



ORIENT Hotel

The building of the former “Orient” Hotel was erected around 1900 on a site that previously housed the "shoemakers' barn," a large structure intended for the sale of these products, located at the intersection of Kossuth Lajos Street (now 1 Decembrie 1918) and Piața Mare (now Piața Unirii) in the city. Postcards from the late 19th and early 20th centuries illustrate both the initial appearance and evolution of the monument, as well as the diversity of the names of the owners who had commercial spaces on its ground floor. This diversity is reflected in the variety of names of different nationalities, such as Holtzer Karoly, for the sweets and spices shop, Szocs F.'s tailor shop, and the Hirsch brothers' fashion store.

After the Great Union, we find other names of owners, such as Moschenbaum, Vasilievici, Schreiber, and Voisian. Also, after 1918, the hotel was purchased by Dr. Petru Groza, who owned the property until its nationalization in 1948.

The eclectic building consists of two main wings, perpendicular to each other, opening onto public spaces, and a secondary wing, which extends into the interior of the plot, on the northern boundary of the property, and which probably contained service areas.

Between 1916 and 1918, the ground floor was modernized by covering the moldings with a new system of display windows that brought the space closer to the public. In the 1970s, the commercial spaces were modernized again, with travertine finishes, a new base and belt, and the balcony console was rebuilt.