

# Analysis of the historical and architectural environment of Maykop in the context of architectural heritage

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**Abstract.** The historical aspects of the Maykop city formation are highlighted from the architectural and town-planning heritage point of view. The evolution of the spatial environment of Maykop in the historical part of the city is considered. A retrospective analysis of the settlement architectural and planning organization during the formation of the military fortification, taking into account the strategic and natural-climatic factors, is carried out. Some monuments of the architectural heritage of the late 19th - early 20th centuries are presented. The features of the organization of the historical and architectural environment in the process of its formation are revealed. The most significant problems of preserving the considered heritage in the historical environment of the settlement are generalized.

## 1 Introduction

Maykop is the capital of the Republic of Adygea, which is a part of the Southern Federal District of the Russian Federation with its multinational population, by right, is one of the most ecological and "green" settlements in the North Caucasus. At the same time, Maykop carefully preserves not only natural diversity, but also its original planning features of the settlement, valuable architectural and artistic features and historical continuity. The Republic of Adygea is a unique, kind of the only region located inside another region - the territorial space of this republic is surrounded on all sides by the territory of the Krasnodar Krai. Since ancient times, the valley of the river Belaya attracted the attention of people, in particular, the harmonious combination of river valleys, picturesque mountains and rich nature did not leave them indifferent. Maykop "is a relatively stable single complex of interconnected elements of the spatial environment, including territories, architectural objects, engineering structures and infrastructure" [1].

Despite the fact that traditional culture is constantly subject to dynamics, the preservation and restoration of monuments of historical and cultural heritage, namely architecture, urban planning and monumental art, which have long gone beyond the interests of one people, is still relevant, especially during globalization. Along with this, the loss of this heritage as a result of historical transformations is quite large, and the improper preservation of cultural values, one of which is the historical and architectural environment,

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is irreplaceable, which threatens us with the loss of the very continuity of historical memory and the stability of society.

The relevance of the research lies in the need to study the unique features of the historical and architectural environment of Maykop as a whole, to determine its cultural value, as well as to analyze the planning structure of historical buildings, from the point of view of its continuity.

## **2 Purpose, objectives, research methods**

The aim of the study is to determine the patterns of the historical and architectural environment development, the features of its formation during the 18th - 20th centuries.

In accordance with the set goal, the research tasks are defined, which are as follows:

- to conduct an architectural and urban planning analysis of the city, as well as the evolution of its volumetric-spatial structure:

- to explore the architectural style of a number of historical sites built in the late 19th - early 20th centuries;

- to identify the main patterns of the city territorial space development and the specific properties of the architectural heritage.

The research object is the architectural and planning features of the historical environment of the 18th - 20th centuries;

The subject of the research is the characteristics of the historical and architectural environment in the context of evolution.

The methodological basis of the research was the historical-genetic and compositional analyzes of the architectural environment development in Maykop, the systematization and generalization of archival documents and historical-cartographic materials.

Carrying out research on the stated topic, it is necessary first of all to have a clear understanding of the concept of the historical and architectural environment. The specified environment is a set of historical space and the appearance of architectural objects (architectural heritage). The study of the settlement historical and architectural environment is interconnected with the study of the urban planning history, and above all with a retrospective analysis of the architectural and urban planning formation, the formation and development of the layout and volumetric-spatial structure of the settlement, as well as the main architectural monuments that make up the historical "fabric" of the settlement.

## **3 Retrospective analysis of the historical and architectural environment formation and development in Maykop**

In the second half of the XIX century the administrative-territorial structure of the Kuban region was divided into five counties, among which was Maykop with the same name of the chief town of the district - Maykop.

The region included the lands of the Kuban Cossack army, with the exception of those retreating to the Black Sea region and Stavropol, cities, settlements of state peasants, soldiers' settlements and urban districts. The regional center was the city of Yekaterinodar [2].

As a result of the above-said, the area of historical settlement of the Kuban territory covers not only the territory of the modern Krasnodar Krai, but also absolutely the entire territory of the Republic of Adygea, which is mostly located in the basin of two rivers - Laba and Belaya. The administrative center of the Republic of Adygea is the city of Maykop - a developing agglomeration, which includes several settlements, located on the right bank of the river Belaya. At the same time, the urban "fabric" of Maykop itself and the

surrounding settlements is in harmonious interaction with the most beautiful southern landscape, picturesque nature and numerous green spaces, which attract numerous tourists to this area.

Like the bulk of the Kuban settlements, the history of the formation and development of the Maykop settlement begins with the construction of fortifications - fortresses, forts, defense walls, pickets to protect the southern borders of the Russian Empire. The Kuban land has preserved many remains of defensive structures, which are a kind of "foundation" for future settlements, especially at the turn of the 18th – 19th centuries.

After the Russian-Turkish war, which lasted during 1768-1774 and the subsequent Kuchuk-Kainardzhiyskiy treaty in accordance with the state decree on the territory of the North Caucasus in 1777-1829 the Azov-Mozdok (Caucasian) fortified line was formed, which includes not only old, restored and dismantled, but also more than 30 new fortifications.

