
CHAPTER «ARCHITECTURE»

MAIN DIRECTIONS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOVIET ARCHITECTURE AND THE TOWN PLANNING IN 1955-1985: CAUSES AND TRENDS

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Abstract. Unlike European being, the social programs of the Soviet Union were determined by the state party leadership for the working masses, which needed state funding in large volumes and the participation of the people in their implementation. They covered different directions of the economic activities. Among them, particular attention was paid to agriculture, which provided the Soviet population with food and contributed the fulfilment of party tasks of the same type «catch up and overtake the United States in the production of milk, meat and oil per capita», about which, in May 1957, declared M. Khrushchev, trying to prove the advantages of the socialist system over the capitalist [10, p. 9]. To increase the pace of agricultural production, the slogans «mechanization, electrification and chemicalization» were put forward, and the grassland system, which provided opportunities to rest the soil and increase its fertility, was rigorously criticized, and the orientation was adopted for growing legumes and corn.

In the foreign policy the USSR began the creation of a socialist camp that spread Soviet ideas to other countries, the Warsaw Pact as the forces opposite the North Atlantic Military Bloc and the Council of European Mutual Aid. Over time, assistance is provided to diverse countries in the so-called third world. The USSR at this time integrated its heritage in politics, economy and culture into other states, spreading Soviet ideology, ideas of economic management and social organization. There are examples of imposition to European countries collective agricultural forms, a network

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of cultural and consumer services of various levels, which already passed at that time approbation and was fixed in the Soviet practice, the abandonment of the way of organizing life in the countryside by small villages, even the use of methods for urban reconstruction in accordance with scientific researches of Soviet specialists [9]. Of course, under such conditions, the influence of the established Soviet system on the livelihoods of other countries, international cooperation on the main directions of political and economic issues contributed to the mutual influence of socio-cultural trends, including architectural and urban development.

1. Introduction

During the Soviet Union, a single state with a large territory and population, Ukraine was part of it as a union republic. Therefore, it perceived the influence of the political regime, built on the rule of power in the form of a single party force – the Communist Party, which through a branched and hierarchical system penetrated all spheres of human life through productional and territorial cells. The Communist Party (CPSU) assumed legislative and executive functions, and the Council of Ministers as an executive body and the Verkhovna Rada as the legislature were fully subject to the CPSU and its supreme structure, the Political and Central Bureau and other branches of the party's power. Such a system of government ensured the possibility of programming the country's economic development, targeted financing, realising programs of strict control over their implementation and the cost of funds.

Ukraine was in the peripheral territories of a large country, so under command conditions *it was not allowed to make independent decisions* in all areas, including directions in architecture and urban planning. V.V. Svitlychna recalls the time of the end of the 1960s – the beginning of the 1970s: «Any attempt by the Ukrainian leadership to act without instructions from Moscow was regarded as nationalism and mercilessly punished» [15]. Such a system of guidance was worked out and perfected throughout the time of the existence of the USSR.

The study of the architectural and urban heritage of the Soviet Union made it possible to establish *three major stages in its formation*, which differed greatly in the areas of the formation of architecture and urban planning, and, as has already been proven, determined by state programs of new construction of another political and economic orientation, than in

the countries of the world [3-5]. Each stage, having reached its heyday, in a sense destroyed the achievements of the previous one and began a new era of architectural and urban planning, which was due to the declarations of leadership and meant party political interference to the social sphere of life.

Thus, after the October Revolution of 1917, through a small search period, the main focus of architecture among other areas was to constructivism as a stylistic direction that was an expression of the consciousness of the workers in accordance with their role of the social hegemon. The new society proclaimed the dictatorship of the proletariat, which required the creation of a new environment with the help of forms familiar to the workers and that gave rise to positive emotions associated with the possibility of receiving wages. Such an analogue of the workers to the environment was the industrial environment (this was the first original stage in the architectural and urban practice of the newly built state). In the late 1930s, by the mid-1950s, Soviet pseudo-classicism was being practiced in the Soviet architectural and urban practice, and then pseudo-empire, like the style of the Soviet empire, was borrowed by power that needed glorification as a style of an architectural speech of the fallen Russian Empire in 1917 [1]. Since 1955 a new stage has begun, in which the struggle against the so-called «surpluses in architecture», which appeared in the 1930s as the party's purpose at that time was for the further development of Soviet architecture, was proclaimed¹.

