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**Annotation.** *This article examines the issues of preserving historical city centers and developing them in accordance with modern urban planning principles. The key principles of maintaining the architectural identity of historical areas and their functional renewal are highlighted. The article analyzes advanced approaches to the reconstruction of historical quarters, streets, and squares in city centers and their impact on the urban environment. Additionally, recommendations are provided for adapting new buildings to historical surroundings and ensuring landscape and architectural harmony.*

**Keywords.** *urban planning, historical centers, reconstruction, architectural heritage, urban environment, quarters, squares, modern construction.*

**Introduction.** The historical centers of cities are an integral part of urban development, reflecting their cultural heritage, architectural traditions, and urban structure. These historical centers are not only aesthetically and architecturally significant but also play a crucial role in social and economic aspects. Therefore, their preservation and development are among the most pressing issues in modern urban planning [1].

In contemporary cities, the processes of reconstruction and renovation of historical centers must be carried out in accordance with the overall urban structure. Such an approach not only ensures the preservation of historical monuments but also helps maintain the integrity of the urban environment [2]. Particularly, the quarters, streets, and squares of historical city centers must be developed based on the harmonious integration of traditional architecture with modern construction requirements [3].

**Main Part.** Preserving the historical centers of cities and developing them in accordance with modern urban planning principles is of great importance. Along with maintaining the architectural and urban identity of historical areas, their functional renewal is also required. Therefore, when reconstructing historical quarters, it is necessary to preserve their traditional structure, design new buildings in harmony with the existing environment, and maintain urban balance.

Key aspects of historical center preservation and development include:

- Preserving and restoring the ancient core of settlements;
- Restoring and reconstructing historically structured main squares, streets, and waterfronts;
- Developing project documentation for increasing the density of residential and communal facilities while preserving the architectural characteristics of historical buildings, as well as implementing comprehensive reconstruction of existing building quarters;
- Repurposing historical buildings that are no longer used for industrial purposes, such as abandoned factories and plants, by converting their functions through reconstruction (conversion).

The continuity of historical urban planning traditions is a crucial principle for the successful reconstruction of any city's historical center. New buildings and structures in historical centers should be designed based on tradition and harmoniously integrated into the surrounding

architectural environment [4]. The role of historical centers in shaping the city should be reinforced by enhancing the city's overall functionality and restoring lost architectural height dominants.

Key compositional techniques that help maintain the individuality of a building's architectural and artistic appearance include:

- Arranging ensemble groups in a panoramic layout;
- Constructing areas in the enfilade style and developing them in depth;
- Integrating ensembles and neutral buildings along the main planning axis;
- Achieving contrast between open and closed spaces;
- Combining regular planning techniques with picturesque natural landscapes;
- Aligning the construction line with architectural dominants, considering their distant spatial relationships;
- Closing street perspectives with prominent buildings and structures located in visually significant parts of the city.

*Special Considerations in the Reconstruction Process.* During the reconstruction process, special attention should be paid to the following aspects:

- The current architectural and planning condition, the volumetric and spatial organization of buildings, and the analysis of the main elements of historical composition: street perspectives, the system of vertical accents, the nature of ordinary building construction, the number of floors in buildings, and other related factors.
- The **\*\*individual characteristics of the terrain\*\***, including the shape of the analyzed site, the architectural style of buildings and structures, and ensuring large-scale compatibility in both the overall composition and details—such as roof shapes, the proportions of window openings, and the placement of buildings within the site.

A thorough consideration of all these aspects in the reconstruction of historical areas allows for better preservation of the overall architectural and historical environment. This approach helps maintain the city's historically predetermined organic and consistent development [5].

*Reconstruction of Historical Quarters.* The concept of reconstruction measures should focus on preserving historical quarters by maintaining the perimeter of historical buildings. At the same time, open spaces within courtyards may be modified as needed. It is advisable to preserve historically valuable outbuildings in the courtyards of the quarters and repurpose them according to the needs of the property owners.

These outbuildings can be functionally adapted for offices, commercial spaces, or small-scale production facilities.

