether there are 12 cases in the study area that require comment: seven cases involve two alternative names while the other five involve three. There are quite distinct local alternative – G. Teiului and Șopârliga – for a valley near Valea Lupului where the only documentary source is “Teiului-G/Șopârliga” in 1892. Old names may be superseded by new ones whether documented or not. Thus Vf. Monte was used in 1861 for a hill near Valea Lupului that it is today known as Dl. Mirodina (although it might just be an old name for Vf. Chichilău instead). Hărhădău – documented as “Rea-V. (Hărhădău)” in 1892 – is an old name for today’s V. Rea near Valea Lupului. The same situation arises at the southern edge of our area where another V. Rea (at Țoca) was formerly known as V. Humei, although in this case there was documentation as Huma in 1980 as well as V. Humei in 1900 and V. Huma in 1864. Another case of a historic name being superseded is Dl. Lazului near Lunca (documented in 1892 as Lad’ului Dl: a deforested hill) but now known as Dl. Benghii or Lz. Benghii (with Dl. Benga documented in 1980, 1961 and 1900). And Fg. Înalt (or Fg-al Mare) – an isolated peak on the Baba Dobra ridge near Țoca so documented in 1983 and 1980 – is now preferred to Vf. Bibi used in 1961. Local mills are usually referred to generally through “Moara-La” (at the mill) but one that used to exist at the Pătârlagele-Mărunțișu boundary has also been referred to as “Mo. Butoeșilor” reflecting a family name (Butoescu) or nickname (Butoi). There are also cases where differences between communities result in alternative names e.g. at Crivineni C. Lipincei (so documented in 1900) or La Lipinceanu – after a woman named Lipincea or a man named Lipinceanu – is also known as F. Crivinenilor.

Names usually derive from Romanian but there are exceptions. Bahnă – a damp place – comes from the Ukrainian “bahno” (Academia 1996/8, p. 81) while Lz. Benghii incorporates the “lazu” element (referring to a deforested surface used for pasture) which comes from Serbian (Candrea 1931, p. 1132). Buzău is an old name from the Daco-Scitic “museos” (Pârvan 1923 pp. 11-20) while Cheie/Cheia (a gorge) comes from the Latin “claves” (Academia Română 1996/8, p. 166) and Gorneasca incorporates the Slav “gor” element for a mountain while Pod-Pe – meaning “on the plateau” – involves the Old Slav “pod” (Candrea 1931, p. 963). Seciu comes from the

Hungarian “secuit”: clearing trees (slowly) by removing rings of bark. Finally “Țarină” – as in “Țarină Lupenilor (abbreviated Ț. Lupenilor) which means the agricultural land of the Lupeni people (i. e. from Valea Lupului) derives from the Latin “terra” or the Serbo-Croat “carina” (Academia Română 1996/8, p. 1123). It is also striking that many names are based on the villages: hence Dl/I/Lz. Benghii, F. Crivinenilor and Ma. Hărădăului; while the Gorneasca stream ties in with V. Cornetului. V. Lupului is an exact replica of the village name while “În Vf. la Arie Lupenilor” and “Mș/Ț. Lupenilor” relate to the Lupeni i. e. the people of this village. Cr. din Lu. Pătârlagelor indicates a cross on the Pătârlagele alluvial plain while Dl/Vf. Poenarilor relate to Poenile through the Poenari: the inhabitants of the two villages. Finally there is Pd. Țoca; but we might also mention V. Mărunțișului, Dp. Pătârlagelor and V. Poenelor which relate to specific settlements although they are inventions – by Iorgulescu (1881) and Petrescu-Burloiu (1977) – rather than genuine toponyms.