In each five-year plan of political and economic development of a large country with all the Union republics that were part of it, new directions were identified in the architectural and urban development and construction sectors, which had to correspond to party-state programs of further life at the level of permissible social comfort, ideologically – aesthetic tasks of Soviet architecture, newest city-planning tendencies, etc. etc.

The requirement for an urgent transition to a new stage took time to solve the ways of implementing the new direction of architectural and urban development activities, to find out the probable means and long-term work on improving the planning and formative means of expressiveness as a tool for realisation of the ideological tasks into the environment. Due to this, *transitional periods between the past and the next stage* were created,

¹ At the First All-Union and Ukrainian congresses of architects in 1937, it was proclaimed the need for “the creative use of the progressive classical, mainly domestic heritage [9, p. 13].

which had a more difficult situation with the definition of the ideological tasks that were set by the leadership in the urban planning and architecture of individual buildings. But gradually everything was moving in the permitted and clearly drawn direction for the architects. In Soviet times, the state gave too much importance to the organization and appearance of the environment that shapes the psychology of the population.

The reasons for the emergence of specific trends in the design of the architectural and urban environment has already been proven in the author's publications [2-6]. But why since 1955 the principles of the formation of the urban environment of pre-war and post-war time have been rejected? What contributed to the spread of new directions in construction, in the formation of architecture, which were similar to the models of world experience? What reasons could be in the political life of our country, which led to the abandonment of previous achievements and the beginning of a new path?

2. Degree of scientific study of the problem

The historical stage that began after the departure of the generalissimo J.V. Stalin, the new socio-economic and political programs of the domestic and foreign policy of the «Khrushchev thaw» period were carefully studied not only by historians, political scientists, sociologists, but also by the people of the Soviet Union. The programs of building communism, according to which the working masses of the Soviet country had to live, since 1981, were interpreted to schoolchildren as future builders of communism. The whole people were covered by the latest ideology of the state-party leadership, which had to be realized. Library resources of that time contain materials on numerous contests for projects of houses of a new life, so-called promising types of housing, as well as a number of scientific studies on the reduction of non-productive time expenditures (including cooking for the family, raising children, caring for the apartment and etc., etc., etc.). Planning of the vital functions of the population according to party instructions was completely subordinated to the ruling order.

Our history already had a similar situation, when forming a new state creation on a democratic basis for workers our ancestors invented a house-commune with strict regulation of living conditions. The complexes of the 1960s and 1970s resembled former buildings of Communal-Communist

life. Over time, it became clear that those programs were largely utopian, reflecting the ideology of command-declarative nature, which was typical of the USSR, excluding any democratic trends. Today, humanitarian experts are interested in the experience of the domestic and foreign policy of the country, which is not now and which frightened the world community with its ambitious plans and rates of GDP growth. Theorists-specialists of architecture investigate the Soviet architectural and urban heritage, defining the period as the second wave of modernism in the USSR, dismantling its features and main directions, that link them with the social life of the country. The problem is that these two research areas – humanities and theoretically-architectural – are supposedly separate from each other as representatives of modern science. It's time to consider them together and it is in public life to look for sources of formation of certain areas of cultural activity in general and of architectural and urban development in particular. Interest in the architecture of modernism is manifested in numerous photo albums, which capture unique examples of architectural shaping of the second half of the twentieth century [16], and in some publications on the comparison of architectural ideas from world and Soviet practices [1; 13].

3. The purpose of studying the problem

Consequently, *the object of scientific research* is the architectural and urban environment that has been formed in the cities of Ukraine since 1955. *The subject of the study* is a change in the directions of organization of planning, formation and compositional methods of the urban environment at a specified time compared with the previous historical stage. *The purpose of the study* is to identify the causes of the historical and political nature and their consequences in the formation of the architectural and urban environment, which occurred in 1955-1985, compared with the previous period of development of the USSR in the Soviet Union. *The method of scientific research* is based on a comparative analysis of the means of constructing an architectural and urban environment in the years 1955-1985 and clarifying the differences from the previous stage of the development of Soviet architecture, by comparing the socio-political activity of the two periods of the late 1930s – early 1950s and subsequent times, as well as the causal link between political and cultural activities in the field of architecture and urban planning.

