Article

Russian experience in the protection of the historic urban landscape

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Abstract: The purpose of the article is to introduce the experience of Russia in the protection and regeneration of the historic urban environment and to provide an overview of the urban planning approach for the protection of heritage in Russian cities. The approach includes: the historical review of the development of heritage protection regulatory system; analyzing the Russian legislation; analyzing the historic urban landscape theoretical background; providing a case of study of Moscow city and its historic site Ivanovskaya Gorka and architectural ensemble surrounding Khitrov Square; the methods and strategies for the protection of the historic urban landscape are introduced.

Keywords: Russia; Moscow; historic urban landscape; urban heritage conservation; citizens participation

1 Introduction

Most economically influential cities face the pressure of socio-economic challenges and modernization of the urban environment. As a result, there is a constant reduction in the areas of the historic urban landscape. It is widely recognized that historic cities shouldn’t become museum spaces, the evolution is a part of urban development process. However, often new buildings, occupying vacant lots in existing historical urban areas, contrast with historical buildings, and urban blocks become fragmented, thus destroying the harmony of the historic urban landscape (HUL) formed over centuries or decades.

In Russian urban planning, the landscape-based approach was developed over the 20th-21st centuries. In the Soviet Union, the administrative-command system managed central
planning with state control of investment, state-owned land, the socialist property (there was the individual property as housing as well), and overall urban planning, which was focused on the state and social needs, that results in most of the cities had been well-preserved HULs. In 1991, Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic became Russian Federation.

There were introduced the market economy, privatization of state land and socialist property, and a new urban planning regulatory system. These challenges had a dramatic impact on urban development and the control of the historic urban areas by creating a conflict between the economic values of the land and the cultural values of heritage. That is why the protection of urban heritage has received a lot of attention from Russian architectural and artistic societies as well as from citizens. Over thirty years, the historic urban landscape’s protection become stronger and lies at the junction of the 1) legislation and regulatory framework for protecting urban heritage, 2) urban planning regulations (formulated by the Land Use and Construction Regulations within the boundaries of the corresponding territorial area), and 3) citizens participation. At the state level, there is heritage legislation and regulatory framework, which applies to HUL protection.

The landscape-based approach in urban planning has a wider scope than heritage conservation and became fundamental for balancing the elements as historic buildings and their surrounding environment in future development of the cities and ensure the continued existence of heritage assets and unique Russian culture. For China, this topic is also relevant and become one of the core elements in the new urban agenda. According to UNESCO, China has one of the largest amounts of World Heritage Sites, as well as categories of urban areas and historic sites (a) Historic City; b) Historic Urban Landscape; c) Cultural Landscape; d) Urban Archaeological Site; e) Urban World Heritage Site) [1]. The article addresses the topic of protection and revitalization of the Russian historic cities, which may reveal a new vision for China in the context of the new urban agenda. The purpose of the article is to overview the urban planning approach for the protection of urban heritage in Russian cities. The methodology of the article includes five steps: 1) the historical overview of the development of heritage protection regulatory system; 2) analyzing the modern system of Russian legislation on the heritage protection, including historic urban landscape; 3) analyzing the historic urban landscape theory; 4) case of study is Moscow city and its historic site Ivanovskaya Gorka (St. John hill) and architectural ensemble surrounding Khitrov Square; 5) the content of the Regulation on the preservation of the urban structure and features for the HUL development.

2 Historical overviews of the formation of the policy of the urban heritage protection in Russia

2.1 Period of the Russian Empire (until 1917)

In 1826, the Ministry of the Internal Affairs of the Russian Empire issued the Circular to civilian governors ‘On the delivery of information about the remains of ancient buildings and the prohibition to destroy them’. It was a government program to identify and designate the first list of Russian heritage, which included more than four thousand listed ‘monuments’. In
the 19th century, the state and the Russian social-scientific community made a determined effort to preserve monuments. There was no specific law on the heritage protection, but the state was trying to regulate the protection of individual unique historical monuments, including a series of Imperial Decrees on the protection of the Kolomna Kremlin (Figure 1) and the Kitay-Gorod Wall (Figure 2).

Figure 1. Panoramic view of Kolomna Kremlin and Kolomenka River in Kolomna city, Moscow region (source: http://strana.ru).

