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**REVALORIZATION OF PARKS  
OF HISTORICAL SUBURBAN  
ESTATES BASED ON THE EXAMPLE  
OF OBROSHYNE VILLAGE**

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**Abstract.** Modern historical suburban estates with a park territory are in different forms of ownership and are used for different functions. Such anthropological pressure leads to its degradation and destruction and as a result – complete loss of the object. The project of revalorization of parks of historical suburban estate in Obroshyne village near Lviv city deals with the ways of its preservation and perspective development, adaptation to the new social and urban conditions.

**Key words:** historical parks, revalorization, landscape and spatial arrangement of the park

## **1. Introduction**

During the past decades, the interest in objects of architectural and historical heritage has grown and in particular to the palace and park complexes. Because of improper functional using, indifference and financial disability of its owners, the problem of its degradation, abandonment, and as a result – destruction and complete loss of an architectural object, has become serious and complicated. The parks of such complexes are on the highest level of danger as its territory is attractive for placing different buildings. A unique combination of landscape and space, architecture and design of such complex, structure of its space compositions which reflect a style of that epoch are especially valuable for visitors of such parks. These palaces and park objects have great tourist, recreational, cultural and didactic potential. And the palace together with its park complex in the village of Obroshyne is the best model of this.

Obroshyne village is located on the 14th km of the road Lviv-Sambir on a hilly terrain with a slope to a valley of the Stavchanka river. The former summer residence of Lviv archbishops being converted into a dendrological park of national significance *Obroshynskiyi* is located there. There is an alley of 800 meters long which was planted with lindens in the early 19th century (Fig. 1).

The palace and park complex has a good road connection – a bus stop is located at the beginning of the alley; and a railway connection – the distance from the railway station Obroshyne, which goes through the forest and village, to the park is about 1500 m (Fig. 1).

Roman Aftanazy in the paper *Materiały do dziejów rezydencji* describes its location features as:

*The existing park, the formation of which took place in several stages during the 18th century, stretched out to the palace and also covered a greenhouse. It had the character of the French regular garden composition with a channel on the axis where at different levels strung terraces, cropped trees, extensive grass lawns, ponds and landscapes located far away from it (1990, p. 379).*

