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**M. V. Sidorenko**, PhD (Architecture), assistant professor (BSTU)**FEATURES OF THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND MODERN RECONSTRUCTION OF SCHÖNBRUNN PARK IN VIENNA (AUSTRIA)**

Schönbrunn is a palace and park complex of the Baroque period. The ensemble's formation occurred under the influence of the environment, historical events and national culture. The article is focused on the history of development of the ensemble, its lay-outs and composition peculiarities. The specifics of reconstruction of the park, including separate zones and park plantings, are studied.

**Introduction.** The monuments of the Palace and Park art are valuable cultural heritage of each nation, a reflection of its traditions, customs, development of architecture, painting, sculpture, and decorative arts. Schönbrunn Palace is a jewel of Baroque architecture and landscape art, a symbol of the ideal world, the personification of the absolute monarchy of the Habsburgs and its dominion over nature. Throughout the history Schönbrunn was constantly at the center of political, secular, cultural, social and even international life. Thanks to this attention, not one generation care of preserving and transmitting the national jewels to posterity, today Schönbrunn appears exactly such as what it was at the time of its highest development.

Since 1996 Schönbrunn Palace is a monument of world cultural heritage by UNESCO, every year attracting millions of visitors.

History and compositional characteristics of Schönbrunn in Russian scientific literature are mostly abstract by nature, which makes the results of practical and bibliographic study of the Palace and Park ensemble undoubtedly relevant.

**Main part.** Features of historical development. Originally on the site of the Palace and Park ensemble there was a hunting estate of Katterburg with a palace (1569), which belonged to Emperor Maximilian II of Habsburg. The name of the ensemble got from the water source "Schönen Brunnen" ("Beautiful spring"), which is found in 1612 by the Austrian Archduke, Kaiser Matthias (1585-1618.). On hunting territory a three storey town castle in the Italian style, which in later years became a Royal residence was built. First residence was named "Sanbruno" in 1642, during the period when the wife of Emperor Ferdinand II (1578-1637.) Eleonora von Gonzaga arranged court festivities and garden theatre in a lush Park. "Brilliant time" came to an end in 1683, during the second siege of Vienna - the Palace and Park were almost completely destroyed.

As soon as the Turkish siege has been raised in Schönbrunn the work on the construction of a new Palace (architect Fischer von Erlach (1658-1723,)) for Emperor Leopold I (1657-1705,.) has begun. Simultaneously a large-scale work in the Park has been carried out. The preparatory stage since 1695 and then the settlement of the Park since 1705-1706

was headed by the French garden designer Jean Trie (1654-1740), one of the disciples of Andre Le Nôtre. The layout of the Park with a rectangular system of alleys complied with the principles of the early Baroque. The main axis of the ensemble came from North to South, from the river Venka through the court of Honour, the Palace and in the direction of the sloping Schönbrunn hill. In this first phase of construction the closest to the Palace grounds were arranged. From the Park facade of the Palace, surrounded by bosquets with trees "main hall" of the Park – Grand parterre with a star pool - was arranged. As early Baroque expects in Schönbrunn a maze was organized and a greenhouse was built (1714). In the Park, in addition to 20 thousand beech seedlings in bosquets, a large number of fruit trees and bushes have been planted out, numerous alley plantings have been created. With the Empress Maria Theresa (1717-1780, and her husband Emperor Franz Stephan of Lorraine (1708-1765, the second and the most significant in the history of the development of the ensemble period began. That time, when the traits of the late Baroque, Rococo were manifested in the ensemble, which were positioned by Schönbrunn as the culmination of the object in this direction. In 1750-1760, the whole group of Lorraine garden masters, headed by architect Jan Nicolas Gedo and garden master Luis Guerves carried out the work on the further development of the Park.

In this second phase of the garden settlement a new star system of alleys was included in the orthogonal old system, existing paths and alleys were expanded, the first significant part of the bosquets was developed. The composition of the Park was completely subordinated to the architecture of the Palace, being the continuation of its interiors outdoors (Fig. 1). The natural landscape has brought its specific features in the layout of Schönbrunn. Built by the model of Versailles, Schönbrunn got its own compositional and spatial interpretation and special features.

Unlike Versailles, where the main axis of the "East-West" comes to infinity of the horizon, in Schönbrunn the main axis of the "North-South" was fixed between the Palace and Schönbrunn hill GLORIETTA, providing, thus, a certain integrity and compactness of this part of the ensemble.