Figure 2. (a) Panorama of the Kitay-Gorod Wall, 1887 (source: https://arch-heritage.livejournal.com); (b) Location of the Kremlin and Kitay-Gorod Wall (source: author)

The majority of scientists were members of archaeological and architectural-artistic societies that made a great contribution to the study and popularization of ancient monuments,
including the Odessa Society of History and Antiquities (founded in 1839), Russian Archaeological Society (founded in 1846), and Moscow Archaeological Society (founded in 1864). The study of ancient monuments has become a priority for professional architectural and art societies - the Moscow Architectural Society (founded in 1876), the St.Petersburg Society of Architects (founded in 1872), the Society of Architects and Artists (founded in 1903), the Society for the Protection and Preservation of Art Monuments in Russia and antiquities (founded in 1909), which studies include not only the heritage of medieval Russia (built before 1725) but also the monuments of the 18, 19, early 20 centuries [2].

The all-Russian legislative document ‘Building Charter’ (1832, 1842, 1857, 1900), promulgated in 1832, regulated the heritage protection and was valid until 1917. The ‘Building Charter’ strictly forbade the destruction of the remains of ancient monuments and fortresses. Provincial authorities must implement regulations to ensure their safety. Since the second half of the 19th century, despite the introduction of the ‘Building Charter’, the absence of a special law on the protection of ancient monuments was felt more acutely in Russian society.

The first Russian document on protection of monuments was the ‘Regulation on the Protection of Antiquities’, issued in 1916, which was compiled by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Moscow Archaeological Society. The experience in the protection of ancient monuments, accumulated by Russian society and government departments in the 19th - early 20th centuries, laid the foundations for the statutory protection of heritage and museum construction in the Soviet period.

2.2 Soviet period (1917-1991)

During the first period of Soviet power, the heritage protection had the following characteristics: 1) the general nationalization of private property, including historic monuments; 2) the lack of a common program of action and a single scientific approach to the allocation of monuments that needed to be protected by the state. In May 1918, the Department for Museums and the Protection of Monuments of Art and Antiquities was formed under the People's Commissariat of the RSFSR, which integrates all heritage protection institutions [3]. The mission of the Department of Museums was to preserve the national heritage, including the property obtained from the mansions and estates left by the owners, where various national museums have been established.
Table 1. From 1918 to 1923, the first decrees of the Soviet government proclaimed a new order for the heritage protection (source: http://elar.urfu.ru/bitstream).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Decrees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>‘On the Prohibition of the Export and Sale Abroad of Objects of Special Aesthetic and Historical Significance’</td>
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<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>‘On the Registration and Protection of Monuments of Art and Antiquities Owned by Private Individuals, Societies and Institutions’</td>
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<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>‘On the Removal of Monuments Erected in Honor of the Tsars (Emperor) and Their Servants and the Development of Projects of Monuments to the Russian Socialist Revolution’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>Decree of the Council of People's Commissars ‘On the separation of church from state and school from church’</td>
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<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>‘On the abolition of private property rights to the archives of deceased Russian writers, composers, artists and scientists stored in libraries and museums’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>‘On the procedure for the seizure of church property held by groups of believers’</td>
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In 1921, the Soviet Union entered an era of New Economic Policy (1921-1928). The basic principles of the New Economic Policy – self-financing and self-sufficiency provided for the existence of a decentralized financing system. The entire burden of financing the maintenance of heritage and museums was to fall on the regional budget, and the responsibility for their protection was on the local executive committees. The regional budget was extremely scarce and was spent mainly on reconstruction after the devastating imperialist and civil wars.

In 1922, the Main Directorate of Scientific, Artistic and Museum Institutions of the Glavnauka Academic Center were formed in the People's Commissariat for Education of the RSFSR (Narkompros) with a department for museums and heritage protection. In all provincial (regional) departments of public education, committees for the protection of heritage, folk life and nature were organized [4]. A system of heritage protection was created for designation of architecture, painting, sculpture, decorative and applied arts monuments, as well as their reparation, restoration, and protection from damage and destruction.

The government supported the view of religion as ‘a relic of the past’. Thousands of churches and chapels were closed and blown up, in which tens of thousands of artworks were lost. The 1920s - 1930s was the most tragic time for cultural monuments. In the country, the previous system for the heritage protection was liquidated: the Museum Department of the People's Commissariat of Education, the local provincial and municipal authorities for monuments protection were abolished, and the activities of the State Central Restoration Workshops and local Historical Societies were stopped, and many museums in estates and monasteries were closed.