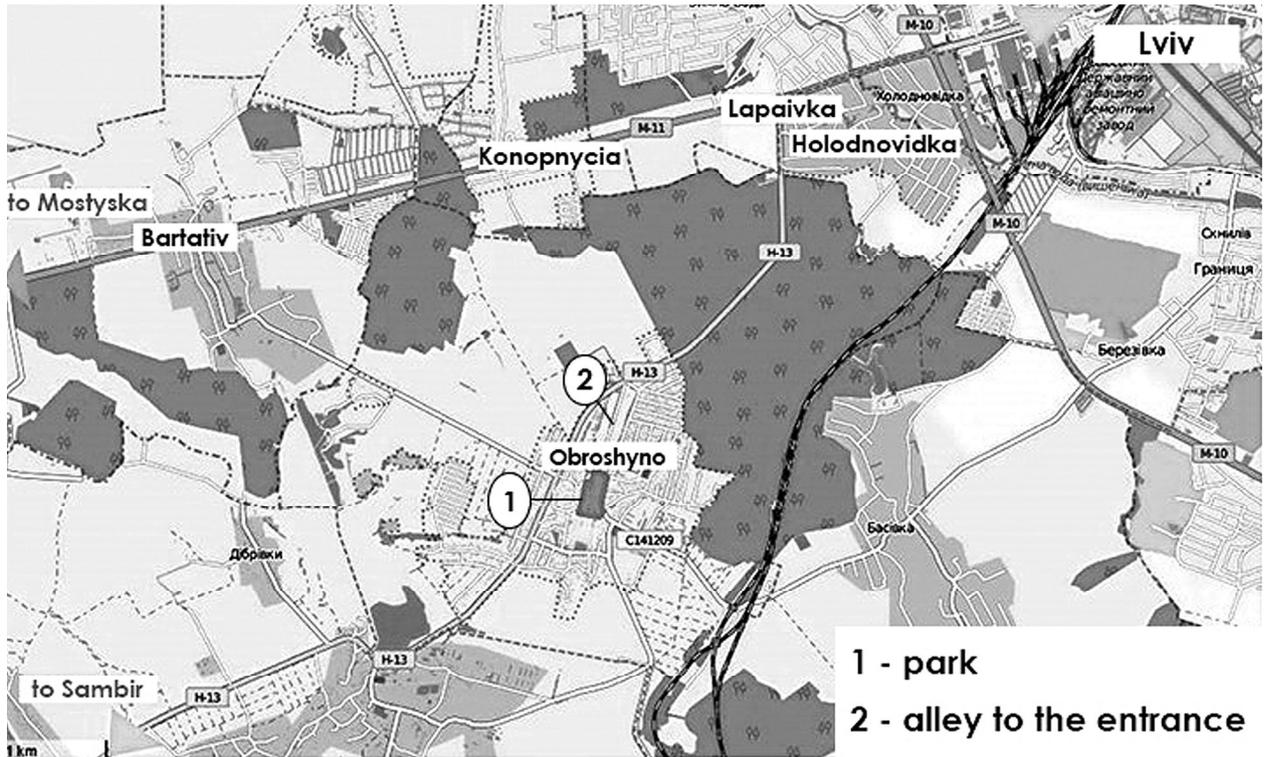


Fig. 1. Location plan of the palace and park complex in Obroshyne.  
(author I. Chervinska)

Palace and park complex in the Obroshyno village is now used by Research Institute of Agriculture and Stock-Breeding of Western Ukraine. The monuments in Obroshyno according to the State Register of National Cultural Heritage of Ukraine include:

1. Manor Lviv archbishops (1730, No. 477-0)
2. Palace (No. 477-1) (Fig. 4)
3. Household fligels (No. 477-2) (Fig. 3)
4. Stone fence with main and household gates (No. 477-3) (Fig. 2)
5. Park of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. (No. 477-4) (Fig. 5)



Fig. 2. Obroshyne. Stone fence with the main and household gates (on the left) – archive photo taken before 1939 by Roman Aftanazy (1990, photo 386, p. 223). Modern photo (on the right), 2015, photo by Y. Buryak, pizzatravel.com.ua.



**Fig. 3.** Obroshyne. Household fligels (on the left), archive photo taken before 1939 by Roman Aftanazy (1990, photo 387, p. 223). Modern photo (on the right), 2015, photo by I. Chervinska



**Fig. 4.** Obroshyne. The main frontage of the palace with a round flowerbed in front of it (on the left), archive photo taken before 1939 (Narodowe Archiwum Cyfrowe, sygn 1-U-4432); on the right – modern photo of the palace with a monument to Ukrainian poet Ivan Franko in the middle of a flowerbed, 2015 (photo Y. Buryak)



**Fig. 5.** Obroshyne. Park. On the left – the main compositional axis ends with a palace, archive photo taken before 1939 (Narodowe Archiwum Cyfrowe, sygn 1-U-4432), on the right – modern view of the main compositional axis of the park, 2015 (photo by I. Chervinska)



**Fig. 6.** Obroshyne. The main compositional axis of the palace and park complex – alley of lindens of 800 m length (on the right); the beginning of the alley from road Lviv-Sambir with an arch of Scientific Research Institute (on the left); From top to down (on the left), fragments of alley with a newly built church and the ending of its perspective with the main gateway and palace (photo by I. Chervinska, 2015)