New construction within a quarter is usually determined by the absence of buildings along the street-facing perimeter or the necessity of demolition. Additionally, new buildings are introduced due to the natural processes of decay, deterioration, and obsolescence of existing structures, as well as their inability to meet modern engineering and technological requirements. In such cases, newly constructed buildings must be carefully designed to align with the overall architectural and urban planning vision, ensuring continuity with the existing structures. The level of detailing and facade ornamentation should match the nearby historical buildings.

To achieve this, preliminary analyses should be conducted on historical composition elements, the number of floors, dominant structures, and architectural accents. Special attention should be given to buildings located at the corners of the quarter. Developing specialized types of residential buildings within these quarters is also advisable [1].

In new construction, the number of floors must be regulated, and the degree of spatial reorganization within the quarter should be justified. The most successful examples of reconstruction confirm the necessity of adapting new buildings to the existing architectural environment. While consciously preserving existing accents and high-rise dominants, new emphasis can be introduced through the plasticity of facades, sculptures, and decorative elements. Lighter and smaller structures should be placed near large, massive buildings. This principle helps establish spatial relationships between old and new buildings of different scales. It is not recommended to place two or more modern architectural objects side by side [6].

*Reconstruction of Historical Streets.* Old city streets often serve as examples of uniform proportional relationships among historical buildings. Before undertaking the reconstruction of an entire street, a thorough analysis must be conducted. This analysis should determine the feasibility of new construction within the existing architectural and urban planning context, assess the appropriate dimensions, volumes, and silhouettes of new buildings, and ensure their harmony with the surrounding architectural and aesthetic environment. Additionally, the essential functions of newly constructed buildings should be carefully selected.

Whenever possible, the entire historical street should be reconstructed simultaneously. This approach is historically, urbanistically, architecturally, and aesthetically justified. A comprehensive and synchronized reconstruction ensures the restoration of the street's unique historical identity, regardless of the period in which individual buildings were constructed.

A complex reconstruction of a street allows for rational decision-making regarding the demolition of buildings, extensions, superstructures, balconies, and any other elements that disrupt the street's overall appearance and aesthetic integrity.

Traditional Uzbek streets follow well-established principles for shaping building facades, which have stood the test of time and remain relevant today. Each building may have its own architectural identity, but collectively, they contribute to a unified typological series that defines the historical environment.

The volumetric-spatial relationship between historical surroundings and new buildings is a key factor in justifying the placement of new structures. New buildings should integrate seamlessly with adjacent structures and be designed based on fundamental principles of traditional architecture. Proportional harmony, alignment of building heights, silhouette consistency, architectural expressiveness of facades, and the coordination of decorative and structural solutions all play a crucial role.

Special attention should be given to maintaining the balanced and calm rhythm of historical construction. Any alterations that could disrupt the silhouette of the street—such as excessively monumental or decorative new elements that overshadow existing social, ideological, or commercial landmarks—should be avoided.

One of the primary principles of historical street reconstruction is the preservation of facade appearances. Interruptions in the continuity of street-facing buildings, particularly at intersections, should be avoided. As pedestrians approach a corner, they simultaneously perceive both the street they are walking on and the deeper perspective of the intersecting street. Therefore, opening up inner-quarter spaces near intersections is inappropriate, as it is not characteristic of historical Uzbek city streets. If a building is absent at a street corner, the area should be landscaped and greened to maintain visual cohesion.

A certain pattern emerges in the height of the floors of facades on historical streets: they are usually uniform or slightly varied. In historical streets, there are mandatory proportional ratios

between the width of the street and the height of the buildings, which play a significant role in the construction scheme. This proportionality factor provides comfort, harmony, balance, and expressiveness to the living environment.

As a rule, the architectural and urban planning ideas for constructing historical streets include the following parameters: direction, length, street proportions, street silhouette, proportionality and completeness of development, orientation, and the completion of the street with vertical volumes. Even in modern conditions, it is necessary to adhere to these parameters when reconstructing streets [2].

