

Loessland Project

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The Stari Slankamen loess-palaeosol section is located on the northeastern part of the Srem Loess Plateau on the right bank of the Danube River, opposite the Tisa confluence (Vojvodina region, North Serbia). Deposited for thousands of years, loess profiles in Stari Slankamen are extremely natural resources as they represent the most complete palaeoclimatic and palaeoenvironmental archive during the last 800,000 years on the European land.. The c. 40-m thick cliff comprises loess intercalated with 8 major palaeo pedo-complexes and can be considered to be one of the most important Quaternary sections in the Carpathian (Panonnian) basin area. It is one of the three most valuable localities of this kind in the world and it can only be compared to the loess stratums in China and Central Asia. Due to many decades of research that showed the extraordinary importance of the profiles, in 1975 they were protected and pronounced for a Monument of Nature. In 2007 they were categorized as the first category natural goods of Serbia.

Discovering the secrets of the Ice Age recorded at the loess profile near this interesting Srem's village is not important only to the scientists. They might become interesting to the tourists as well, by using modern ways of presentation. Therefore, in the vicinity of the profiles, founding an attractive modern thematic museum "Loessland" has been planned. The museum is going to be made of glass, built in several levels leaning on the loess profiles. Besides the possibility to see the loess stratums piled up in different periods of creating Earth's crust, the visitors will be able to see interesting exhibitions within various thematic parts, which are going to present many scientific facts connected to the Ice Ages, geology, geography and many other related topics in a very interesting way. The special emphasis will be on applying modern audio-video equipment (PDA – Personal Digital Assistant) in order to make presentation as much as attractive and interesting as possible. The mu-

seum will also contain a souvenir shop, a theme café/ restaurant, as well as many other interesting contents.

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