According to all the rules of the defensive art in 1857 on the territory of present-day Maykop under the leadership of General V.M. Kozlovsky, Maykop fortification was erected, which determined the further fate of the settlement, without losing its main military function until the very end of the 60s, XIX century. The regular planning structure of the fortification, the outline of the boundaries of which had a horseshoe-shaped configuration, surrounded by a moat and a rampart and resembled the letter "P" in shape, was a schematized model of the future city. The Maykop fortification was located opposite the modern southern outskirts of the city on the left bank of the river Belaya (Shkhaguasche).

By the decree of Alexander II No. 52844 dated March 10, 1858, "The Sovereign Emperor, in accordance with the petition of the Commander-in-Chief of the Caucasian Army, gave the highest order to design the newly erected fortification on the right wing of the Caucasian line on the Belaya River, at the entrance to the Maykop Gorge, to name it "Maykop" [3].

Thus, the Maykop fortification is "a kind of cornerstone" that determined the location of the city and which resulted in the formation of its historical and architectural environment. At the same time, it should be noted that the process of creating a populated area took place more than once.

In 1870, Maykop received the status of a city legally. In the period of the XIX - XX centuries Maykop, as a historically developed urban area, acquires the integrity of the architectural and planning structure. At the end of the XIX century, small industrial enterprises began to develop effectively in Maykop - an oil mill and a water mill, pottery workshops and brick factories, highways and railways appeared. In 1909, an oil field was discovered on the city territory, which significantly contributed to the economic growth of the district.

#### **4 Characteristics of the process of organizing the territorial space of the city and the regional features of the architectural heritage**

The organization of the Maykop territorial space at the beginning of the XX century revealed the integrity, due to the internal interconnectedness and the objective logic of the formation and subsequent development of settlement along the river Belaya. The territory of Maykop is completely a single socio-cultural space, which has a unique cultural and historical potential - a set of "diverse objects, including architectural and artifacts of historical and cultural heritage (historical and cultural monuments) of both material forms of existence and non-material forms of manifestation [4]".

In this regard, it should be noted that various trends in Russian architecture emerged in the second quarter of the XIX century, were united under a common name - the pseudo-Russian style, which included the features of ancient Russian architecture and elements of Byzantine architecture. It was a stylization of the Russian architectural heritage, which later found its expression in combination with such styles as Romanticism and Art Nouveau [5]. At the same time, in the architecture of Maykop, there is a so-called period of eclecticism, especially characteristic of public buildings of the early XX century. (Fig. 1-2). Architects successfully applied this trend in architecture, "combining heterogeneous artistic elements" [6-8], which was especially popular in this historical period.

Investigating the historical and architectural environment of Maykop, it is necessary to pay attention to the factor that religion is an important element of the Adyghe culture. Numerous peoples living among themselves in peace and harmony on the territory of the Republic of Adygea preach their religion. Archival Christian sources interpret the historical and cultural area (Adygeyan lands) on the northeastern coast of the Black Sea as the subject of the Apostle Saint Simon the Canaanite sermon, one of the closest disciples of Jesus Christ. In the Middle Ages, Christianity had a noticeable power on the territory of the modern Republic of Adygea, which is confirmed by the church of St. George discovered near the city. Of the most significant Christian religious buildings in Maykop, erected at the turn of the XIX - XX centuries are the Holy Dormition and Holy Trinity Cathedrals and the Church of the Resurrection of Christ in the old cemetery (Fig. 3-5).



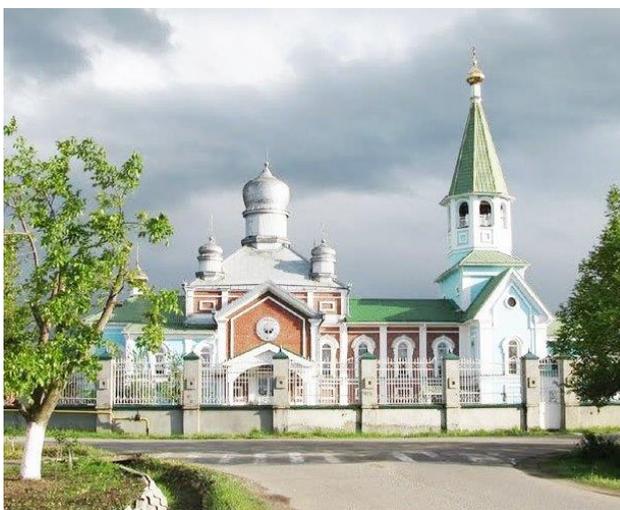
**Fig. 1.** Maykop at the beginning of the XX century. Ofizerskaya Str.