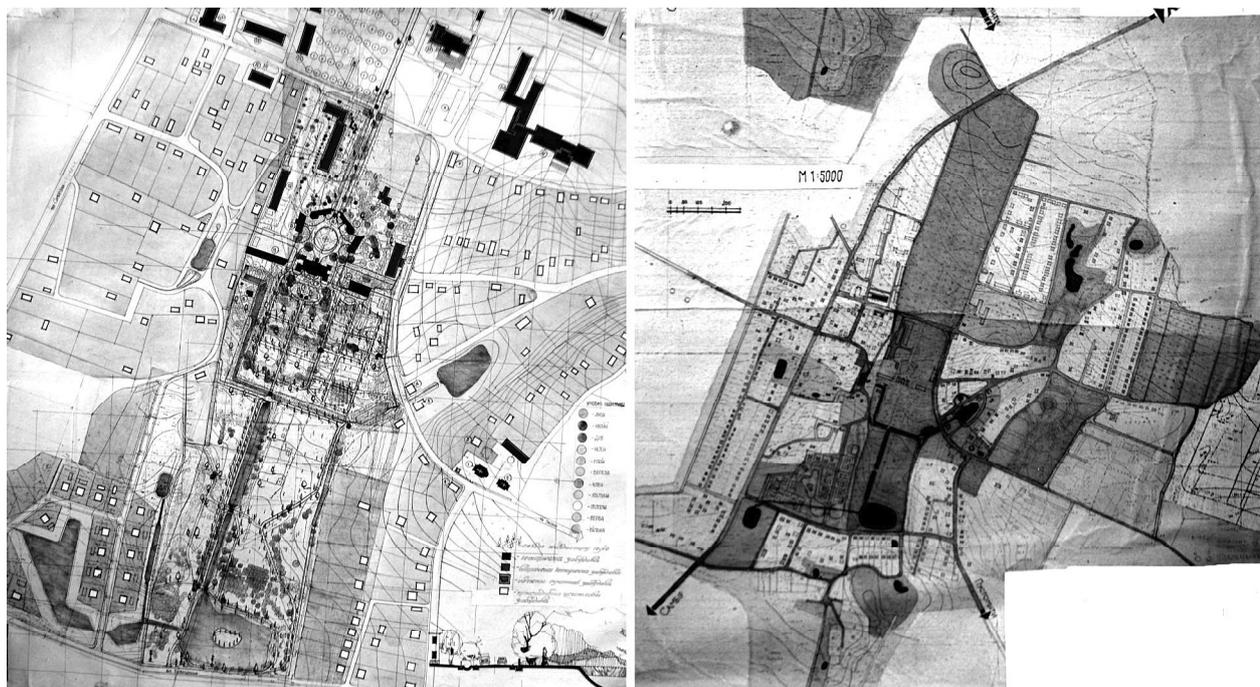
The main dates of historical investigations:

- 1411 – the earliest mention of Obroshyne.
- 1456 – Polish King Kazimierz Jangelonczik passes his mansion to his castellan Piotr Shamstulski.
- 1466 – mansion was bought by archbishop Grzegorz (Gjegoj) from Sanok.
- 1466–1939 – palace and park are owned by Lviv archbishops.
- 1568, September – Lviv archbishop of Rome Catholic Church (RCC) Stanislaw Slomowski was granted a lifelong right to own the Obroshyne village.
  - 1704 – Obroshyne is neglected after the Swedish mansion.
  - Early 18<sup>th</sup> century – curia of Rome Catholic Church headed by Jan Skarbek (died in 1753) makes there a summer residence.
    - 1730 – arch. Józef Fontana builds palace in the Baroque style.
    - Ferdinand Fitski (Jan Skarbek’s heir) develops mostly a park arrangement, which was the best part of the palace during the long period and now it still has its elegant form.
    - 1780 – W. Serakowski in his will mentions the orangery of the park in Obroshyne.
    - 1914–1918 – the palace is robbed (furniture, books, wooden floors), decay and destruction of interiors.
      - 1920 – facade reconstruction (arch. Bronislaw Wictor and Józef Piotrkovskyj). A balcony, stairs and statues are added to the façade from the park side.
        - 1922–1925 – arch. B. Wictor changes the front facade of the palace into a modern style; park façade remains in the Baroque style.
        - 1945 – a library and an archive of Research Institute of Agriculture and Stock-Breeding of Western Ukraine is placed there.

