

PROJECT REPORT · 2024-2025

Anghel Saligny

Beyond the bridge

Technical heritage, contemporary infrastructure, and industrial memory
of Constanța



The project outlined in milestones

ORGANIZER

Youth Vision for Society Association

TERRITORY

Dobrogea / Constanta / Bucharest

PERIOD

2024-2025

STATUS

Completed

FIELD

Industrial legacy · Technological heritage · Cultural research

FINANCIERS / PATRONS

Order of Architects in Romania

The architectural stamp and

The King's Foundation

DIGITAL PLATFORM

dincolodepod.yvs.ro

PRIMARY ELEMENT

Historical research

Guided tours

Digital Mockups

Constanța Exhibition

Bucharest Exhibition

Digital platform

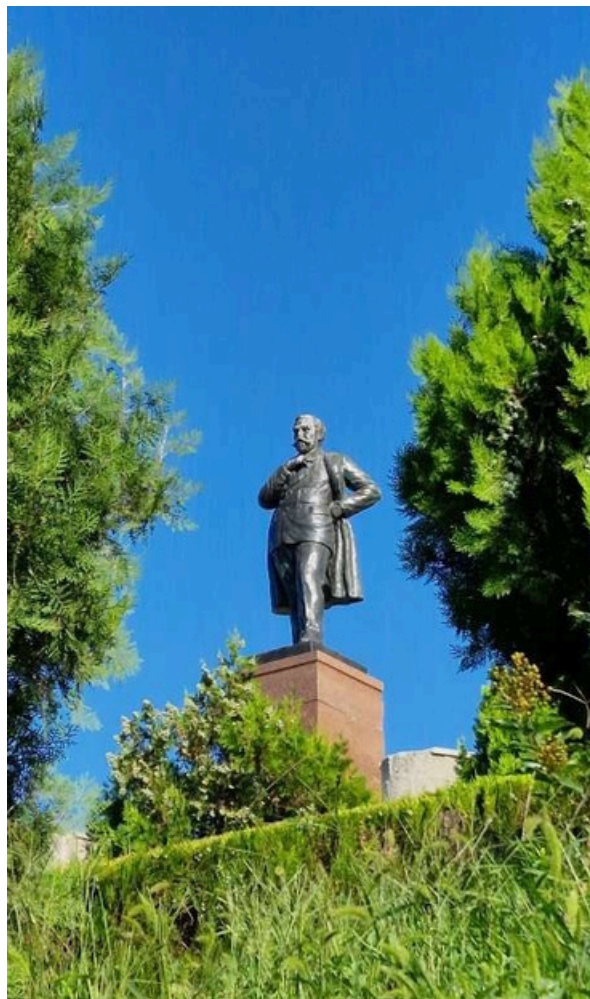
Why choose Anghel Saligny?

Anghel Saligny is a pivotal figure in of contemporary Romanian engineering. For the general public, his name is almost invariably associated with the Cernavodă bridge, a landmark structure in the history of Romanian infrastructure. This connection is instinctive, yet it remains partial.

Beyond the bridge, Saligny played a pivotal role in the advancement of technical systems and infrastructures that facilitated Romania's economic modernization during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. He was involved in the development of docks, warehouses, silos, port systems, transportation networks, industrial facilities, and innovative construction methodologies.

He perceived infrastructure not merely as a technical endeavor, but as a means of fostering connection, promoting development, and facilitating territorial transformation.

In Dobrogea, this contribution assumes particular significance. Constanța was poised to become a true gateway to the Black Sea, facilitating trade and fostering a modernizing economy. Saligny embodied the aspirations of the Romanian state through the development of structures, routes, quays, silos, and installations.



"Beyond the bridge, Saligny emerges as the architect of modernity: of infrastructure, of the port, of a Romania linked to the world."

ANGHEL SALIGNY

1854–1925

Civil engineer, director of the State Technical Service. Author of the Cernavodă Bridge and project coordinator for the Port of Constanța.



PROJECT NARRATIVE

Technical heritage as a narrative of culture

The project was centered on the concept of culturally interpreting technical heritage. Its objective was not merely to catalog buildings or present historical data, but to convert a seemingly technical subject into a narrative that is accessible to the general public.

The study concentrated on the Constanța industrial complex linked to Anghel Saligny, specifically the Silos at the Port of Constanța, the Power Plant of the Port of Constanța, and the Old Stock Exchange – berth 17.

