



# GOLESCU ENSEMBLE

## Cultural Landscape Observatory in Câmpulung Muscel

– Code AG-II-m-B-13530, Historical Monuments List 2015 –

### Botanical Trails in Golescu Park



**The Golescu villa and the dendrological park** are an outstanding architectural and landscape ensemble that works as a Cultural Landscape Observatory with all its valuable components (natural, anthropic - architecture, landscape, social-community, anthropological - traditions, customs, etc.) through projects and workshops directed by Pro PatrimoniO.

It offers an active model of reuse of a historical monument in terms of dwelling and integrating it into the community's daily life. The park and the villa have become an example of education and promotion of good practices in the conservation and restoration of architectural and arboreal heritage, being open to the public for visiting and/or historical dwelling in the elegant environment of former times, however with modern comfort.

Reservations: [www.experiencetransylvania.ro](http://www.experiencetransylvania.ro)



**Vasile Golescu** (1875–1920), a forest engineer preoccupied with the protection of nature and with an essential contribution to modern Romanian botany and forestry, is the one who builds the present neo-Romanian style villa in 1910 according to the plans of architect C. N. Simionescu.

Vasile Golescu is also the author of important studies about the forest fund in the area of Muscel; he designed the terraced park around the house, a garden park whose starting point is the natural forest located on the neighbouring hill and acclimatizing exotic and rare species brought at the beginning of the last century from abroad. Today, the historical park covering over 3 ha is a remarkable example of intact biodiversity.



### EXOTIC SPECIES

1. *Juglans nigra*, Eastern American Black Nut
2. *Magnolia × soulangeana*, Magnolia
3. *Ginkgo biloba*, Gingko
4. *Liriodendron tulipifera*, Tulip-tree
5. *Catalpa bignonioides*, Catalpa
6. *Styphnolobium japonicum*, Japanese Pagoda Tree
7. *Calycanthus floridus*, Eastern Sweetshrub
8. *Maclura pomifera*, Osage Orange
9. *Kerria japonica*, Japanese Marigold Bush
10. *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, Douglas Fir
11. *Platanus × hispanica*, Plane
12. *Laburnum anagyroides*, Golden Chain

### INDIGENOUS SPECIES

13. *Betula pendula*, Silver Birch
14. *Pinus silvestris*, Pine
15. *Tilia cordata*, Small-leaved Lime
16. *Picea* sp., Spruce
17. *Prunus padus*, Bird Cherry
18. *Castanea sativa*, Sweet Chestnut
19. *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Sycamor
20. *Abies* sp., Fir
21. *Carpinus betulus*, Common Hornbeam
22. *Quercus robur*, Common Oak
23. *Ulmus* sp., Elm
24. *Malus* sp., Crabapple





**Catalpa**  
*Catalpa bignonioides* Walter

Species of North American origin. The Catalpa tree from Golescu Park is special because it was naturally grafted with a specimen of *Acer*, which grows inside it from a seed that got there by chance.



**Japanese Marigold Bush**  
*Kerria japonica* L.

Decorative shrub native to East Asia, introduced in Europe in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Its botanical name was given in honor of William Kerr, a British botanist and naturalist who studied the flora of Asia, and who sent the first copies to the Kew Botanical Garden in the United Kingdom.



**Japanese Pagoda Tree**  
*Styphnolobium japonicum* (L.) Schott

Species of Chinese origin, despite the name. It is also called the pagoda tree, because its very resistant wood has been used historically in the construction of Japanese pagodas. It was introduced to Europe only in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup>.



**Douglas Fir**  
*Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Mirb.) Franco

A species of conifer native to North America; it became people's choice for their Christmas tree since the 1920s in the US, then in the rest of the world. Its popular name comes from David Douglas, a Scottish botanist who studied the flora of America and Europe at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



**Eastern Sweetshrub**  
*Calycanthus floridus* L.

A species native to North America, introduced to Europe as a decorative shrub. It is also called "Carolina Allspice" because of its aromatic bark (similar to cinnamon), used as a condiment by Native American populations.



**Plane**  
*Platanus × hispanica* Mill. ex Münchh.

Hybrid species formed by the natural crossing between two species of plane tree, *P. orientalis* and *P. occidentalis* (American species), planted in proximity. It is often said that the place of origin of the first hybrid specimen would be Spain, sometime in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.



**Osage Orange**  
*Maclura pomifera* (Raf.) C.K.Schneid.

Originally from North America; introduced to Europe as a decorative tree. Its fruits, the size of some oranges, are not edible. Its extremely dense and elastic wood was preferred by the Native American tribes for making arches.



**Golden Chain**  
*Laburnum anagyroides* Medik.

A species native to Southern and South-Eastern Europe, where it prefers calcareous soils. Its flowers are similar to acacia, but have an intense yellow colour. Also unlike acacia, the flowers and other parts of the plant are extremely toxic.