- 1960s – a small zoo with exotic animals (sika deer, goose, ogar, and others) is put there.
- 1983 – it is named an arboretum *Obroshynskyyi* by the resolution of USSR Council of Ministers No 311, on 22 July, 1983.
- 1998 – it gains the status of zoological park of local significance by the resolution of Lviv Regional Council.
- 2017 – Research Institute of Agriculture and Stock-Breeding of Western Ukraine is situated on its territory.

## 2. Analysis of the last investigations and publications

Among the recent researchers of the palace and park in Obroshyne, the name of a Polish researcher R. Aftanazy (1990) should be mentioned. In his works the description of palace architecture and nearby park is found. In 1996, at the Department of City Planning in Lviv Polytechnic National University, a graduation paper titled *Palace and Park Ensemble in Obroshyne* was presented by T.W. Baitzar, which was supervised by T.M. Maksymiuk. The research considers the landscape, its compositional design, and arboretum peculiarities; the vision of its future development and reconstruction is presented (Fig. 7).



**Fig. 7.** Obroshyne. Location plan (on the left) and masterplan of its reconstruction and development (on the right), 1996. Taken from the graduation paper by Taras Baitzar, supervised by T. Maksymiuk, Lviv Polytechnic National University, Department of City Planning, 1996, (photo from T. Maksymiuk's archive)

The most recent research of the palace and the park in the village of Obroshyne is a graduation paper titled *Revalorization of Palace and Park complex in Obroshyne village in Lviv region* carried out by I. J. Chervinska and supervised by V. V. Didyk and G. B. Lukashchuk at Lviv Polytechnic National University, Department of City Planning, 2015. At first the research was the project proposal of park revalorization of mansion in Obroshyne village in which the methods by Janusz Bogdanowski were applied. The same method was also used in the reconstruction of central amphitheater in Lviv's Stryiskyyi park (completed in 1983), and later was applied in the reconstruction and restoration of various garden and park objects (Didyk, 2016).

The main characteristics of architectural and planning composition of the park in different historical periods of its development as well as the transformation of nearby territories are analysed using the maps of that time. Having the features of each period, the compositional frame models reveal authentic elements of planning structure of the palace and park complex at different stages of development (Fig. 8).



**Fig. 8.** Obroshyne. Stages of development of the palace and park complex – upper photos (four ones on the left – the Central State Historical Archive in Lviv/Stok No 186, description 1, affair 3570, p. 133–147; others are the photos of Lviv branch of “Dniprocivty”); compositional analysis on different historical stages of its development – down (by V. Didyk and I. Chervinska)

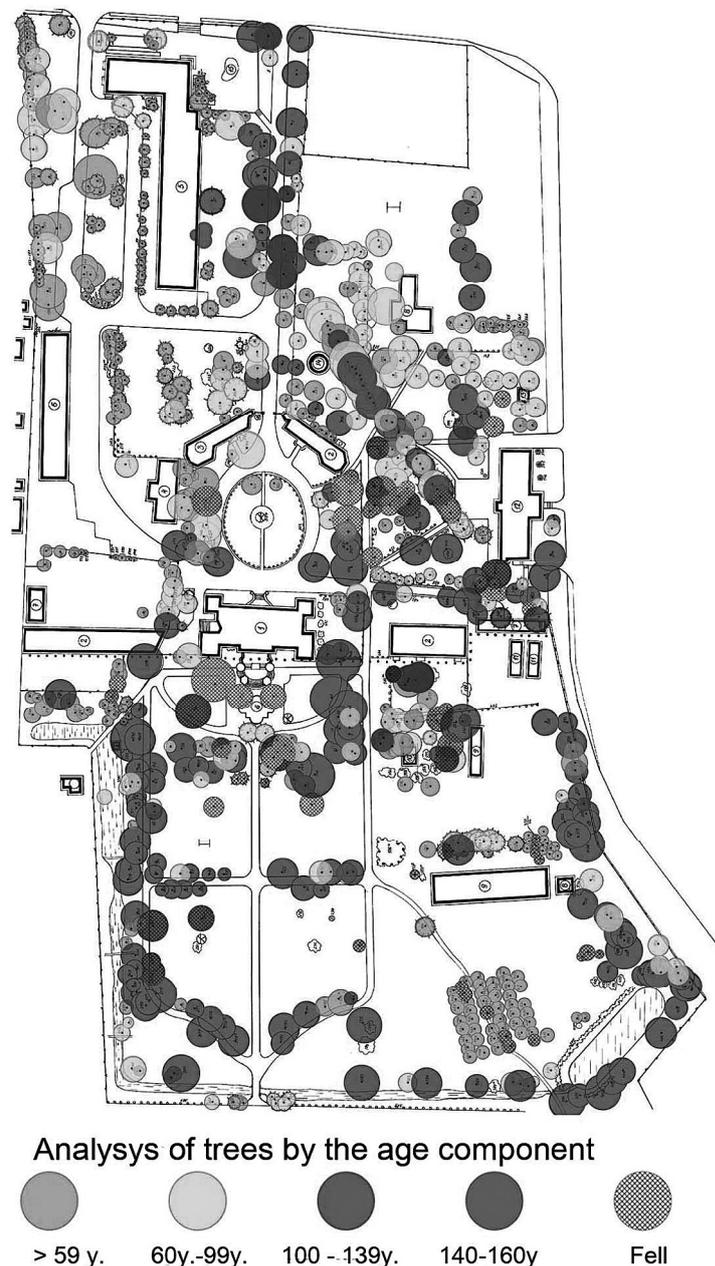
On these maps one can see the process of forming the main composite core based on the complex structures: the palace, buildings and offices that form a three-dimensional dominant. The first known map of 1849 presents an existing park in the regular style with the palace put in front of the 800 meter long main axis – alley of lindens. This organization provides a compositional balance and attraction of the whole complex.