During the Great Patriotic War (1941-1945), more than thousands of cities were destroyed, partially or completely destroyed about ten thousand valuable historical and cultural monuments. In 1942, the Commission on the Registration and Protection of Heritage was created under the Committee for Arts Affairs of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR, which kept records of monuments’ damage. In 1944, the widespread establishment of restoration workshops began. The Central Scientific Restoration Workshops became the All-Soviet Union Restoration Center [5].

In 1948, the Decree of the Council of Ministers of the USSR ‘On measures to improve the protection of monuments’ was issued, which gave a classification of subject of the
historical and cultural monuments to state protection (monuments of architecture, history, archeology and monumental art). In this document, the most important problem of using the heritage was posed – the strengthening of the tenants’ responsibility for the safety of the used property.

From 1949 to 1960, a number of Government decrees were issued that were aimed at improving the protection and restoration of monuments in the RSFSR, and lists of monuments were approved. In 1965, the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Monuments of History and Culture (VOOPiK) was founded, which was the only public organization for the protection of monuments in all Soviet Union times. In 1966, the State Inspectorate for the Protection of Monuments of History and Culture was established as a part of the Ministry of Culture of the RSFSR.

In 1954, the USSR joined UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization). The Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict was adopted in 1954 at the Intergovernmental Conference on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict in Hague. The date of delivery of the instrument of ratification of the USSR was 1957, from that time the Convention and its Protocol entered into force for the USSR.

With the accession of the USSR to the International Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972, Paris), the country faced new obligations to the world community to identify and preserve its cultural heritage. In 1988, the USSR ratified the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972.

In 1978, the RSFSR Law ‘On the Protection and Use of Monuments of History and Culture’ was adopted. Since the international practice was significantly ahead of the state of heritage protection in the USSR, special article 55 was adopted ‘if an international treaty, which the USSR ratifies sets other regulations than those contained in the legislation of the USSR or the RSFSR on the protection and use of historical and cultural monuments, then the regulations of international treaties apply.’[4]

Following the RSFSR Law (1978), guidelines for the implementation of the provisions of its articles were issued, as well as 33 decrees, among which the most significant for Moscow was the Decree of the Council of Ministers of the USSR of 26.09.1987 N1101 ‘On renovation and development for the period up to 2000 of the historical center of Moscow’. The appearance of this resolution was caused by the fact that, as was noted at the last 16th Congress of the CPSU, Moscow was losing its historical appearance and urgent measures were required to preserve it.

In 1991, the Russian Federation was declared. The new state system required the adoption of new legislation, including the law on heritage protection.

3 Legislation for the historic, cultural and urban heritage protection in Russia

The system of Russian legislation on the protection of historical and cultural heritage is a combination of legal acts regulating this sphere and urban planning regulations.

Normative legal acts (legislation) on the heritage protection of Russia:
(1) The basic norms are enshrined in Article 44 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation:
   a. ‘Everyone shall have the right to participate in cultural life and use cultural establishments and an access to cultural values.’
   b. ‘Everyone shall be obliged to care for the preservation of cultural and historical heritage and protect monuments of history and culture.’
(3) Federal Law of 25.06.2002 N73-FZ ‘On objects of cultural heritage (historic and cultural monuments) of the peoples of the Russian Federation’. In accordance with the law, objects of cultural heritage (historical and cultural monuments) of the peoples of the Russian Federation are of unique value to the entire multinational people of the Russian Federation and are an integral part of the world’s cultural heritage.

Urban planning regulations are developed at the local level, the main of which is the document Land Use and Construction Regulations, which contains land use and zoning maps, including:

(1) The boundaries of protected areas of cultural heritage;
(2) The boundaries of the protective zones of cultural heritage sites;
(3) The boundaries of the territories of cultural heritage.


The content of the project for the protection of cultural heritage sites is determined on the basis of:

(1) historic and cultural reference plan of the settlement, where the object of cultural heritage or a group of objects are located;
(2) information about cultural heritage sites, identified cultural heritage sites, established territories, and protection zones of cultural heritage sites located in the territory of the proposed design of protection zones, for which historical and cultural studies have been carried out;
(3) collected materials of previously developed projects for the protection of cultural heritage sites located on the territory of a settlement for which historical and cultural studies have been carried out, or in inter-settlement territories if historical and cultural studies have been carried out with respect to a separately located cultural heritage site;
(4) collected materials of landscape-visual analysis of the compositional relationships of the object(s) of the cultural heritage, surrounding buildings and landscape environment;
(5) other materials necessary for the identification and development of the project of zones of protection of cultural heritage objects.