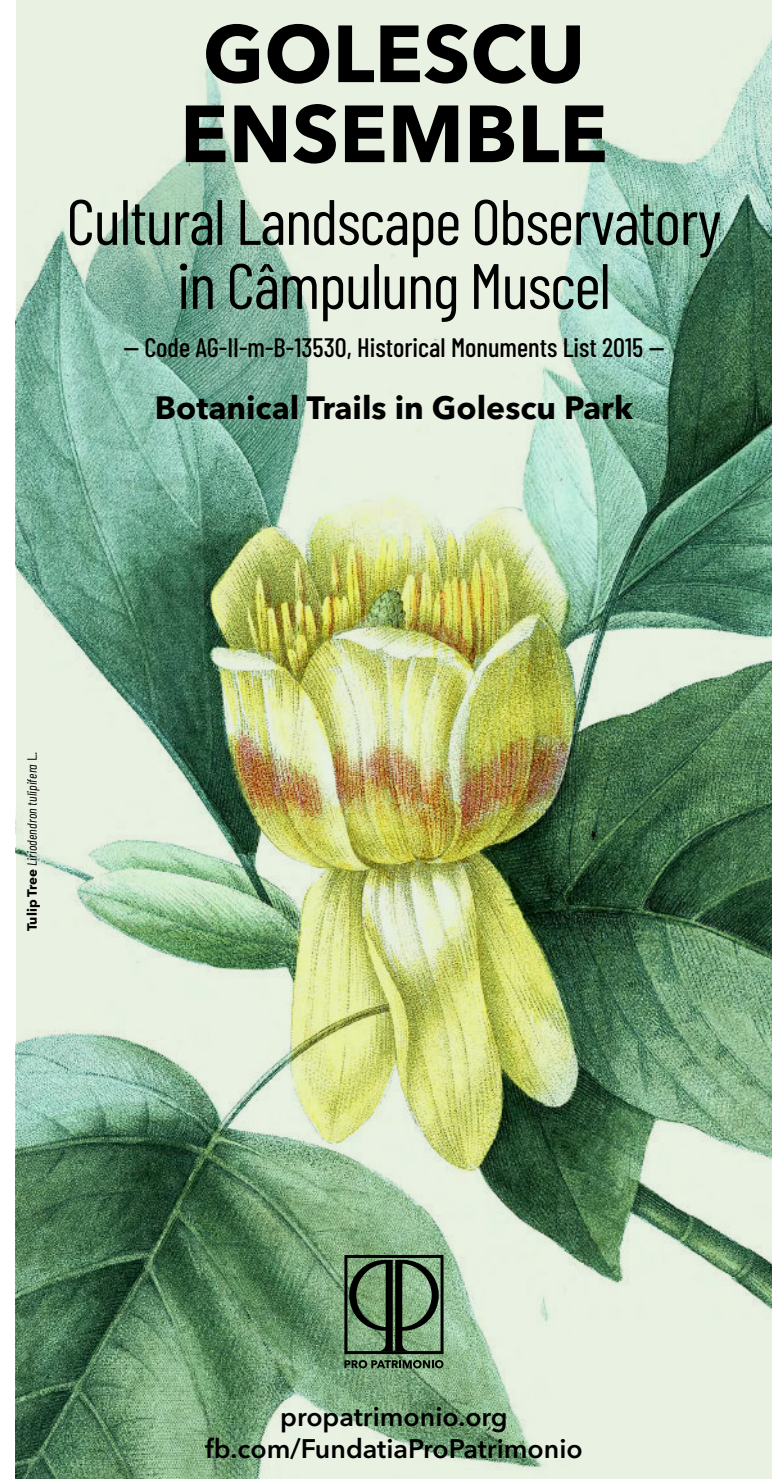
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Tulip Tree *Liriodendron tulipifera* L.



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**Eastern American Black Nut**  
*Juglans nigra* L.

Originally from North America, this tree bears its name from its very dark wood and bark. The black walnut is famous how difficult it can be extracted from its shell. It was used as a medicinal plant by North-American tribes.



**Magnolia**  
*Magnolia × soulangeana* Soul.-Bod.

This hybrid species was created by Étienne Soulange Bodin, an officer in Napoleon's army and amateur horticulturist, in the garden of his house near Paris. He crossed *M. denudata* with *M. liliiflora*, in 1820, obtaining the first hybrid specimen six years later.



**Ginkgo**  
*Ginkgo biloba* L.

Originally from Asia, this remarkable tree is called a "living fossil" because it is the only survivor of an ancient botanical group dating back to the time of the dinosaurs. It is a special decorative species due to its intense yellow, autumn-like foliage.



**Tulip Tree**  
*Liriodendron tulipifera* L.

Species of North American origin. It grows to colossal dimensions, sometimes over 50 m in height. Its flowers resemble tulips, which is where it got its popular name. In Golescu Park it usually blooms in May when it can be admired in all its glory.