The further development of the complex included the distribution of the territory surrounding buildings, providing clear boundaries of nearby territory planning, making the amphitheater to be the part of the park, arrangement of garden paths, organization of its landscape, and introduction of the small zoo. Architectural and planning organization of the park amphitheater continued up to the 21<sup>st</sup> century and then we can observe degradation of planning elements and composite buildings axes.

One of the main study elements is the investigation of arboretum. The method of field research identified its physical state, the age and range of structures. It was found out that it is located in a large number of old trees with the age of 160 years old, and 150–120 years old, and some of them grew out as self-seeding and thus are opposed to trees that have survived from the original landscape and composite design (Fig. 9). We think that the

formation of garden-park design was much influenced by the work of an urban gardener Karol Bauer who was involved into the city planning decisions (Didyk, Maksym'yuk & Klopot 2015).

The park is divided into landscape design with a system of ponds and the design of architecture buildings. It has the form of axial, symmetrical garden of the French type with regular channels on the axis which are decorated with extensive grass lawns, ponds, and extra landscapes located in the distance.



**Fig. 9.** Obroshyne. Analysis of trees according to the age factor  
(by G. Lukashchuk, V. Didyk and I. Chervinska)

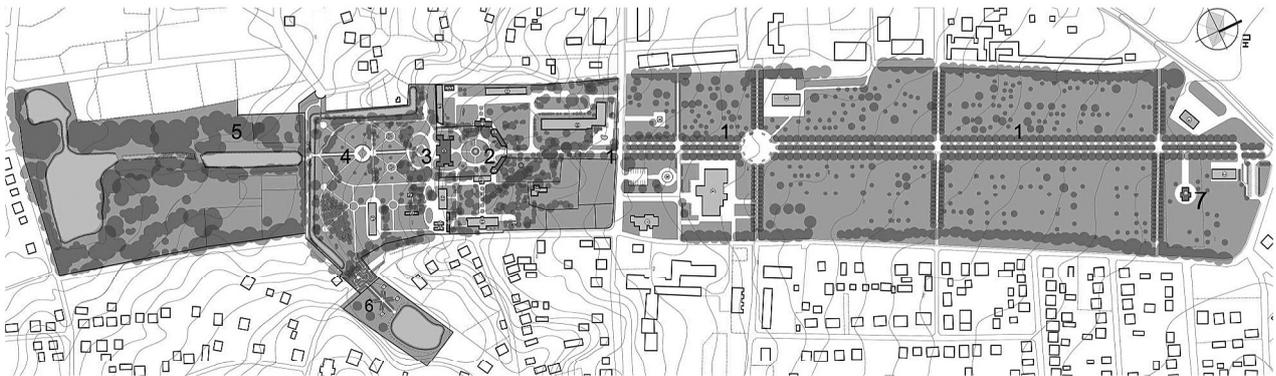
The research has proved that to join the palace and park complex space with a driveway of alley of lindens, and a zoo with a lake will result in its positive development (Fig. 7). In 2015, an alley space suffered from the anthropogenic changes – a petrol station was built on the left of the right axis. At the end of alley, on the left of its axis and close to the palace and park complex, the centre of Obroshyne village is situated. There is a museum, a library, an exchange office, a monument to fighters for freedom of Ukraine, and some residential buildings. The main building of the Research Institute of Agriculture are directly adjacent to the walls of the