‘Methodological recommendations (guidelines) for assessing the historical and cultural value of a settlement. Application of criteria of historical and cultural value of a settlement in the assessment of real estate located within the boundaries of a historical settlement.’ aims to speed up the implementation of the requirements for territorial planning documents in the Russian Urban Planning Law in order to: (1) to maintain the uniqueness, reliability, aesthetic and artistic value of the supporting historical buildings and the entire environment; (2) consider the development of historical settlements.

The concept of ‘historical settlement’ was introduced by Federal Law N73. The subject of protection of a historical settlement includes:

(1) buildings and structures that form historical urban landscape and are combined by scale, volume, structure, style, structural materials, color palette, and decorative elements;
(2) urban fabrics, including its elements;
(3) urban forms;
(4) composition and silhouette of the historic urban landscape - the ratio of vertical and horizontal dominants and accents;
(5) the ratio between different urban spaces (free area, built environment, green space);
(6) compositional-visual relationships (panoramas), the ratio of natural and constructed environments.

The definition of ‘historical settlement’ can be applied both for the whole urban settlement, and for the part of the urban territory that meets the total indicator characterizing the historical and cultural value of the settlement’s territory, which can be distinguished as the historical part, and its boundaries are fixed in the territorial planning documents of the settlement (master plan), taken into account when developing draft Land Use Code, planning projects, documentation for the heritage protection and the historical landscape of the settlement (Article 2 of the Federal Law N179; part 5 of Article 36 of the Federal Law N190).

There are two stages in identification of historical and cultural values for classifying cities (settlements or part of them) as ‘historical settlements’. The first stage: the identification of the physical component of the historical settlement and the image of the settlement. The second stage: determining the investment attractiveness of a historical settlement.

On June 9, 2004, Decree N40 of the City of Moscow ‘On the special procedure for regulating urban planning activities in the historical urban areas of Moscow and in the territories of protective zones for cultural heritage in the city of Moscow’ was issued. Urban planning activities in historical areas and protected areas of cultural heritage sites are subject
to the provisions of the federal legislation framework and Decree N40 of the Moscow City Act on Cultural Heritage:

(1) a historical-cultural reference plan for the territory of the city of Moscow;
(2) the General Scheme for the special regulation of urban planning activities in historical territories and in the territories of zones of protection of cultural heritage objects;
(3) the special urban planning standards and design rules for historic territories and the territories of protective zones of cultural heritage;
(4) the urban planning regulations of a special type for historical territories and territories of protective zones of cultural heritage;
(5) establishing special requirements for urban planning documentation, the effect of which extends to historical territories and in the territories of protection zones of cultural heritage;
(6) establishing special requirements for urban planning documentation, the effect of which extends to historical territories and in the territories of protective zones of cultural heritage;
(7) establishing special requirements for project documentation for the construction, reconstruction of urban facilities in historical territories and in the territories of protective zones of cultural heritage;
(8) establishing special procedure for consideration, coordination, state examination of urban planning and design documentation for historical territories and for territories of protective zones of cultural heritage;
(9) ensure the national, municipal and public control over compliance with the requirements of special regulation of urban development in the historical territories and in the territories of protective zones of cultural heritage.

The legislative base on the heritage protection and urban planning regulations goes through a process of continuous development. Despite the fact that many laws have been adopted as the Federal Law N73 and a number of system-forming laws, nevertheless there are a number of not well coordinated relations that need to be further advanced.

4 National conservation planning for HULs

Protection of the heritage and monuments is impossible without taking into account the environment in which they formed. In 2011, Recommendations on Historic Urban Landscapes (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Recommendation’) were adopted at the UNESCO General Conference. These recommendations were preceded by international treaties such as the European Charter of Architectural Heritage (Council of Europe, 1975) and the Charter for the Preservation of Historic Cities and Urban Territories (Washington Charter, ICOMOS, 1987), as well as the Recommendation on the Protection and Current Role of Historic Zones (UNESCO, 1976).
For Russia, the HUL concept is not new. “In the Soviet period, studies of historical and natural landscapes, the urban fabrics of historic cities, and their architectural elements were aimed at creating a certain system of knowledge about urban planning.” (Irina Markina, Chairman of the Board of the Non-Governmental Heritage Without Borders NP, Academician of the Academy of Architectural Heritage, Chairman of the Council on Heritage of the Union of Architects of Russia) [6].