4. Ways of development of Soviet architecture in 1955-1985

The history of Soviet architecture shows us the inheritance of the 1950s as a kind of leap from large-scale, magnificent forms, many decorated in pseudo-classical style with a simple and precise construction of architectural and spatial compositions of complexes of buildings of the Stalin era, to emphasize simplified, too modest in form and planning techniques, executed in an industrial style from cheap materials and constructions of factory production buildings of the Khrushchev thaw period. Over time, as the progress in the chosen direction in 1955, the Soviet architecture of buildings and planning composition gradually became more complicated, increased the height of houses, improved constructive systems of industrial homebuilding. This was necessarily reflected in the appearance of residential buildings. And the formation of objects of a unique destination has become original, dismembered in a unique geometry, ostensibly showing its beauty designed by the architect-master for a public review. This new direction resembled some examples from countries with other economic and political orientations. To accelerate the pace of construction and the increasing volume of mass housing construction, with the onset of the stage of transition to the industrialization of housing, the design and construction activities of numerous organizations to develop methods for typical design and construction of residential buildings began. Initially, through a series of attempts and errors, the approximate path of the further movement of the design and construction business, which was improved, developed in terms of the number of methodological approaches and identifying the objects subject to typing, was determined. This continued until the very end of the Soviet Union.

The diversity of receptions, forms, architectural and planning compositions of urban architectural ensembles of Soviet architecture and after the Stalinist era *continued to proclaim the main theses of Soviet ideology in the spatial organization of the urban environment* (of a strong state guaranteeing order and reliability, building a bright future for the working masses). And even in spite of the commonality of the ways of architectural shaping, certain signs of borrowing architectural decisions, on uniformity, on some typing in the choice of stylistic directions with Europeans, *the state tried not only to declare itself, but to shout with the help of means of constructing an artificial urban environment about exclusivity, greatness and invincibility of the socio-economic system and the Soviet system.*

Examples of architectural similarity are enough: this is the industrial and technological direction of mass construction, which arose in the European practice of France, Great Britain and Germany after the Second World War [7, p. 247-255] whose experience has been further developed in the massive housing construction of the Soviet Union. This is the planning of residential areas with a territorially differentiated structure and free building and a network of cultural and domestic services (in the new cities of Great Britain and the projects of F. Gibberd [8], whose ideas have been repeated and significantly developed in the territory of large and a mighty Soviet state. And a concise expression of the tendencies of the functional style of the German school «Bauhaus» in the new buildings of the second half of the twentieth century. Even this is simply frank copying of architectural forms or some ideas of architectural image from well-known architectural structures in the world [13]. On the one hand, the claim for world primacy on many indicators, on the other – a simple borrowing in architecture, as in construction, in technology, and in household appliances, etc.

What happened in the architectural practice of the specified time? Why is the architectural and spatial organization of Soviet cities and their centres similar to foreign experience? Can the differences in the socio-economic status and political system not matter for forming the directions of cultural and creative activity, which includes architectural and urban activities? In this case, in any research results, it is necessary to create an evidence base to explain the emergence of certain directions in the organization of the urban environment in accordance with the needs of Soviet people.

5. Causes of a new direction in architectural and urban practice

As it is known throughout the period of the existence of the USSR and Ukraine as a part of it, the two main features of a special socio-political status at the world level remained unchanged: it was the Soviet system of government, that for the original idea were formed on the basis of grassroots councils of people's deputies, and the socialist economic system, that were formed on the basis of the total state property [4]. What then happened in the social and socio-cultural life of the country, which began in the methods and forms of organization of space for human needs to adhere to the directions, at first glance, typical for states with another system of government and the opposite economic system? What historical and political reasons could have contributed to the refusal of the long

previous period of the formation of architecture and urban planning on the basis of revolutionary achievements in the spirit of constructivism, corresponding to the rise of the people after the October events of 1917, from further strengthening, development and achievement of perfection by the degree of expressiveness of the imperial style of the Stalin era, and such a paradoxical choice of stylistic orientation in architecture after the end of life of generalissimo?²

Consider the socio-political situation in the mid-1950s. According to V. Danilenko [10, pp. 5-20], in the article on the analysis of the economic and political situation of the USSR and Ukraine during the Khrushchev thaw, the activity of the Secretary General at that time reflects the process of shifting the emphasis from the state-economic activity of increasing the capabilities of military force, characteristic of the Stalin period of the leadership, onto its socialization, and programming of the main directions of state activity on a social basis. Khrushchev's reform course was aimed at initiating the processes of liberalizing social and political life [12], «expanding the boundaries of political democracy, accelerating economic development and improving the material life of the people» [10, p. 6]. That is, *internal political actions* were aimed at gradual increase of wages, provision of housing and food products to the people, increase of the share of GDP on state support for social needs (free education and health care). It was «the end of the mobilization economy and the gradual transition to a liberal, «soft» form of administrative-command system» [10, p. 9].

