



## **Historical stone inventories in Hungary and Czech Republic (previous Austrian-Hungarian monarchy): re-evaluation of current state**

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Due to irregular distribution of many stone types (e.g. light igneous rocks in granitoid plutons outcropping mainly in the Czech Republic and limestone and other carbonates in Hungary) and their widespread utilization in the area of previous Austrian-Hungarian monarchy, there existed broad internal “imports” of dimension stones within Central Europe. Hungary and the Czech Republic represent areas of long tradition of natural stone exploitation and use for building, architectural and sculptural purposes. This tradition was influenced by the co-existence of both countries in Austrian-Hungarian monarchy till 1918. Late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries saw establishment of written and published databases (Hanisch and Schmid 1901, Schafarzik 1904) of dimension stones in both countries. Simultaneously, lithotheques of important stone types have been built. These were, unfortunately, damaged (Czech Republic) or partially lost (in Hungary) in later years. Important information on numerous stone types is thus missing in both countries. This fact causes problems not only during material research of stone from monuments but also significantly influences decisions in planned restoration of monuments originally built of stone that are not more available.

This paper gives summary on existing lithotheques of Hungary and the Czech Republic. The comparison of material stone archives to published stone Atlases provides estimation on the percentage of stone types preserved in the collections. The perspectives for completion of missing parts are thoroughly discussed.