Only a few names have no meaning at all in the Romanian language and Șopârliga is the only example from the study area. But several do not make sense e.g. Rinichi-La – applied to alluvial fans in V. Lupului which are good for fruit, hay and pasture – means “at the kidneys” but any connection with this human organ is quite unknown. The river name Bâsca Chiojdului creates difficulty because while the Chiojd element relates to a village in the area, Bâsca is quite meaningless apart from the Macedonian word “basca” referring to wool. Most other names fit very well. Fg. Înalt and Fg-al Mare refer to the high beech tree which actually exists on an isolated hill near the southern edge of the Baba Dobra ridge near Țoca; while Dl/Vf. Cornetului means cornel peak – alluding to the cornel tree (*Cornus mas*) dominant in this locality; and I. Ruginos – the rust-coloured brook – is a true description for a small stream at Valea Lupului. Other names are at least plausible like Rp. Corbului – the raven’s precipice – where ravens could well have nested occasionally while Vf. Strechii may well have attracted horseflies as the name suggests. But despite the recent use of I. Ursului, it must be a long some time since bears were last seen close to Mărunțișu; and since “Lazu” indicates farmland *recently* deforested there are obvious problems if the name is adopted on a permanent basis since the deforestation will soon cease to be recent – as in one case at Benga which was mentioned in documents back in 1881. There is also a slight problem with I/Vf. Ciuciuului which could concern a person known as “Ciuciu” or else a gushing stream or spring with a noise similar to water spurting from a pipe (Academia 1996/8, p. 181). Finally, we shall never know if V. Mălaele really was a valley of maize cultivation or if Ps. Strâmt is truly the narrow summit that the names suggests because both names (Mălaele-V. and Strâmt-Ps) were used by Iorgulescu (1892) and they are no longer recognised in the Mărunțișu area which is the only locational information quoted by the author.

Reviewing first the names relevant to the physical geography (Table 1), the numerous names for hills reflect the diversity typical of the area. Distinction is made between a ridge (e.g. Dl. Baba Dobra) and individual peaks e.g. Vf. Bibi/Fg. Înalt. – at Țoca. There are some very simple names like Vf. Monte (mountain peak) near Valea Lupului; Mu. Plaiului (summit the surface of “plai”) at Poenile and Pod-Pe (“on the plateau”) at Valea Lupului while others include specific characteristics with Ps. Strâmt the narrow summit at Mărunțișu; also Vf. Chicilău for a steeply-sloping “volcanic” hill at Valea Lupului; and Pd. Po. Roșu (forest of the red plateau). Trees are mentioned: Fg-al Mare (the tall beech tree) at Țoca, Vf. Parului (peak of the pole) and Dl. Teiușului (hill of the small lime tree) at Poenile; and Vf. Părului (pear tree peak) at Valea Lupului – also deforestation with Dl. Lazului/Lz. Benghii at Lunca. Some hills are named after individual people (Vf. Haiului at Poenile and Dl. Mirodina at Valea Lupului); or groups e.g. Dl. Strugăriei (hill of the lathe workers) and Pș. Țiganului (Roma summit) or villages (Dl. Benghii or Dl/Vf. Poenarilor) - or buildings: Mu. Bisericii church summit. There is similar diversity for precipices and streams with Ma. Alb – a white precipice in non-resistant sandstone – a striking feature at Crivineni; likewise Ma. Hărădăului at Valea Lupului. The name Bahnă near Valea Lupului reminds us that damp/moist places could be valued under dry conditions: indeed high moisture content was always an asset when subsistence farmers moved to the landslide surfaces.

Woodland again looms large with I/Pd/Brădulețului pointing to forests of small fir trees at Țoca in addition to Pd. Țoca with no emphasis on a particular species.