In Ukraine, the process of reforming social life was moving more slowly than in the centre, the changes concerned mostly the spheres of cultural life, and in the field of ideology and politics did not go beyond the directions of the centre [15].

Trying to correct the situation with a lack of food, Khrushchev MS began radical changes in agriculture, but, despite the critique of the previous system of government, the attitude towards the political regime established on the basis of the supremacy of the communist party, the Soviet system and socialist ownership of the means of production, was generally unshakable.

² The architecture of the Soviet state had a strange way of development: first in the 1930s the country, as a way of expressing its Soviet-socialist nature, returned to the style of the destroyed revolution of the Russian Empire; in 1955, again for the same purpose, she repulsed the style of Soviet-Stalinist empire and began to rely on the tendencies in the architectural and spatial organization of cities and the formation of architectural objects from the experience of capitalist countries with a non-state, but private economy. What does this show?

Attention to social requirements was typical of the European countries that survived the difficult times of the Second World War. Despite the lack of any funds for the recovery of the economy and post-war construction, the population that returned to completely destroyed cities, were questioned about the choice of directions for further reconstruction of their native cities, and the leadership agreed with them on the ways of the subsequent formation of the urban environment. A.V. Bunin describes the procedure for the revival in this way the ancient German city of Freudenstadt, built at the beginning of the XVII century, on the basis of a square plan with a concentric-square location of the streets, from which only a bunch of bricks remained during the bombardment. But the population of the city wanted to return to his home, despite the complete inappropriateness of historical planning to living conditions in the second half of the twentieth century, and the city was built [7, p. 268-272]. Such a respectful attitude to the desires of the inhabitants is explained by the fact that Europeans, having received a kind of vaccination by the centralization of political regimes in the first half of the twentieth century, understood the value of the individual.

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6. Comparison of architectural and urban practices of two periods

The similarity of the Soviet architectural heritage of the late 1930s and early 1950s with the styles of the Russian Empire made it possible, after the end of this period, to determine it at the suggestion of A.V. Ikonnikov as historicism in architecture [11]. And innovative searches for rationalist lines after the October Revolution of 1917 and the period that began with the so-called «Khrushchev thaw» as modernism of the first and second waves. It is precisely this terminology used here for a brief presentation of the material.

A comparative analysis of the political and economic situation has shown significant changes with the emergence of a new first figure in the Soviet state, despite the constant emphasis on the preservation of the signs of Soviet power (supposedly the building of the people-government is based on the grassroots councils of people's deputies) and the socialist system of management based on total state ownership of land and any means of production (see Table). Thus, in the political regime of the previous period, the leader (generalissimo) solved absolutely everything in the political, economic and social life of the country, rejecting the way of coordination and collective decision-making, which took place during the party congresses. In the face of confrontation between states with a different political and economic system, the danger of the continuation of hostilities after 1945, the arms race, the USSR not only continued the orientation of the economy to heavy industry, but also fully supported and funded inventions and the production of nuclear and hydrogen weapons.

The centralization of power required expression in classical methods of planning and shaping buildings. The country at that time, carrying out

reconstruction and restoration of cities destroyed during the war, was building the capital of the Union republics and oblast centres on the basis of the quarterly structure, was conducting contests for the creation of major large-scale urban ensembles from objects of representative architecture and sculptures of political figures, to which society was obliged to the creation a Soviet state. Pseudo-classical stylistic compositions were built on the basis of axial symmetry in the organization of the architectural and spatial ensemble of urban centres. According to O. Mokrousov, Khreshchatyk, due to the new creative paradigm after the Second World War, had to become a permanent pantheon of buildings, richly decorated with sculptures [14]. Sculptures and any other types of plastic arts, high-rise buildings with towers (which, as evidenced by the Moscow masters of Soviet architecture in the post-war period, a helmsman often corrected a finished project), the practice of using state party and social symbols as means of realization of the state ideology of a large and invincible state, shaped the urban space in accordance with the authorities' instructions.