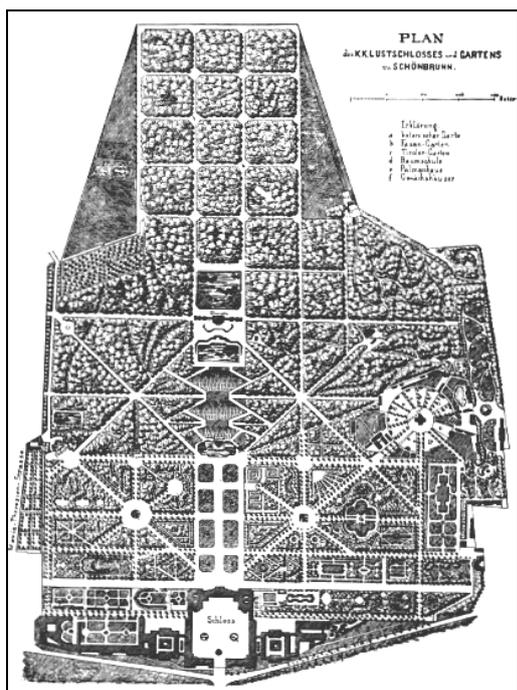


Fig. 1. Plan Schönbrunn (Franz Boos, 1780) [2]

From the Palace side the Grand parterre and the fountain of Neptune seem to be the complete work, concluded in the frame of the bosquets walls. In addition, Schönbrunn has another important feature, which distinguishes it from the most European parks of that period. The diagonal axis extending from the terrace of the Palace, in the South-Western and South-Eastern directions, play almost equivalent to the main axis role, although have not the same planning workup. The South-Eastern axis ends by Obelisk fountain, the South-West - by Menagerie pavilion.

The diagonal axis, converging on the terrace of the Palace, by plan unite all parts of the ensemble into a single whole, center position of the Palace, defeating asymmetric composition. Due to the optical illusion of perspective and landscape, the distance to Obelisk fountain and to Menagerie pavilion seems to be equal. Actually the distance to Menagerie is a few more and is equal to the distance to GLORIETTA. Converging at the Palace alleys is another symbol of nature subordination to Imperial power.

As in Versailles, in Schönbrunn there is Alley of Light. It runs from East to West. However, the similarity ends there. In Schönbrunn it is a transverse axis, located immediately behind the Palace and forming together with the main and diagonal axis "crow's foot" of five elements. Transverse axis defines important optical and high-quality relationships in the Baroque garden. Alley of Light is not alley of individual trees. This is a kind of passage between tall trellises, creating the impression of being in the valley. While the main longitudinal

axis of Schönbrunn has a clear beginning and end, a transverse axle Alley of Light beyond the boundaries of the Park, finding continued in the surrounding area.

Private gardens joined the Eastern and Western facades of the Palace. During the reign of Maria Theresa the garden adjoined the Eastern facade of the Palace and dubbed "the Garden above the cellar" (there was a cellar kitchen of the Palace under the second raised part of the garden) was arranged the first. Garden covered the territory up to the Eastern border of the Park. Its initial project was developed in 1745-1750, and was improved in 1780 by Imperial court gardener Franz von Busam. Since 1870 the garden was called the Garden of the Crown Prince (the garden adjoined apartments of the crown Prince Rudolf (1867-1889,)).

In the center of the lower part of the Private garden, where the tracks cross there is an ancient yew tree, surrounded by four sections of parterres, edged with flower borders. Low location and sufficient protection from the winds allowed in the summer to decorate the garden with valuable pieces of citrus trees (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2. Fragment of a Private garden with yew tree

On the second upper part of the garden three floral-ornamental parterres were laid out in the center of which there was orthogonal pond with the fountain. Here the strips of lawn were decorated with topiary forms. Along the perimeter of the garden there was a gallery with five pavilions decorated with wild vines -trellis (artist Venzel Bergl) (Fig. 3). The rest of Eastern Private garden was decided in the form of long beds.