Professor B.K. Eremin proposed the theory of ‘urban retro-development’, which, due to its validity, reliability and versatility, has been a guide for restoring Moscow’s lost heritage since the early 1990s (Figure 3). B.K. Eremin’s theories and designs influenced an entire generation of modern planners, architects, scientists and restorers [7].

![Image: Urban Planning Competition ‘Renovation of Moscow City Center within the boundaries of the Garden Ring’, architects: B.K. Eremin, S. Poyakov, A. Schenkov, et al., 1966; b) The urban fabric analysis map shows the correspondence between different directions and the lines of visual corridors of major landmarks in the city center such as the Kremlin and Kitay-gorod [6].](image)

**Figure 3.** a) Urban Planning Competition ‘Renovation of Moscow City Center within the boundaries of the Garden Ring’, architects: B.K. Eremin, S. Poyakov, A. Schenkov, et al., 1966; b) The urban fabric analysis map shows the correspondence between different directions and the lines of visual corridors of major landmarks in the city center such as the Kremlin and Kitay-gorod [6].

The Russian urban planning science under the leadership of the Academician D.O. Shvidkovsky of the head of the Russian Academy of Architecture and Construction Sciences, the State Research and Design Institute and the leading architecture universities work together to maintain and develop the cultural tradition of the profession of architects, cultivate young specialists respect and protect the national heritage.

Andrey Bokov, People’s Architect of Russia¹: “Today we are beginning to understand that not individual buildings are of value, which we have learned how to preserve, for which restoration we spend sufficient funds, but the restoration of what is called the historical environment, the historical fabric of the city. This is a certain order, first of all ... that attracts us so much in a modern historical city, in a European city and in the hutong areas around

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¹ From the interview to author in October 2019.
the Forbidden City in Beijing ... The restoration of this order is based, first of all, on the correct land zoning and restoration of the land use system.”

The Russian Architectural Society considers the city as an entire urban planning and design object with a unique architectural and spatial environment. In planning practice, the HUL concept includes the whole range of historical-cultural, architectural and planning, landscape, compositional and functional features. Russian urban planning science is developing in accordance with advanced global trends while maintaining its own traditions. The preservation of valuable fragments of the HUL is actively discussed at the state level, which is reflected in the improvement of urban planning policy and the adoption of urban planning decisions.

5 Urban planning policy of the city of Moscow

5.1 The provisions of the policy of the city of Moscow on the regulation of urban planning activities in the historical territories of the city of Moscow

In December 1990, by decision of the UNESCO session, the first two sites were included in the World Heritage List – the Moscow Kremlin and Red Square, as well as the historic center of St. Petersburg. In 1992, another six sites were added to this list.

In 1993, the ‘Comprehensive Program for the Reconstruction of the Center of Moscow’ was developed, which included the Historical and Architectural Survey of Moscow with a set of research works, including historical town planning, architectural, cultural studies in the historical center of Moscow. This project was conducted by Workshop 17 of the Mosproject-2 Office. The results of the studies were used to create the ‘Protection zones of the central part of Moscow within the Garden Ring’ - approved by the Government of Moscow dated
16.12.1997 N881, as well as the ‘Protective zones of the central part of Moscow’ (within the Kamer-Kollezhsky shaft) (Figure 4) – approved by Decree of the Government of Moscow 07.17.1998 N593. The approval of the ‘Protective Zones of the historical center of Moscow’ raised the question of the further collection of information on cultural heritage sites located within the boundaries of the ‘Complex Protection Zones’. The Decree of the Government of Moscow of 25.07.2000 N566, ‘On conducting a historical and architectural survey of Moscow in 2001-2010,’ was issued. Decree N566 noted the desirability of continuing and accelerating the pace of comprehensive historical and architectural research by urban districts on Central Administrative District of Moscow, as well as in certain historical territories outside the historic center.

In March 2017, the Moscow Government approved the Land Use and Construction Regulations of Moscow. This document contains cartographic material on urban zoning by administrative district, including: cultural heritage objects (sites); boundaries of the territories of cultural heritage objects (sites); protected areas of cultural heritage objects (sites); protective zones of cultural heritage (Figure 5).