The silhouette of a street's construction is perceived through the height variations of building floors in the perspective of the street. Observations have shown that height differences exceeding one or two floors disrupt the compositional direction of streets and bring instability to the street perspective. Therefore, constructing high-rise buildings in a historical environment is not recommended. If the reconstruction process of historical buildings involves demolishing old structures, it is advisable to replace them with low-rise buildings that externally maintain the architectural and decorative appearance of historical, architectural, or memorial sites.

Thus, new construction projects should not exceed the height of existing historical buildings. Furthermore, the construction of new high-rise buildings outside the historical zone also negatively affects the historical environment. For this reason, transitioning to a regulated buffer zone between the historical zone and new developments is a necessary solution, considering scale and compositional spatiality.

The architect's goal should be to find the correct architectural module and harmonious relationships in the distribution of facades. This is particularly challenging in modern conditions since contemporary buildings typically have wider wall spans, and their floor heights are generally lower than those of historical buildings. Historical buildings usually feature small windows, which, unlike modern ones, are distinguished by their wooden shutters.

When constructing modern buildings within historical rows, achieving architectural and artistic harmony requires creative exploration and skill. The expressive plasticity of the facade must be compatible. However, it is crucial not to overlook the recommended number of floors, the primary divisions of new buildings in relation to neighboring houses, and the overall silhouette of the entire street.

A new building next to an old one may imitate past styles and reflect history in a worthy yet extravagant manner. At the same time, it may function in ways that are not technologically suitable for the traditional functions of the old street.

The urban planning task of linking the areas of historical buildings with public construction sites in historic cities should be carried out through the following methods and measures:

- Enhancing the landscaping and improvement of modern public construction districts;
- Creating compositional and visual connections between new districts and the historical part of the city;
- Modifying modern quarters visually linked to the historical center to reduce architectural dissonance;
- Regulating the use of industrial zones, communal warehouses, and other non-residential areas;
- Repurposing vacated industrial sites and structures for new functions;
- Implementing engineering preparation and land reclamation for new residential, communal service, and industrial construction areas;

- Increasing the level of comfort, service provision, and technological innovation in the historical streets of the city.

Special attention should be given to the reconstruction of central squares as the historical core of the city. At the same time, a comprehensive approach to reconstruction is crucial, considering not only the square itself but also the adjacent buildings and architectural ensembles to optimally organize the existing environment.

In many cases, the main square of a historic city is dominated by a social, cultural, or religious center that stands out with its size, architectural image, and monumental presence, subordinating neighboring buildings and the surrounding urban space. During the reconstruction process, it is advisable to preserve the existing architectural dominance, restore any lost elements, or fill empty spaces with new buildings that play a spatially dominant role, maintaining expressive architecture and appropriate height [6].

In many historical zones of old cities, buildings adjacent to monumental structures have been demolished, replaced by squares or urban parks. Over time, these parks have expanded significantly, dividing the historical square into separate street sections. This method of urban landscaping is not acceptable, as it negatively affects the historical appearance of the city.

In situations where parks have replaced historical squares, it is necessary to undertake comprehensive reconstruction of these parks, improve landscaping, ensure sanitary conditions, and enhance the overall urban environment. The goal should be to visually restore the spatial integrity of the historical square while improving the aesthetic and functional quality of the area. The following best practices are recommended for the reconstruction of square environments:

- 1) Orienting buildings in relation to the square;
- 2) Achieving a harmonious and proportional balance between open and built-up spaces;
- 3) Skillfully implementing greenery and landscaping;
- 4) Conducting comprehensive urban beautification.

The key aspect of this process is ensuring that the architectural and spatial environment in the reconstructed part of the city is perceived as a visually cohesive whole.

**Conclusion.** The historical centers of cities represent a crucial part of urban development, and their preservation and renewal remain pressing issues in urban planning. The reconstruction of these centers must ensure the retention of their architectural traditions and urban structure. Historical quarters and squares should be restored in accordance with modern construction principles while expanding their functional capacities.

Moreover, to maintain the architectural harmony and visual integrity of historical centers, new buildings should be designed in alignment with traditional structures. The reconstruction process must consider the area's natural topography, the historical significance of buildings, and the overall architectural environment. Such an approach not only preserves the historical and cultural heritage of cities but also ensures their adaptation to contemporary needs.

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