During the years 1955-1985, based on old ideas, one party leadership system, headed by the general secretary, on which the executive and legislative branches depended, was restored. All three branches of government were built on a hierarchical system for the prompt distribution of follow-up guidance. In the economy, it happened the recognition of the completion of the stage of the construction of socialism and the proclamation of the transition to the building of communism. Beginning in 1955, the revival of party congressional practices took place, and a broad discussion of political and economic issues created an impression of the processes of democratization of Soviet society. A number of Decisions of the Communist Party and Government were aimed at the development of social programs, the spread of industrial construction methods to reduce the difficult living conditions of the population after the war – in dugouts, barracks and basements. Borrowed in Europe, the methods of planning and building urban areas, industrial construction and directions of rationalist shaping, which were transferred to the Soviet space, were much improved, scientifically substantiated and contributed to the development of Soviet town planning in accordance with the differentiation of territory of city, to which the urban area of the newly created districts was distributed, and together with the three-stage system of cultural and consumer services, established the common principles of free planning for the different regions

Table 1

Comparison of the political and economic situation and architectural and urban activities in the USSR and Ukraine at the second and third stages of development

The period of Soviet historicism end of 1930 - early 1950s	The period of Soviet modernism the middle of 1955 -1985
E c o n o m i c a c t i v i t y	
Construction of a socialist form of management based on state ownership of land and means of production (1930s-early 1940s). Restoration of economy on the basis of heavy industry (1940-1950-ies).	Completion of the construction of socialism. Programming of the gradual restructuring of the economy based on the principles of the communist distribution of material goods «to everyone in need».
P o l i t i c a l r e g i m e	
Formation of a political regime on the basis of the party leadership with the person of the leader at the head	One-party system of leadership headed by the secretary-general and hierarchical construction of three branches of power - party, executive and legislative
A v a i l a b i l i t y o f p r o g r a m s o f f u r t h e r s o c i o - e c o n o m i c d e v e l o p m e n t o f t h e s t a t e	
About development of military-economic potential of the country.	On social development, the construction of a communist society
A v a i l a b i l i t y o f p r o g r a m s f o r f u r t h e r d e v e l o p m e n t i n t h e f i e l d o f u r b a n p l a n n i n g a n d a r c h i t e c t u r e	
On rethinking the classical heritage in the architecture and reconstruction of cities (1930s-early 1940s). On the restoration of cities and their centres (1940-1950's).	On combating surpluses in architecture. On the spread of methods of industrial construction on the basis of typical projects of mass housing development (1950-1960's). About improvement of architectural decisions of public building (1970-1980's).
T h e m a i n d i r e c t i o n s i n u r b a n d e v e l o p m e n t	
Reconstruction of cities and their centres. The birth of the city centre in the form of a town-planning ensemble. Return to quarterly construction. Contradictions in the methods of building and the types of buildings in the centre and workers' environs.	City planning based on the differentiation of urban areas. Use of the three-level system of cultural and domestic services. Development of micro-districts on the basis of free planning.

The period of Soviet historicism end of 1930 - early 1950s	The period of Soviet modernism the middle of 1955 -1985
The main directions in the formation of town-planning ensembles	
Large architectural and spatial compositions, most often symmetrical construction using objects of representative architecture and large-scale sculptures	Free compositions for the construction of new city centres using objects of various public appointment and synthesis of arts.
Main directions in the formation of objects of public architecture	
Formation of the silhouette and the facade structure of buildings based on the classical heritage. Widespread use of plastic arts, state party and social symbols.	Using methods of rational architecture of simple or finely dissected geometric forms. The industrial-technological style in residential architecture with a primitive composition of urban-planning in 1955-1965 and more difficult in 1965-1985. Application of unique techniques and plane arts for the implementation of state-party and social themes in public architecture.

in the Soviet Union. To create a sense of pomposity of the architectural and spatial organization of the centres of Soviet cities, the hopes of a bright future, which expects the socium, the tangible means in the form of expensive plane art – most often mosaic panels, paintings, majolica, ceramics, metal, which were all set on enthusiasm, exaltation and cheerfulness of Soviet existence – widely used.