Table 1. Placenames: Physical Features

MOUNTAINS:	Dl. Baba Dobra#; Dl. Benghii (Benga hill); Vf. Bibi#; Mu. Bisericii (church summit); Vf. Chichilău (Chichilău peak); Vf. Ciuciurului#; Dl/Vf. Cornetului (cornel peak); Vf. Haiului#; Fg. Înalt (peak at the high beech); Dl. Lazului (deforested hill); Dl. Mirodina#; Vf. Monte (peak of the mountain); Vf. Parului (peak of the pole); Vf. Părului (pear tree peak); Mu. Plaiului (summit of the "plai"); Pod-Pe (on the plateau <i>or</i> "șețu"); Dl. Poenarilor (hill of the of the Poenari: the people of Poienii); Vf. Poenarilor (peak of the Poenari); Vf. Poienii (peak of the clearings); Pd. Po. Roșu (forest of the red plateau); Ps. Strâmt (narrow summit); Vf. Strechii (peak of the horsefly); Pl. Stroeștilor (Stroești summit); Strugăria/Dl. Strugăriei* (hill of the lathe workers); Dl. Teiușului (hill of the "teiuș": a small lime tree); Ps. Țiganului (Roma summit).
PRECIPICES:	Ma. Alb (white precipice); Cheie/Cheia (gorge); Pn. Cheii (clearing of the gorge); Rp. Corbului (raven's precipice); Ma. Hărhădăului (precipice of Hărhădău); C. Lipincei/La Lipinceanu#; Mș. Lupenilor ('mușcel' of the Lupeni people); Ru. Malului-Sub (below the hillside precipice); C. Mare (the great slope); C. Mică (the small slope); C. Țarcului (slope of the fold or pen).
DRAINAGE:	Bahnă (damp place); I. Benghii (Benga brook); V. Boului (valley of the ox); I/V. Brădulețului (little brook of the little fir tree); I. Ciuciurului#; I. Cojocarului/Cojocarilor (brook of the furriers/skinners); V. Corbului (raven's valley); V. Dogarului (cooper's valley); G. Dușilor#; Gă. Ghergherea#; Gorneasca (Gorneasca valley); Hărhădău (Hărhădău valley); Huma/V. Humei (valley of violet-blue clay/marl); V. Lupului (wolf's valley); V. Mălaele (valley of maize); G. Manii#; V. Mardale/V. Mardalele#; V. Mărunțișului (Mărunțișu valley); V. Neamțului (German valley); G. Nucului (hollow of the walnut tree); V. Parului (valley of the pole); Dp. Pătârlagelor (Pătârlagele depression); I. La Pătrana#; V. Poenelor (valley of the clearings); V. Purcăreața (swineherd's valley); V. Rea (bad valley); F. V. Rele (bottom of the bad valley); I. Rotăriei (wheelwright's brook); I. Ruginos (rust-coloured brook); V. Seacă (dry valley); V. Silei (valley in/near the clearing); V. Stanciului#; V. Stănei (sheepfold valley); I. Strugăriei (brook of the lathe/wood workers); G. Teiului (lime tree valley); I. Ursului (bear's brook); Fd. Vaii Rele (bottom of the bad valley); V. Vrăjitoarei (witch's valley).
PLANTS/ WOODLANDS:	Pd. Agliceilor (forest of the dropwort); Altoae-La (at the stock/parent plant); Pd. Brădulețului (Brădulețu forest); I. V. Brădulețului+; Dl/Vf. Cornetului+; Gorneasca+; Fg. Înalt+; Fg(Fagu-al) Mare (the great beech); Pd. Piscepeasca (bishop's forest); V. Rea Pd: (forest of V. Rea); Pd. Po. Roșu+; G. Teiului+; Dl. Teiușului+; Pd. Țoca (Țoca forest).
BIRDS/ANIMALS:	Rp. Corbului+; V. Corbului+; V. Lupului+; Vf. Strechii+; I. Ursului+

denotes a name relating to a family or personal name or nickname mentioned in Table 2

+ denotes meaning provided elsewhere in the table.

Specific features are abbreviated as follows (using the singular/indefinite article): Arie (A): outdoor threshing floor; Bălcă (B): small water-filled hollow; Cap (Cp): hilltop; Cuib (Cb): nest; Ciuciur (Ci): spring; Coastă (C): hillslope; Cruce (Cr): wayside cross; Culme (Cu): ridge; Deal (Dl): hill; Dos (D): north-facing slope; Depresiune (Dp): depression; Drum (Dr): road; Fag (Fg): beech tree; Fâneată (Fa): hayland; Fântână (Fn): well; Față (F): south-facing slope; Fund (Fd): back side; Gărlă (Gă): marshy brook; Groapă (G): small hollow; Gură (Gu): mouth of a stream; Hotar (H): boundary; Izvor (I): commonly a spring but often used for a little brook; Lac (L): lake; Laz (Lz): recently deforested area; Luncă (Lu): floodplain; Munte (M): mountain; Mal (Ma): precipice; Moară (Mo): mill; Muchie (Mu): crest; Mușcel (Mș): gentle slope with landslides; Obor (O): cattle farm; Odae (Od): sheep farm; Pădure (Pd): woodland; Pârâu (P): small stream; Piatra (Pt): rock; Pisc (Ps): ridge or peak; Plai (Pl): near-horizontal surface (perhaps with some undulation); Poartă (Pr): gate or entrance; Pod (Po): horizontal surface or a step on a hillside; Poiana (Pn): clearing; Pom (Pm): fruit tree; Pripor (Pp): steep slope; Puț (Pu): well; Râpă (Rp): precipice; Râu (R): river; Ruptură (Ru): tear, occurring in areas with young landslides; Saramură (Sm): salty spring; Stână (Sn): pasture station; Talpă (T): pavement; Țarină (Ț): agricultural land; Vale (V): valley which may be small, with no permanent stream; Vână (Vn): spring but it may also refer to a brook; Vârf (Vf): peak.