These structures and infrastructures convey a less apparent narrative about Constanța: the narrative of a port city, encompassing cereals, energy, transportation, and logistics.

"Technical heritage may be interpreted as cultural heritage."

A significant milestone was the unveiling of the principal exhibition at the Casino of Constanța—a symbolic venue for the city and its architectural heritage. Subsequently, the project also extended to Bucharest.

Our objectives.

01

Enhanced visibility

Highlight Anghel Saligny's contributions that extend beyond the Cernavodă bridge.

02

Documentation and research

Documenting the industrial heritage of Constanța linked to Saligny: the Silos, the Old Stock Exchange, and the Power Plant.

03

Engaging the audience

Engage the public with technical culture through guided tours, interpretive resources, and digital models.

04

Tangible heritage

To enhance the visibility of the Silos, the Old Stock Exchange, and the Power Plant as significant landmarks of industrial heritage.

05

User-friendly digital platform

To create a digital platform that safeguards and disseminates the project outcomes to the broader public.

Infrastructure as memory

The research phase served as the foundation for the entire project. The team examined archival, bibliographical, and cartographic sources, conducted field visits, and documented pertinent landmarks to enhance the understanding of Anghel Saligny's work.

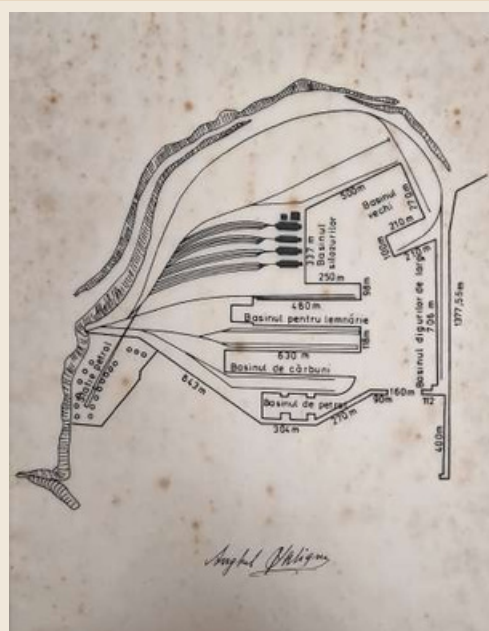
The research encompassed both the broader context of Saligny's work and the pertinent studies related to Dobrogea and the Port of Constanța. Beyond the Cernavodă bridge, the documentation revealed a network of technical interventions indicative of a period marked by rapid construction and modernization.

At the close of the 19th century, the advancement of the port was crucial for linking Romania to the Black Sea and global trade networks. Under Saligny's supervision, the projects were sustained, modified, and executed with vigor.

Silos transcend mere storage structures; they embody contemporary technical thought, integrating reinforced concrete, prefabrication, and grain logistics. The power plant signifies the energy required to operate the port, while the Old Stock Exchange reflects the economic and commercial framework of this system.

DOCUMENTED LANDMARKS

- Silos at the Port of Constanța
- Old stock exchange
- Port Power Plant
- Port Modernization – Context
- Archives, cartographic materials, bibliographic references
- Field excursions and photographic documentation



Constanța Port Project — Eng. Gh. Duca and Eng. Anghel Saligny

When considered collectively, these structures illustrate that industrial heritage serves as a form of memory, preserving remnants of how a society envisioned its development and position in the world.



ACTIVITY

Curated excursions

One of the key components of the project is The organization of guided tours focused on the industrial and technical heritage linked to Anghel Saligny. These tours provided participants with the opportunity to explore the project's significant landmarks in person.

The tours converted the research into an interactive experience. Participants were not only provided with information about the buildings but were also encouraged to interpret the port as a cultural landscape—examining the proportions, the interrelationships among the buildings, and the significance of each element within the broader context of modernization.

Tours were arranged for students and the public with an interest in heritage, history, architecture, and infrastructure, thereby enhancing the validation of interpretive narratives for a non-specialist audience.

"Through guidance, structures become comprehensible. Through narrative, they acquire significance."

ENGAGED AUDIENCES

Students · Public interested in heritage and architecture · Historians and scholars · Local community

INDICATOR FOR COMPLETION

No. of tour participants: 75

Digital Mockups

The digital interpretive models were created based on the research findings, converting historical and constructive information into an accessible visual format. By utilizing volume, proportion, and detail, they enhance public comprehension of the industrial structures and technical intricacies of the port complex.



