

ARCHITECTURE

PALACE-PARK COMPLEXES OF POLTAVA REGION OF THE MIDDLE OF THE XVIII-XIX CENTURIES: ECOLOGICAL ASPECT

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Introductions. The historical Poltava region has undergone a considerable evolutionary path. It left behind exquisite monuments of history, architecture, culture, landscaping and arts and crafts. Palace-park and manor complexes are an integral part of this heritage. They are not only fine examples of the synthesis of arts (architecture, sculpture, painting, landscape art), but also centers of artistic and spiritual culture of the region. These objects have always been an important part of the cultural life of the society of that time. And this had an invaluable impact on the comprehensive formation of his personalities (cultural, moral and spiritual). There is an increased interest in homestead construction today in Ukrainian society. This is due to the fact that the modern affluent population is increasingly returning to life on the family estate. Emulation of the established traditions not only of the architectural and landscape structure of the complexes, but also of the ecologically clean spiritual component is playing an important role in this process. As N. Kocherha once noted, "the problem of ecology (in the broadest sense) of man, the problem of choosing life values remains primarily a problem of a particular human personality, whose choice is the basis of moral and cultural self-determination of society, nation, humanity" (Kocherha N., 2012, p. 20).

Aim. It was here that the foundations of environmental friendliness were laid. The term "environmental friendliness" is usually used in the analysis of the natural and urban environment, in the characterization of the Earth's biosphere, in assessing

the quality of architectural design solutions, and so on. In this sense environmental friendliness symbolizes harmlessness and cleanliness – air, water, production, architectural and landscape environment in general. In this article we outline this concept much more widely. We disclosed it from the ecological aspects of the natural component of palace-park complexes, through the concept of environmental education, which originated and genetically inherited in these objects, to the ecology of the souls of estates' owners and their next generations.

Materials and methods. A comprehensive methodology is used for this study. It is based on a number of methods aimed at identifying factors and signs of environmental friendliness in the palace and park complexes of Poltava region in the middle of the XVIII-XIX centuries. Unknown and little-known source materials related to the manor and park construction of the region were identified, using the historical-factual method. We managed to find the necessary materials in the archival institutions and personal private archives of the owners, despite the scarcity of the preserved fund of the study period in Poltava region. Descriptions of facts from the history of manor construction and garden-park art of the region, photos of the then state of the studied objects from the existing archival sources, available historical, architectural and literary publications, scientific works and architectural and design materials are revealed. There was a detailed in-depth study of specific objects of study of different levels of urbanization due to monographic and topographic methods. A considerable amount of material is taken from the preserved notes of travelers, memories of visitors to the estates, registers of managers, and letters of the complexes' owners. The historical and cultural method is used to understand the concept of "human ecology", the owners of the studied objects, the way of life of those times in general and specific events in the lives of the owners. Substantiation of regional specifics of architectural-planning and compositional decisions of manor-park complexes became possible due to the comparative-historical research method.

For a number of years, the author has made detailed and thorough research of the palace-park objects of Poltava region. Some of the publications are devoted to the culturological aspect of the formation of Poltava palace-park and manor complexes.

Preserved archival materials of a descriptive nature have become the key documents that formed the basis of these studies. Among them are travel notes by Otto von Gunn, A. Glagolev, Baron Wrangel, L. Sinitsky and others. Materials of statistical and descriptive nature of local authors of the middle of the XIXth century became important (M. Arandarenko, P. Bodyansky, V. Buchnevych, L. Padalka, etc.). It was in these works that information on the town-planning situation, statistical data on estates, their landowners, significant estates of the Poltava province, their way of life and cultural life were presented for the first time.

This information is supplemented by publications in periodicals of the late XIXth and early XXth centuries. These are "Russkaya starina", "Kievskaya starina", "Poltavskie eparhialnyie vedomosti", "Stolitsa i usadba". Articles in these publications by V. Gorlenko, V. Antonovych, D. Bagaliy, V. Modzalevsky, I. Pavlovsky, the above-mentioned V. Buchnevych and other local historians became useful. Also were needed the register books of the estate managers, their correspondence with the owners of the palace-park complexes with a detailed description of events. Here it should be noted a separate archive of the Dykanka's estate and the scientific work of P. Klepatsky. It is based on the archives of the Kochubey princes and contains information about the territory of the estate, its buildings and greenery, information about the owners. In the context of this scientific paper, the materials of local historians V. Khanko and N. Kocherha are used. They are devoted to spiritual and cultural issues.

Results and discussion. As noted above, at the present stage of human development, the concept of "ecology" is used by scientists from various fields. It is considered in a much broader sense - from solving man-made and environmental problems, chemical and biological processes to social, philosophical and spiritual. Environmental friendliness appears as the cleanliness of the process, its purification and "bleaching". This terminology is used not only for certain natural phenomena, events, but also for everyday living processes. Therefore, it will be interesting to consider the palace-park and manor complexes of Poltava region of the XVIII-XIX centuries from the point of view of ecological processes that took place in these

territories, giving the estates an appropriate ecological aura. Let's find the answer to the question - how did our ancestors implement the techniques of environmental friendliness in their estates (in the broadest sense of the term)?