The third stage of Park construction falls on 1772-1780, and is associated with the redevelopment of the Park, according to the tendencies of the English landscape style (architect J. F. Hetzendorf von Hohenberg). At that time romantic buildings - Roman Ruins (1778, artists B. Henrechi, C. Bauer, F. Zacherle), Obelisk fountain (1778, artists

B. Henrechi, B. Bauer), a little later - Neptune fountain (1780, artist C. Bauer) were erected in the Park. In 1775 on Schönbrunn hill GLORIETTA - viewing pavilion for the Empress was installed. The hillside is formed by terraces with stairs, twelve ponds with fountains and numerous sculptures. Because of the lack of drinking water soon reservoirs were filled up, and all the water was used for the main equipment of the Neptune fountain at the foot of the hill. At the same time, star-shaped pond from the parterre was moved to the center of the Western star alley (Fig. 4).



Fig. 3. Floral parterres and citrus potted plants in the Garden Crown Prince



Fig. 4. View of the Grand parterre, on Neptune fountain and GLORIETTA

In 1752, at the Western end of the diagonal axis inside of the menagerie the zoo was created, and became the first zoo in Europe.

In the heart of the zoo an octagonal pavilion (architect N. Jano de Ville of Issey, surrounded by thirty sections) was built. The center of each section was decorated with flower garden and a pond. The Schönbrunn zoo is the only zoo in Europe, fully preserved the historic layout.

The centerpiece of the Park is a Grand parterre. In the mid-eighteenth century, he acquired that view of lawn and ornamental parterre, which has come down to our time (Fig. 5).



Fig. 5. Panorama from the Schönbrunn hill to Palace, Grand parterre and Vienna

The parterre was filled with typical Baroque arabesques, made of flowers and pebbles, ground and low-cut boxwood. Its composition decision was constantly changing. By the picture of Bernardo Canaletto (1721-1780,) "Perspective Schönbrunn Palace" (1760), the parterre consisted of six lawn and ornamental parts, with flower beds by perimeter. In two southern parts boulingreens were arranged. There was a promenade with pond and fountain, strips of lawn with topiary forms and potted plants on the main axis of the parterre.

A new decision of the parterre was proposed by Karl Schutz and Ferdinand Hetzendorf in 1772. According to them, the parterre was limited by wood trellis from two sides and was divided into four parts, in the center of each there was a pond with a fountain. The final draft of the Grand parterre was developed by Franz Boos in 1780. The territory was divided into eight parts. Each part was decorated with floral arabesques, with a bed in the center and flower long beds by the perimeter. On the both sides of the parterre, against background of the bushes trellis there were thirty-two sculptures of ancient gods, Greek mythology personages and heroes of Roman history.

In 1753 on associated with the West territories the Dutch garden with a large collection of plants was settled by a court gardener Adrian van Stekhoven (1705-1782.). In 1882 on this plot Palm house was built (Fig. 6) and the Botanical garden was arranged.

Since 1779, under Emperor Joseph II, Park opened to the public. Only a small part of the Imperial ensemble, Private gardens and some bosquets remained until 1918 in private use of the Royal family. After the death of Maria Theresa, Emperors interest to the ensemble weakened, its degradation, the bosquets, trellises overgrowing began, the Park run wild. Only in the XIX century during the reign of Franz Joseph (1830-1916.)

Schönbrunn again lived a period of prosperity and got for many years the status of the Imperial country residence.

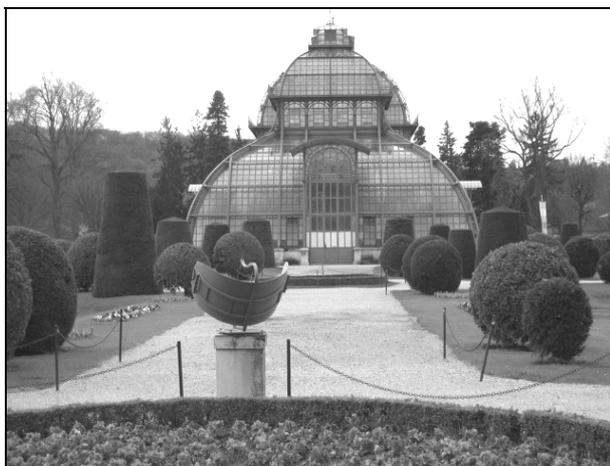


Fig. 6. Palm house

With coming into vogue of landscape style, in separate bosquets, Dutch garden and on the recently joined from the West Park territories, the areas with a free picturesque layout were arranged. At the beginning of the century Tyrolean garden - a small area of natural beauty with the buildings in the national Austrian style and Garden of Austria with Alpine plants appeared on Schönbrunn hill. In the second half of the XIX century the first major reconstruction of the wild and overgrown Park was held. It got the former regular appearance of Maria Theresa period.