In Figure 1 photos of built architectural and urban objects, as well as projected on the state order, but not implemented. Objects of historicism show a purely quarterly development, the extensive use of the Order Architectural System in the architecture of public and residential buildings, as well as methods of constructing a city ensemble based on axial compositions, the use of sculptures, etc.

The period of the second wave of Soviet modernism was divided into two time slices – 1955-1960s and 1970-1985, in order to show the differences in architecture and urban planning that were characteristic of them, and which were clearly distinguished by the change in the foreign policy of the CPSU. The Constitution of the USSR (1977) and the USSR (1978), which referred to the democratization of the political system, the expansion of the rights and freedoms of Soviet citizens, equality of nations,

disagreed with real life. They formally legitimized the unlimited power of the CPSU, declaring it «the core of the political system of society» [15]. Political life in the USSR and in Ukraine became more and more increasingly closed, a diktat evolved [15]. The post-Khrushchev period from 1964 to 1985 became defined in history as a period of «stagnation» in the economy, socio-political and cultural life, when the new Soviet leader took the course to preserve the existing social relations. In spite of the improvement of international relations, the broad participation of the USSR in international activities, the UN, UNESCO, numerous organizations, various unions, the world democratic community, continued to perceive the Soviet Union as a totalitarian state. That is, the change in the political course of the state from the reforms in the political, economic and cultural sphere to «the time of political and ideological reaction, the progressive decline and the disintegration of the Soviet system» [15] contributed to the fact that architecture immediately became a reflection of a new social consciousness that underlined the transition from the reformist programs by which they tried to solve the functional and economic problems, to the ideological-representative, which were supposed to reflect the programs of representativeness of Soviet power by means of architecture and construction.

In spite of the unity of the chosen direction in planning and moulding, it is noticeable on illustrations that from simple urban compositions the free layout of dwellings began to shift to the complication of building methods, the formation of city-planning ensembles from the structures of representative and socially-based architecture on the basis of free planning, in whose simple geometric form of buildings became emphasized monumental. Public objects became expressive with the help of means that imitated in a certain way the space architecture. That is, during this third stage of the historical development of Soviet architecture, *we have a gradual shift of the state order for the urgent functional needs of the formation of an architectural and urban environment for the disadvantaged population onto the state-ideological tasks* that were implemented in urban space. Means for the implementation of these tasks in the environment are a large scale of architectural-spatial compositions, a specific forming of buildings, which testified to the achievements of the USSR in the world, all kinds of plane art, which helped and scenically decorated urban space. Such a gradual transformation of architecture according to orders from above