palace area. The library and Archives Institute are placed in the palace and park complex. Gas distribution station is also located on the territory. Because of improper maintenance of palace and park complex, it has lost its original appearance. Auxiliary facilities of the palace and greenhouses are destroyed, pond system is on the point of drying out, and the main 800 meter alley of lindens is partially built with public buildings, which has resulted in the loss of historical and cultural value of the palace and park complex in general.

### 3. Project proposal

Recreational, cultural and historic meaning of the palace and park complex in Obroshyne is of high value, but as it has not being properly realized, it needs to be restored to receive a new perspective development.

To maintain the integrity of its territory and incorporating it into the natural landscape area of Obroshyne we need to revitalize the park and its complex, change its functional and spatial organization, improve its architectural, planning and management system. It is recommended to transform the palace library and its archive into the place where the creative work would be taken, and the corresponding conferences and excursions would be held.



**Fig. 10.** Obroshyne. Masterplan of the palace and park complex  
(by V. Didyk, I. Chervinska, G. Lukashchuk):

1 – alley to the entrance; 2 – avanzone; 3 – palace; 4 – gardens; 5 – gardens of a small zoo; 6 – maze; 7 – church



**Fig. 11.** Obroshyne. The future perspective of the palace and park complex  
(by V. Didyk, I. Chervinska, G. Lukashchuk)

The project ensures the creation of an attachment to the territory of the palace and park complex which will consist of a representative area of the existing 800-meter linden alley and as a parallel to it a new one for the horse-drawn carriages, cyclists and vehicles will be created.

The organization of the movement of visitors to the territory of the palace and park complex will be done through fixed entrances. The main compositional axis of the park is emphasized by the restoration of vegetation and formation of hornbeam background. The animation area for children with the elements of topiary art, a labyrinth and a pond for fishing is to be put next to the park territory. The main axis of the park is lengthen to the channel axis of the zoo crowned with a pond (Fig. 10, 11).

So the territory of the palace and park complex has increased from 10 hectares to 22 hectares.

#### 4. Conclusions

The suggested programme of architectural, planning, functional and spatial development of the palace and park has adjusted it to the new content of recreational, didactic and research functions. Space development of the park territory contributes to the preservation of its environmental function and the integrity of its boundaries which is of high importance for future generations.

The research methodology of the territory of the palace-park complex in Oboshyne can be applied to the revitalization of any object similar in content.

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#### РЕВАЛИРИЗАЦІЯ ПАРКІВ ПРИМІСЬКИХ ІСТОРИЧНИХ САДИБ НА ПРИКЛАДІ ОБРОШИНО

*Анотація.* Приміські історичні садиби з парками сьогодні перебувають у різних формах власності та використовуються під різноманітні функції. Таке антропогенне навантаження призводить до їх поступової деградації та руйнування і, як наслідок, повної втрати об'єкта. На прикладі проекту ревалоризації парку історичної приміської садиби в Оброшино біля Львова розглянуто шляхи її збереження та перспективного розвитку, адаптацію до нових соціальних та містобудівних умов.

*Ключові слова:* історичні парки, ревалоризація, ландшафтно-просторова композиція парку.