PERSPECTIVE 01

Silos at the Port of Constanta

The manifestation of contemporary technical thought: reinforced concrete, prefabrication, grain logistics, and industrial architecture.



PERSPECTIVE 02

Port Power Plant

The energy required for the operation of the modern port—an indispensable technical milestone of Constanta's infrastructure.



PERSPECTIVE 03

Old Stock exchange

Economic and commercial organization of the port—a convergence point for international trade with Constanta.



PRIMARY EXHIBITION

The exhibition in Constanța

The principal exhibition of the project was held in Constanța, at the Casino—a venue of significant symbolic importance to the city. The selection of this site enhanced the project's message: built heritage and technical heritage are not distinct themes, but rather integral components of the same cultural narrative.

The exhibition featured posters, interpretive materials, and digital models. The exhibition concept was developed by Zeppelin Design.

A public meeting focused on the exhibition presentation occurred on September 30, 2025, featuring representatives from the cultural sector, civil society, and local administration. Special guests included Aurelia Lăpușan and Radu Ștefan Cornescu.

"The casino offered the project a symbolic backdrop: a location where the city's history, architecture, and infrastructural legacy converge."



The Bucharest Exhibition



Following the presentation in Constanta, the project was subsequently introduced in Bucharest in an adapted format. This replication enhanced the project's visibility to a national audience and facilitated the presentation of research findings to individuals interested in architecture, urbanism, heritage, and technical culture.

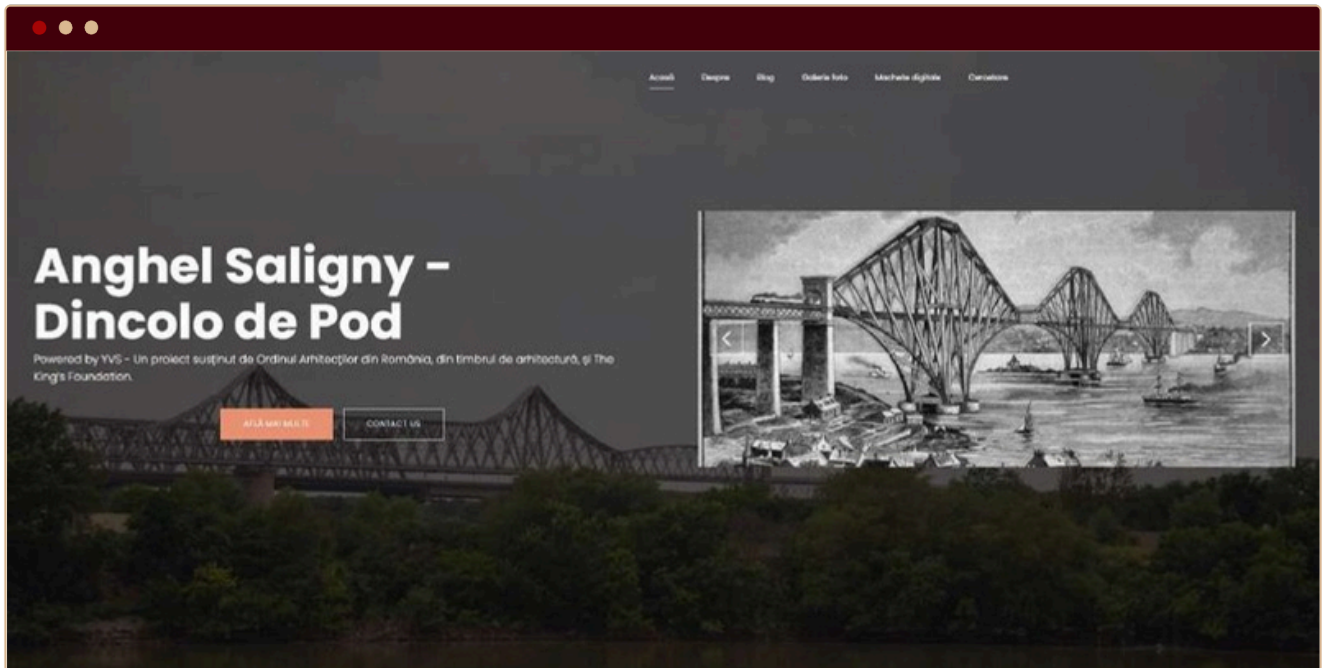
The secondary exhibition emphasized the digital models, visual documentation, and interpretive materials generated throughout the project. This phase allowed the project to transcend local boundaries and initiate a wider dialogue regarding the industrial heritage of Constanța.