Turning to the human geography (Table 2) there are a great many persons mentioned but they are no longer recognised although many were probably former farmers and/or landowners. There is great diversity since Christian names, surnames and nicknames are clearly included. They cover a wide range of features: clearings (Pn. lui Ilie; Pn. Radului); hills and peaks (Dl. Baba Dobra / Vf. Bibi); hollows and depressions (G. Dușilor; G. Manii); mills (Mo. Butoeștilor); precipices and slopes (C. Lipincei and Fd. Seciului); springs (I. Ciuciurului and Ci. lui Mâzgă); streams (G. . Ghergherea and I. La Pătrana); trees (Pi. Homocii); and valleys (V. Mardale and V. Stanciului). On farming there are reference to crops (e. g. V. Mălaele at Maruntisu) also to threshing which clearly shows the former use of the higher ground since În Vf. la Arie Lupenilor involves the lower slopes of Vf. Mușcelului. Bană at Mărunțișu also concerns a former agricultural surface. Fruit trees relate to plums (Pi. Homocii at Mărunțișu) as well as pears (Vf. Părului) and walnuts (G. Nucului) at Valea Lupului. On the pastoral side there is a reference to oxen through V. Boului at Mărunțișu as well as pigs through Cotinețe La ('at the pigsty) at Valea Lupului which recalls the former practice of running the pigs in common on land at the edge of the village; while V. Purcăreața (swineherd's valley) could recall a similar practice at Poienile de Sus. However most of the references concern sheep through C. Țarcului at Mărunțișu, V. Stănei at Țoca and four occurrences of Vf. Stănei relating to hills behind Pătârlagele as well as the surroundings of Poienile and Valea Lupului. Deforestation is a complementary theme which arises – as already noted – through links with villages (Lz. Benghii) and particular persons (presumably farmers): Pn. Gherghii, Pn. lui Ilie and Pn. Radului; not to mention the lathe workers at Mărunțișu (Pn. Strugăriei). We also have Seciu (land cleared by 'secuire' i. e. removing a ring of bark) at Mărunțișu where Sila and V. Silei (referring to clearings with pasture) also occur. It is interesting to see the emphasis on Mărunțișu repeated with regard to handicrafts which indicates a high level of specialisation with consequent environmental pressures in an area that was expanding rapidly in the nineteenth century. While lathe workers feature in Dl/I. Strugăriei (as well as Pn. Strugăriei already noted) and wheelwrights are indicated by Rotăria and I. Rotăriei, there were once four water mills on the Buzău in the Pătârlagele-Mărunțișu area while V. Dogarului (cooper's valley) is also known nearby at Valea Seacă. The only other such reference – I. Cojocarilor – concerns furriers and skinnners at Valea Lupului.

Other names introduce a variety of themes. Aspect is highlighted by F. Crivinenilor – the south-facing slope of the Crivineni people – and the more shaded Fd. Seciului: Seciu's end. Water sources were obviously of great importance and it not surprising to find them individually named e. g. Fn. Hoților – the well of the thieves – at Mărunțișu and Ci. lui Mâzgă – Mâzgă's spring – at Crivineni. Small lakes occurring in landslide depressions were formerly important for retting and hence the names Lacurile de Jos – lower lakes – and Lacurile de Sus – upper lakes – near Valea Lupului. Salty water also attracted notice – as in the case of Vn. Sărată at Crivineni – either because it was useful for pickling or useless for livestock. Cimitir-La – 'at the cemetery' – is an almost forgotten burial place at Valea Lupului for Romanian soldiers in World War One and a number of Germans in World War Two; while Mormânt-La – at the grave – near Lunca concerns a stone cross recalls a struggle with Ottoman troops in 1821. Local routeways became more important as cultivation of the hillslopes became more intense. Thus we have Mu. Plaiului – the summit of the 'plai' – referring a summit road near Poienile and also Ps. Țiganului – Roma summit – near Valea Lupului with its cart track for bringing crops and hay from the plateau of Mu. Lupenilor to the southwest. Wayside crosses marked a number of locations e. g. Cr. din Lu. Pătârlagelor on the Pătârlagele alluvial plain; while the church is also projected by Pd. Piscupeasca – bishop's forest – which raises the possibility of a former ecclesiastical estate in the Mărunțișu area. Ca. Neamțului refers to a topographical sign made by Germans which could date back to the Fligely survey of the 1850s; but the German connection with V. Neamțului (German valley) near Poienile de Sus is unknown. Rinichi-La and Șopârliga have already been referred to.