Maps of urban planning zoning of the Central Administrative District, Moscow

![Maps of urban planning zoning](source: www.mos.ru)

**Figure 5.** The Land Use and Construction Regulations of Moscow, Maps of urban planning zoning of the Central Administrative District (source: www.mos.ru).

5.2 **Historic site Ivanovskaya Gorka (St. John hill) and architectural ensemble surrounding Khitrov Square (Khitrovskaya Square)**

An example of joint actions by residents of the Ivanovskaya Gorka, Khitrovka and Moscow citizens, Moscow City Heritage Committee, the Committee on the Cultural Heritage of Moscow, art historians, architects, activists, is the preservation of the historical appearance of the Ivanovskaya Gorka – Kulishki – Khitrovka district, located in the immediate vicinity of the Kremlin (Figure 6, 7).
Figure 6. (a) Map of the nominated cultural heritage sites. The identified ‘Historical Site ‘Khitrovskaya Square’ with the surrounding quarters No. 123, 124, 125, 126, 127 is marked in red (source: https://ivanovskaya-gorka.livejournal.com/175267.html). (b) Ivanovskaya Gorka’s listed heritage (source: https://ivanovskaya-gorka.livejournal.com/147945.html).


The urban heritage site – Khitrovskaya Square is located on the slope of one of the seven Moscow hills – Ivanovskaya Gorka. This area has the unique atmosphere of Old Moscow, which has been preserved almost unchanged. For the first time, this area is mentioned in the annals in 1493. The oldest historic building is the Temple of St. Nicholas in Podkopai, built in the 16th century. On the territory of the Ivanovskaya Gorka, the estates of Russian nobles were located. During the fire of 1812, about 2/3 of all buildings in Moscow burned down. The building of the Church of St. Nicholas in Podkopai was able to survive the tragic fire.
After the fire, the place was empty, and General N.Z.Khitrovo bought out vacant land, supervised the planning of this area, and built shops and chambers for singers. This square General N.Z.Khitrovo gave the citizens (Figure 8, 9). The Ivanovskaya Gorka survived even during the large-scale construction of the General Plan of Moscow in 1935 because the area is located far from major transport highways.

Figure 8. (a) Khitrovskaya Square, 1825 (source: https://www.wikiwand.com/ru). (b) Khitrovskaya Square, Winter 1916 (Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org).

Figure 9. Historic map of the Khitrovskaya Square, 1852 (source: http://hitrovka-fond.ru/).

To this place public interest was attracted after the publication of the book ‘Temples and Parishes of the Ivanovskaya Gorka and Kulishki’ edited by A.L. Batalova in 2006. After the publication, an employee of the Moscow Heritage Committee, G. I. Naumenko, submitted an application for the creation of the protective zone ‘Historic site Ivanovskaya Gorka – Kulishki – Khitrovka’. In 2008, residents of Khitrovka got knew about the upcoming construction of an 8-story building of a business center for 2500 employees with a garage for
250 cars on the vacant site of Khitrovskaya Square. At that time, the construction of a business center contradicted with previously issued legislation:

- The order of the Moscow Mayor to suspend the construction of office space in the center of the capital and the decision of the Coordinating Council for the reconstruction of the central part of Moscow, 09.02.2007;
- Law of Moscow N40, 09.06.2004, ‘On a special procedure for regulating urban development in the historical territories of the city of Moscow and in the territories of protective zones of cultural heritage in the city of Moscow’;
- Decree of the Government of Moscow N99-PP, 24.02.2004, regarding ‘restrictions on the construction of administrative and business buildings with a capacity of more than 5000 square meters of total area and large shopping centers with an area of more than 1000 square meters within the Garden Ring, as well as objects related to the massive attraction of vehicles’;
- Paragraphs 1, 2 of the Decree of the Government of Moscow N714-PP, 21.08.2007 ‘On measures to streamline the placement of individual objects construction in the built-up areas in the city of Moscow.’