In 1924, the Park has been declared a protected landscape zone with the ban of reconstruction, which was repeatedly violated many times, (building of sports facilities in 1930 to 1933, military barracks of Maria Theresa in 1938-1938, plant nursery in 1949-1951, scientific research Institute in 1953-1954. In 1992, the privatization of the Palace and the Schönbrunn zoo went after. Since 1933 supervision of the Park was carried out by the Federal gardens Administration of Austria. Currently, the Palace is an architecture and landscape art monument and a protected landscape area. Since 1996, the Park and Palace ensemble has been included in the List of world cultural heritage by UNESCO [1-4].

**Reconstruction of the Park.** Schönbrunn is considered to be one of the best examples of maintaining the Park historical appearance and the preservation of its composite structure, the experience of which can be used in domestic practice, the reconstruction and revitalization of the historic Palace and Park ensembles. The last reconstruction of Schönbrunn began in 1990 and continues till the present moment. Reconstruction is distinguished by a systematic approach. Each part of the Park is

undergoing a comprehensive renovation of all its components - structures, pavements, plants. For all the time more than 18 Park facilities, including bosquets and groves, mazes, Park pavilions, the Neptune fountain and the Obelisk fountain, Roman ruins, court of Honour, sculptures have been reconstructed [4].

Planting of Schönbrunn especially clipped forms and overgrown trees are the object of the ensemble's proud. Their preserving and care are of special attention. Planting reconstruction works are distributed by the following directions: partial or complete change of plants in alleys, trellis, green hedges; replacement of fell out beds bushes, restoration of historical plant assortment in parterre. The first group of works supposes to carry out overgrown trees felling and include the following methods: cabling or fortification of old trunks and branches by legging and fastening constructions stretching for prevention of windfall; sanitary and structural cutting. Generally these works concern the solitaire and group trees.

The second group of works tends at staged rejuvenation of plantings in alleys and groups, trellis and green hedges. In groups and alleys the method of large size seedlings replanting (lime-tree, tillet, horse chestnut) is applied. In some cases, at minor extension of alleys (chestnut alley), there was a complete replacement of trees. Lime tree is used in large "closed" alleys, horse chestnut - in alleys and rows bed plantings. Horse chestnut beds annually undergo to a special kind of pruning - pollarding permitting to conserve the historical plants composition. For trellis and green hedges the method of complete replacement with special planting constructions of wood poles and metal net is used. These constructions is a kind of guide structures along which the growth and cutting of plants will be in future.

Planting stock for Schönbrunn reconstruction supplies from Vienna nursery of Augarten park. Conservation of reconstructed objects is made within current park nursing. Annual fund allocation on Park reconstruction is accomplished from the budget of Federal Administration of Austria gardens. An important stage of a common Park planting reconstruction became the restoration of Crone Prince garden held since 1999 till 2003. In the course of works the garden returned its Baroque appearance of XVIII century. On the terraces where for a long time lawn cover has predominated, Baroque flower-ornamental parterres with a typical plant assortment (coneflower, clary, marigold, begonia, heliotrope peruviana, *Plectranthus scutellarioides*, zinnia, cockscomb, geranium, *ageratum* Mexican, tobacco plant, horse gowan, *delphinium* miscellaneous, *mirabilis jalapa*, poppy, cineraria and others). On the place of one of the

historical covered arcade pavilion a viewing site of steel was built, fully conserved space parameters of rest pavilions. Administration of Federal gardens and Schönbrunn administration paid about 560000 euro on Private garden reconstruction.

**Conclusion.** Analyses made permitted to declare the features of historical development, architectural engineering and extension space composition of Schönbrunn. The characteristics of ensemble modern reconstruction i.d. planning elements, green plantations, including old grown trees care have been studied. Complex and system approach in care and reconstruction of the Park solves not only problems of its regeneration step-by-step, but permits to decrease lump-sum costs on these activities, to adapt the historical ensemble to high recreational and tourist assignments, as well as to provide requirements correspondence demanded to it as to the monument of World cultural heritage of

UNESCO. For home practice of Park and Palace ensembles reconstruction, Schönbrunn experience is incontestably a good example of efficient approach to historical objects reconstruction, regeneration of green plantings and therefore can be recommended for introduction.

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