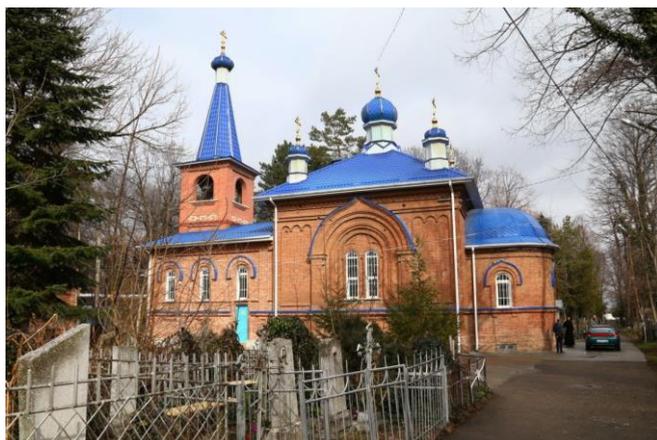
**Fig. 2.** Maykop. The building of the hotel "Evropeyskaya" and Moscow Insurance Company, 1907



**Fig. 3.** Maykop. Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Years of construction: 1888 - 1897. Year of loss - 1931



**Fig. 4.** Maykop. Trinity Cathedral - Cathedral of the Life-Giving Trinity, Mopra str., 94, A. Year of construction - 1888. In 1999, the temple was attached new altar with sacristy and sacristy



**Fig. 5.** Church of the Resurrection of Christ at the old cemetery. Built in 1910

With regard to the Holy Trinity Cathedral, an extract from the clergy register for 1891 states that the construction of the church began in 1882 and was completed in 1888 at the expense of the parishioners. The building is made of baked bricks on a stone foundation with 5 blank wooden chapters, covered with iron, plastered inside. The bell tower is arranged separately from the church on 4 pillars with a canopy at the top. The fence around the church is wooden, painted.

In the architectural solution of the Holy Trinity Cathedral, a four-sided building with a decorative five-domed top, with a refectory and a hipped bell tower is notable. Currently, the historic building is located in the depths of the territory with domes, lined with metal in the form of scales. The religious building is located in the historically developed western part of Maykop and creates the spatial composition of the quarter and the overall architectural appearance of the city. The presented Christian religious buildings of Maykop are made in the eclectic style, in the characteristic images of the national architecture of the late 19th century.

In this context, it is necessary to emphasize an important architectural and historical feature of the temple complexes - they serve as “the planning basis for the development of the city [9].

Also, in the architecture of the historical environment of Maykop, the most significant monuments of architectural and urban planning heritage are concentrated. The city has preserved an important historical space and an old grid of streets with regular plans from the beginning of the 20th century.

In 1936, the city became the center of the Adyghe Autonomous Region, and in 1990 this region was transformed into the Republic of Adyghea, and at the same time Maykop acts as the capital of the republic. Until 2010, Maykop had the status of a historical settlement, but in accordance with the “Order of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, it lost this status” [10].

At the same time, the planning organization of the territorial space of the city “has a successive character, taking into account the historically established structure of buildings and natural landscape” [11].

The historical and architectural environment of Maykop has not undergone a radical modernization in the XX century has preserved its unique uniqueness, age-old traditions and rich cultural heritage and, most importantly, the interaction of architectural objects with the existing natural and artificial environment, their compositional silhouette. The regional peculiarity of these objects is noted, expressed in the style of historical architecture and at the same time being a reflection of the culture of a particular era. Undoubtedly, material culture, in the context of the architectural heritage and planning structure of the city, throughout the entire historical period contributed to the creation of an attractive and comfortable object-spatial environment for a person.

Therefore, modern objects should be in harmony with the historical environment, preserve the integrity of the traditional space-planning structure and contribute to the visual perception of the architectural appearance of the streets, in the context of time, “it is also important to preserve the elements of their spatial organization [12, 13]”. At the same time, the issues of preservation “should be dictated by a detailed overview of the specific parameters of the historical environment” [14].

## **5 Conclusion**

Thus, when designing in the historical and architectural environment of the city, the initial stage of the formation of a settlement is especially important, associated with the historical development of a settlement, with the identification of cultural potential and the subsequent determination of protective zones. Therefore, for each quarter in the historical building, it is

necessary to conduct an appropriate assessment of the architectural and urban planning heritage.

The general regime for the use of development regulation zones in historical settlements is determined by the current legislative and instructive materials [15]. At the same time, “a logically coordinated action plan and a set of architectural and environmental solutions based on innovations allow achieving high results” [16].

At the same time, as a result of the study, it was revealed that the location of the city was significantly influenced by both strategic goals - the protection of the southern borders of the Russian Empire, and the natural landscape of the area, which largely predetermined the further directions of the city architectural and planning structure development. In the indicated structure of the existing quarters of Maykop, an orthogonal ordering of territorial spaces is noted, leading from the historical nucleus of the settlement. The layout of the settlement has practically not undergone radical transformations; the monuments of the architectural and urban planning heritage are carefully preserved in the silhouette panoramic buildings of the city. The configuration of the Maykop street network throughout the evolution of the architectural and historical environment deserves special attention, its rationality is noted, as well as the fact that the streets are viewed from the very beginning to the end from any point of perception. This circumstance makes a great emotional impression, especially in the historical part of the city, thereby contributing to mentally making a kind of journey into the past.

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