For a month, citizens collected 12 thousand signatures under an appeal to Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov with a request to reconstruct the Khitrov Square and stop new construction. In a letter, residents of Khitrovka noted: “The uniqueness of this reserved place lies in its chamber, high preservation of the historical environment, remoteness from major city highways, which requires a delicate attitude to the decision of its fate.” An application was sent to the Moscow Architecture Committee for placing the State ensemble of Khitrovskaya Square and to the Moscow Architecture Committee for the state protection of the Ensemble of Khitrovskaya Square. The Historical and Cultural Expert Council of the Moscow Heritage Committee decided to assign the territory of Khitrovskaya Square and the five quarters surrounding it with historical buildings to the identified objects of cultural heritage with the status of ‘Historic Site’ (Figure 10, 11) [8].
The fate of the city and its future is in the hands of the city leaders and citizens. The ensemble of Khitrovskaya Square and Ivanovskaya Gorka has been preserved thanks to the deep respect of the expert community and citizens for the history of their city.

6 The urban planning and design regulations for the application in the historic urban areas

The problems of managing urban planning activities are directly related to the application of the provisions of urban planning legislation that underlie the regulation. In the historical territories, urban planning activities should be carried out in accordance with clearly developed regulations. As rules, regulations consist of two parts: legislative (defining the
area of operation of the regulation, the purpose of maintaining the quarter, the rules for bringing the regulation into effect, the procedure for adopting the regulation and appropriate measures in violation of this regulation) and the set of rules for preserving the historical environment.

The set of rules for the protection of the historical environment includes the basic rules for the location of streets and squares, green surfaces and free spaces, takes into account the functional purpose, as well as the use of buildings and architectural and artistic elements. These parameters of the building and the spatial environment allow to preserve the identified town-planning features of the quarter according to historical traditions.

The regulation excludes the transformation of the territory into a museum zone, but it is used to modernize the urban environment with the wide functionality of the cultural and emotional needs of residents. All new buildings must comply with the historical context of the area.

At the urban level, not only historical monuments are valuable, but buildings that form part of the urban context and form a spatial environment. In accordance with the rules of the regulation, an integrated urban space is formed while maintaining the diversity of forms, artistic and architectural elements of individual streets. Construction changes in the form of objects, modernization or the introduction of new objects are permissible only if the functional or artistic condition of the general appearance of the street space is improved.

The subjects of regulation of urban planning regulations are:

(1) Regulation for planning and design public space in accordance to urban planning parameters: provisions for the organization of space and street space for urban planning parameters, including technical infrastructure: the width and height of buildings, the location of separate buildings, street paving, sidewalks and curbs, forming a street profile, street lighting, installation of radio and television antennas, fans and advertising equipment, determination of places for storage of garbage, rationing of the prohibition of boulevards.

(2) Functional purpose and proportional relationship with the residential function of all the components of the district: management buildings, household and public institutions. The introduction of new functions without coordination is impossible.

(3) Preservation of the townscape ensemble.

(4) Color and material of building facades.

(5) Buildings front advertising.

(6) Arrangement of canopies and peaks.

(7) The volume of the building and the parameters of the building.

(8) Roof shape, roofing.

(9) Vertical and horizontal division of facades, etc.

The regulation on the preservation of the urban planning context establishes the requirements for the implementation of urban development activities in these territories, ensuring the preservation of their historical identity and cultural value.
7 Conclusion

The urban environment is an important monument of the country’s history. It is necessary to find a balance between the development, modernization of the city and the careful preservation of its historical environment. The basis for the success of the implementation of the task is the fulfillment of several conditions:

(1) Development of a legislative framework for the preservation of historical and cultural heritage: a basic law and a number of system-forming laws with a detailed description of all types of legal relations.

(2) Development of urban planning regulations, which will take into account the unique nature of the urban development situation of a particular city and describe in detail all the parameters of urban development activities.

(3) The preservation of the historical environment should take into account not only particularly valuable historical objects, but also all its other characteristics of the complex of natural landscape, urban planning features of the territory, the historical combination of functional processes and urban development objects within the established territorial zone.

(4) Every citizen of the country and a resident of the city should feel responsible for preserving the history of their homeland, the city in which he lives. Only by common efforts we can preserve the cultural heritage for future generations, pass on to them the memory of their ancestors.

“Not everything decides money. You can't buy health for money, you can't buy Honor for money, and you, certainly, can't buy for money the memory that we, each of us, will leave for the next generation.” from an open letter of appeal to Mayor of Moscow Yuri Luzhkov from the residents of Ivanovskaya Gorka, Khitrovka and all the citizens of Moscow who are sick for their City.

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