- *Ecological aspects of the natural component*

Ecology is the science of life, nature and the environment, the relationship between living organisms and the natural environment. The landscape of the estates was a kind of continuation of the palaces, which reflected the unity of nature and human labor. Landscape and hydrological characteristics of the area and dendrological composition of vegetation were the basis for their creation. Park landscapes became part of the cultural life not only of their owners, but also of society as a whole. According to the study, the front plots of the estates followed the generally accepted canons of park construction at that time. They consisted of a combination of regular and landscape compositional techniques. Regularity was shown in the creation of a rectilinear main compositional axis from the main entrance (entrance gate) to the main building - the palace. "Standard" elements of palace-park construction of that time were strung in a chain on this axis - the main alley (chestnut, oak, lime, birch, pine, walnut, bitter chestnut), pre-palace area, palace complex, palace area, lawn system for revealing long-term perspectives. Regular flower parterres (including heraldic ones), landscape flower beds, lawns with freely planted bushes or trees (sometimes with the addition of wildflowers) were the decoration of open areas. Not only local flora could be used here, but also introduced exotic plants, occasionally in the open ground, more often in tubs (seasonal use of plants). This algorithm of landscape techniques is typical for most palace-park complexes of the region in the study period. As for the other territory, the gardeners accented the local beauty and cleanliness of the existing natural environment. This part was individual in each specific object. Techniques aimed at supporting the ecological balance were widely used here: obligatory inclusion of reservoirs in the landscape-spatial structure of palace-park complexes; preservation of the existing dendrological components of vegetation, maximum emphasis on the beauty of the natural landscape; creation of acclimatization centers on the territory of palace-park complexes.

- *Ecological education*

High education of the nation is the foundation of a moral and cultural society. Significant potential of her personalities in the studied times was formed in the family circle, surrounded by intelligent and interesting personalities. Palace-park complexes of Poltava region played a significant role in these processes. They united around them not only representatives of the wealthy highly educated society, but also ordinary citizens, a talented layer of serfs. In particular, "the atmosphere of the Yahotyn's palace with many threads was connected with all that is bright and clean" (Shevchenko L., 2005, pp. 120-121). From the correspondence of the manager of the estate in Dykanka and its owner V. Kochubey we learn about the intentions to build an "orphanage for the poor, widows, orphans and the crippled" in Dykanka ("Opysanye bumah y dokumentov...", 1805, p. 99). Progressive owners of estates took care of the education of their serfs, creating educational institutions on the territory of estates. This was almost the only opportunity for the poor to gain knowledge. This is confirmed by the functioning of a school for peasant children in the estate of M. Sklifosovsky in Yakivtsi, where in addition to general literacy taught gardening and horticulture. At that time, such actions were not only an encouragement to preserve and restore the natural environment of various segments of the population. Reducing the negative impact on the environment, the introduction of existing environmental techniques at the time, the development of small and medium-sized farms were in the field of view of the educational process.

Cultural education was actively developed in the estates of the region. In D. Troshchynsky's home theater in Kybyntsi, performances were staged with the participation not only of family members and guests, but also of talented serfs. Similar educational activities were held in other estates of the region. These processes of learning, education and personal development are excellent examples of environmentally friendly cultural education and spirituality. It can be stated that this way of life in the palace-park estates of progressive owners contributed to "the formation of ecological culture as part of the system of national and public education of all segments of the population" (Hod B., 2012, p. 92).

- *Ecology of the soul*

As is clear from the previous material, a number of palace-park and manor complexes of Poltava region in the middle of the XVIII-XIX centuries became the centers of artistic culture of the Ukrainian-Russian intelligentsia. First of all, this was possible thanks to the owners of the estates. They were highly educated representatives of the society of that time. Among them are the writer and statesman I. Muravyov-Apostol, the owner of the palace-park complex in Khomutets; Prince M. Repnin, the owner of the estate in Yahotyn; lawyer and court figure G. Zakrevsky, owner of the above-mentioned estate in Berezova Rudka; the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Russian Empire V. Kochubey, the owner of the exquisite palace-park complex in Dykanka; member of the State Council V. Popov, owner of the estate in Reshetylivka; public figure, ethnographer and heir G. Galagan, whose progressive family owned estates in Sokyryntsi and Dikhtyary; famous statesman G. Troshchynsky, owner of the manor complex in Kybyntsi; count, painter and graphic artist Yakov de Balmen, owner of the estate in Lebedytsi; famous poet V. Kapnist, owner of the estate in Velyka Obukhivka.

In the traditions of the owners of palace-park complexes lived respect for Ukrainian culture, books, art. Books written in Russian and French were kept in the library collections of the palaces. Among them were rare editions. Art galleries of Poltava palaces were famous for their collections of rare paintings and engravings by Russian, Ukrainian and European authors. The elegant halls of the palaces in the estates were regularly transformed into literary living rooms. Poetic and musical works of both owners and their talented guests sounded here. Talented serfs were also involved in the estate in Digtyary in their own orchestra. Important political and socio-economic events of that time were actively discussed in the palaces. Meetings of young intellectuals, not indifferent to the future of the country, took place here. The estates in Khomutets and Velyka Obukhivka became the real centers of the Decembrist movement. More than one generation of landowners lived in such a refined atmosphere. Thus, in their own palace-park complexes, they formed their centers of culture and spirituality. It is under such conditions that the ecological

nature of man and his virtues crystallized. They gained significant potential not only in the family circle, but also in the socio-political Olympus of the country.

Conclusions. The ecological aspect of the palace and park and manor complexes of Poltava region of the XVIII-XIX centuries consisted in the comprehensive development of the personality of its owners. The concepts of ecology of the soul, ecological education and upbringing, instilling love and care for the natural environment were at its core. It was an integral part of the cultural and spiritual potential of our ancestors, which they created in their estates, multiplied and tried to preserve and pass on to their descendants. As the researcher P. Klepatskyi once testified, palace-park complexes "give an idea of a culture that is now disappearing from the face of our land" (Klepatskyi P., 1927, p. 9). Therefore, these issues are important today in the context of building a progressive highly educated society. An important part of this society is the family, its moral, spiritual and cultural values, which are genetically inherited and passed from generation to generation.

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