FROM LOCAL TO NATIONAL

The industrial heritage of Constanța constitutes a significant aspect of Romanian infrastructure history and reflects the processes by which modern Romania established its connections with the Danube, the Black Sea, and international trade networks.

Digital platform

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DINCOLODEPOD.YVS.RO



01

Research

Historical documentation and research materials, available to the general public.

02

Digital Mockups

Models of heritage sites for virtual exploration.

03

Visual gallery

Photographs, interpretive materials, and resources from the project.

The platform upholds the project's objective: to facilitate the discovery, comprehension, and utilization of technical heritage within educational and cultural contexts, even after the activities have concluded.

results

- **Historical research finalized.**
Historical and documentary records pertaining to the contributions of Anghel Saligny and the industrial heritage of the Port of Constanta.
- **Interpretive materials generated**
Boards, visual materials, and exhibition content focused on the Silos, the Power Plant, and the Old Stock Exchange.
- **Coordinated guided excursions**
Tours for students and the public interested in port heritage and infrastructure.
- **Digital mockups created**
Interpretive digital representations of the three primary landmarks of Constanța's industrial heritage.
- **Main Exhibition – Constanța**
Exposition in the Constanta Casino, a cultural landmark for the city.
- **Secondary Exhibition – Bucharest**
Format tailored for the public in the capital, with an interest in architecture, urbanism, and heritage.
- **Specialized digital platform**
dincolodepod.yvs.ro — permanent access point to the project materials.
- **Enhanced visibility for Constanța's industrial heritage**
The project played a significant role in solidifying a cultural initiative focused on reclaiming the legacy of Anghel Saligny.



Audience and influence

"Infrastructure transcends mere functionality; it embodies memory."

PUBLIC LARGE

Enthusiasts of heritage, culture, architecture, and history of Constanta.

YOUTH AND STUDENTS

Interested in engineering, architecture, urban planning and the history of the region.

PROFESSIONALS

Architects, urban planners, heritage professionals, and researchers.

LOCAL COMMUNITY

Residents of Constanta and individuals intrigued by the history of Dobrogea.

The primary impact of the project was to illuminate a heritage area that has received limited attention. The initiative demonstrated that even silos, factories, docks, and technical structures can narrate stories about individuals, economy, circulation, labor, and vision.

For the younger audience, the project also encompassed an educational aspect. Saligny serves as a model of innovation, perseverance, and practical thinking. His narrative has the potential to inspire interest in engineering, architecture, urban planning, history, and technical sciences.

For the local community, the project played a pivotal role in enhancing the dialogue surrounding the significance of Constanța's industrial heritage—particularly crucial given that many of these landmarks are prominent within the city yet often lack adequate explanation or integration into established cultural routes.

Project team

Cristina Stingu

Project Manager / General Coordination

Alexandra Barbu

Local coordination

Andreea Cel Mare

Research and Documentation

Raul Ivan

Historian and tour guide

Andreea Bianca Serban

Financial and administrative oversight

Alina Verban

Media and Photography

Iuliana Uritu

Communication and social media — preliminary phase

Iliea Omer

Communication and Social Media — 2025

COLLABORATORS AND GUESTS

Zeppelin Design — exhibition concept and material adaptation

Aurelia Lăpușan — distinguished guest / significant contributions

Radu Ștefan Cornescu — distinguished guest / professional and cultural contributions

PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS INSTITUTIONAL

Order of Architects in Romania

The King's Foundation

Constanța City Hall

Constanța Casino

OAR Bucharest

Constanta Port Administration

Constanța Port Museum



ORDINUL
ARHITECTILOR
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Timbrul de
arhitectură

WHAT PERSISTS FOLLOWING THE PROJECT

"In the port, within silos, in factories, and along transport routes, the manner in which a society constructed its pathways to the world is preserved."

The project continues to thrive via the digital platform, the interpretive materials, the conducted research, and the interest it has sparked regarding Constanța's industrial heritage.

Anghel Saligny – Beyond the Bridge encourages us to perceive these structures not merely as industrial relics, but as components of a broader narrative: the story of a Romania that has embraced the art of construction, connection, and aspiration through concrete, iron, stone, and light.