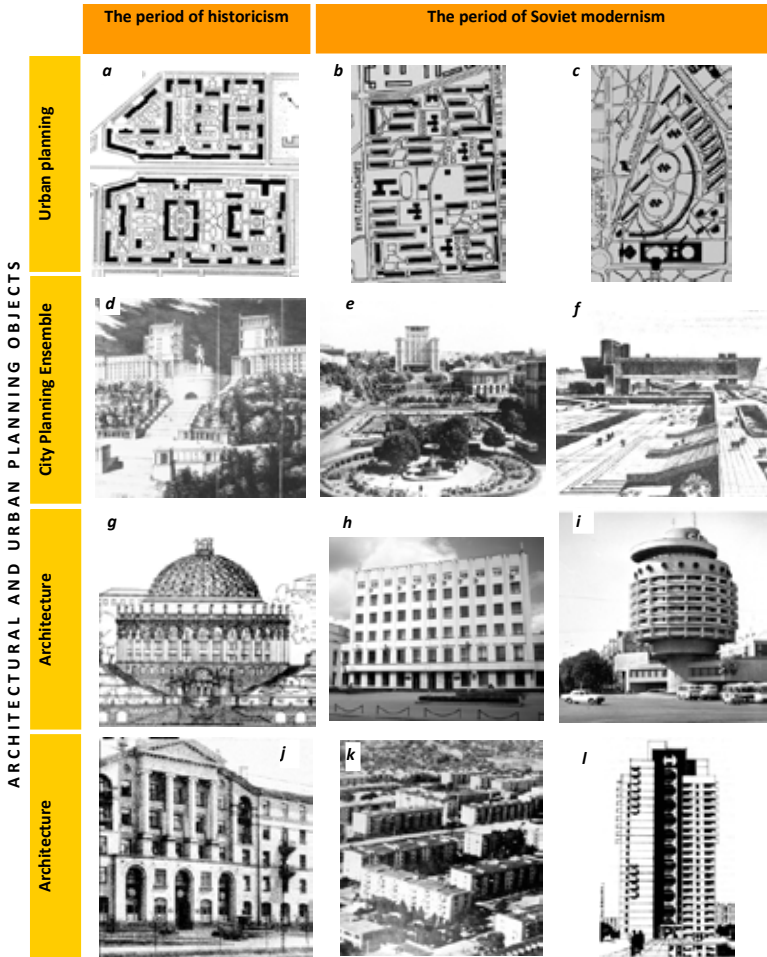


Figure 1. Comparison of the architectural and urban heritage of periods of Soviet historicism and modernism:

a – quarter plans, Lenin Avenue, Zaporizhzhya; b – the plan of the micro-district №2 of the Voskresens'ka Slobidka, Kyiv; c – micro-district of the experimental housing complex Komsomolsky, Kyiv; d – Government centre, view from the Dnieper, competition project under the direction of I.Fomin; e – Maydan Nezalezhnosti, Kyiv; f – a project of a shopping complex near the Vladimir market, Kyiv; g – Unrealized project of the house number 25 on Khreshchatyk, Kyiv; h – representative building on Moskovsky Avenue, 75, Kharkiv; i – Hotel Salyut, Kyiv; j – residential building in the village of KhTZ, Kharkiv, architect. O. Motorin; k – a residential area with buildings of mass type construction, Dnipro; l – facade of a 22-storey large-panel house of a series of APVS on the street Mostytska, Kyiv.

showed not only the perfection of the directions of making of forms, but also the opposite – about the perfection of the established political regime, which frankly proclaimed its urgent needs.

7. Conclusions

Thus, the radical change in the internal political activity of the Soviet Union with the beginning of the Khrushchev thaw in the direction of the socialization of economic programs, the expansion of international activity and interstate ties, the formation of international organizations that adopted compatible solutions on parity principles *meant the transition from the closed system for external contacts of the Stalinist leadership to interstate cooperation*, which created favourable conditions for getting acquainted with the world experience in the formation of architectural and urban development practices of world analogues of planning and shaping, which was realized in the architectural practice of the USSR.

Among the borrowings of world experience in the Soviet architecture, note the following: the return and improvement of micro-district planning scheme; free planning of construction; principles of typical design and construction of housing; expressiveness of a simple geometric form; refusal of the axial symmetrical composition in the city ensemble; accentuation on horizontal shaping instead of classical vertical.

Differences in architectural and design business in the USSR and Ukraine from world experience: use of command method of management, availability of state programs and financing of works from the state treasury; mass construction in huge volumes; combination of science, design and typical construction, testing of results in experimental construction under public order; the availability of state programs for construction in enormous volumes, reflecting the specifics of Soviet power, as well as the instability of the world's international situation, requiring an arms race, competition in the economy and advertising of the advantages of the Soviet system and the socialist economic direction; joint work of scientific institutions and design-technological bases for one purpose; the development of the principles of urban planning as a single system of creating urban space and population service on the basis of providing of space in accordance with the established level of comfort, which indicated the lack of personal choice and dictate of power.

Differences in architecture and urbanization of two parts of the general period of 1955-1985: first – the search of methods of typical design, primitive

planning of microdistricts from residential buildings without elevators, the industrial style of mass construction on the basis of emphasizing of structural elements, minimizing means of expressing the form, trying buildings of public service to design according to typical projects; later – the complication of urban composition due to the use of block-sectional method of typical design and its variations, more accentuation of forms onto the vertical, with the time appear manifestations of neoclassicism in unique public buildings and features of the space theme, large architectural and spatial composition of the centres have free planning, the beauty and monumentality of a simple geometric form and a complexly dissected form from the same type elements is glorified, the architectural shaping is emphasized by the complex constructive systems and complex technological methods of their manufacture.

In 1970-1985 there was a division of the main directions in architecture and urban development, depending on the consumers: for the people – housing in an improved industrial style; for society, bright, such that the objects of social service with extraordinary forms were remembered, may even be in neo-classical styles, with cosmic motives; for the state, the objects of representation of the authorities and layers that ensure the order in the state, protection from external enemies and at the legislative level – and here the monumental neoclassical architecture became spokesman of the state ideology.

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