Table 2. Placenames: Human Geography

PERSONS:	Dl. Baba Dobra (Baba Dobra's hill); Vf. Bibi (peak of Bibi); Mo. Butoeștilor (Butoești mill); I. Ciuciuului (spring of Ciuciu); Vf. Ciuciuului (Ciuciu's peak); G. Dușilor (Duși's hollow/valley); Pn. Gherghii (Gherghi's clearing); Vf. Haiului (peak of Hai); Pi. Homocii (Homocea's plum trees); Pn. lui Ilie (Elie's clearing); C. Lipincei/La Lipinceanu (slope of Lipincea/Lipinceanu); G. Manii (hollow of Manea); V. Mardale/V. Mardalele (valley of Mardale/Mardare); Ci. lui Mâzgă (Mâzgă's spring); Dl. Mirodina (hill of Mirodina); I. La Pătrana (little brook of Pătrana); Pn. Radului (Radu's clearing); Fd. Seciului (Seciu's end); V. Stanciului (Stanciu's valley).
CROPS/FRUIT:	Bană/Bana+ ; Pi. Homocii (Homocea's plum trees) + Vf. Părului (pear tree peak); În Vf. la A. Lupenilor (on Mușcelul peak at the threshing by the Lupeni i. e. people of Valea Lupului); Ț. Lupenilor (agricultural land of the Lupeni); V. Mălaele# ; G. Nucului# ; Vf. Părului , Ranichi-La (at the kidneys).
LIVESTOCK/PASTURE:	V. Boului# ; Cotinețe La (at the pigsty); V. Purcăreța# ; V. Stânei# ; Vf. Stâni# ; C. Țarcului# .
DEFORESTATION:	Lz. Benghii (Benga's deforested hill); Pn. Cheii# ; Pn. Gherghii+ ; Pn. lui Ilie+ ; Laz (agricultural land recently deforested); Dl. Lazului (deforested hill); Pn. Radului+ ; Seciu (land deforested by 'secuire': removing a ring of bark); Sila (clearing with pasture); V. Silei+ ; Pn. Strugăriei (clearing of the lathe/wood workers).
ASPECT:	F. Crivenenilor (south-facing slope of the Criveneni people); Fd. Seciului (Seciu's end).
HANDICRAFTS:	Mo. Butoeștilor+ ; I. Cojocarului/Cojocarilor# ; V. Dogarului# ; Moară-La (at the water mill); Rotări# ; I. Rotărie# ; Strugăria/Dl. Strugăriei# ; I. Strugăriei# ; Pn. Strugăriei+ ; Ps. Țiganului# ; V. Vrăjitoarei# .
WATER SOURCES:	Fn. Hoșilor (well of the thieves); Lacurile de Jos (lower lakes); Lacurile de Sus (upper lakes); Ci. lui Mâzgă (Mâzgă's spring) (at the kidneys); Vn. Sărată (salt spring).
OTHERS:	Cimitir-La (at the cemetery); Ca. Neamțului (German topographical sign); Mormânt-La (at the grave); V. Neamțului# ; Cr. din Lu. Pătârlageilor (cross on the Pătârlagele alluvial plain); Pd. Piscupeasca# ; Mu. Plaiului (summit of the 'plai' or summit road); Rinichi-La ('at the kidneys'); Șopârliga (no meaning in Romanian); Ps. Țiganului# .

meanings given in Table 1; + meanings given elsewhere in Table 2

For a key to the feature abbreviations see Table 1

CONCLUSION

Along with the first part of the study, this paper our study has outlined the settlement history and toponymy of a section of the Pătârlagele Depression comprising the western side of the Buzău river. This involves a number of large settlements including Pătârlagele itself which is now a town. However, following a primary network established by 1800, the nineteenth century saw much growth but also a major restructuring bringing radical economic change that affected population and settlement. But partly because the documentary evidence is rather limited, toponymy provides some valuable insights into this phase of unprecedented population pressure on the local land resources. Although the origin of all the placenames cannot be accurately dated, they may in part be considered a legacy of this period when new land was being taken in by subsistence farmers who were being displaced to more marginal sites where we have information about agriculture and deforestation as well as a comprehensive coverage of the physical features. References to milling and handicrafts are particularly interesting in suggesting complementary functions for Mărunțișu and Pătârlagele which together comprised the economic core of the Depression and for a short period in the nineteenth century even shared the same name. Of course there are drawbacks because personal names are long forgotten and tracing them is almost impossible since many appear to be nicknames that are otherwise unrecorded. But while some names clearly do not sustain a literal interpretation the overall picture stands as a convincing evaluation of a challenging environment.

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