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ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS OF THE RECONSTRUCTED BUILDINGS ENTRANCE UNITS OF KYIV HISTORIC CENTRE

***Abstract:** positive and negative issues in modern entrance groups in Kiev of the late 19th and early 20th century were considered. Four main types of entrance groups and their most typical elements were identified. Search of the possible ways to preserve the integrity of heritage buildings.*

***Keywords:** entrance, composition, proportion, scale, color, integrity, historical heritage buildings, Kiev.*

Problem statement. Lately, the historical center of Kyiv has been actively reconstructed and changed in a negative way. The first floors of residential buildings of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, which constitute 80% of the historical center area, was redeemed by businessmen for their own enterprise. Catering establishments, shops, clubs, offices, etc. are built there. New entrance units are arranged to the newly created establishments which often spoil not only the building architecture but also the urban environment. The proportions of window openings are changing, buildings style is being violated, as well as the door gates, also advertising signs, facades coloring and strange elements are appearing. In the result the face of the city is being distorted and Kyiv is losing its identity. The research of positive and negative features of the newly-built entrance units in reconstructed buildings of the late 19th and early 20th centuries is of great importance at this stage of the city central areas reconstruction. Identifying the main

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types of entrance units and studying the ways of preserving the integrity of historic development is of vital importance under these circumstances.

Analysis of the recent researches. The main stylistic tendencies in Ukrainian redevelopment of late 19th and early 20th centuries were investigated by Yasiyevych V. E. [11], Chepelyk V. V. [10], Skibitskaia T. V. [9].

Redevelopment standards of old Kyiv were reviewed in studies by Malakov D. V. [2].

Structural, proportional, compositional and semantic features of architectural facades plastic of Kyiv historical redevelopment and entrance units' redevelopment of late 19th and early 20th centuries were investigated by Sidorova O. I. [4, 5, 6, 7, 8].

The creativity of architects, who worked during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, was investigated by Yasiyevych V. E. [11], M. Kalnitsky [1], Malakov D. [2].

The entrance units resolving in terms of Kyiv redevelopment is barely studied and requires more detailed analysis.

Article purposes. Analysis of entrance units' redevelopment of Kiev historical center, for the negative and positive aspects identification.

The main part. Entrance units are a set of architectural, decorative, technical elements and structures that are put at the entrance to the building. In addition to the front doors, this may include vestibule, hall elements, and a platform in front of the entrance, elements of lighting, benches, ramp steps, porte-cochere, railings, canopy, columns and various decorative elements. The composition of structures and elements in each case is selected on the basis of a number of factors – the building purpose, owners' and designers' requests as for entrance units' design, construction norms, fire safety.

Entrance units should highlight and complement the building architecture, meet its style, and being its striking element they place an important emphasis on the front of the house, and often on the environment.

The historical center of Kyiv in the last few decades had a significant number of failed entrance units designs that look

inappropriate in the urban historic environment. One can analyze the entrance units by the following criteria: 1) the perception of integrity; 2) proportion and scale; 3) metro-rhythmic patterns; 4) facade coloristic correspondence.



Fig.1. Entrance units of the “Rushnychok” restaurant.

Entrance units of Ukrainian cuisine restaurant “Rushnychok” on the Pushkin street, 25A (Fig.1) depart from the plane of the facade walls by means of enclosure and a shallow vestibule. Successfully used elements of Ukrainian embroidery, ornaments, pottery, together with the selected materials in the decoration, complement well to the integrity of the design decision of an institution, but only if taken separately from the facade. This is a positive example of color solution, but also a negative example of inconsistent separability of the first floor facades general structure. Entrance units and institutions shop windows are out of scale relatively to the proportional and metro-rhythmic facade construction.



Fig.2. Entrance units of the “Nimphieia” cafe.

The entrance units of “Nimpheia” cafe on the Spasska street 11 (Fig.2) depart from the plane of the facade and also include stairs into the basement. This is an example of quite an unfortunate design decision, because it does not meet the facade by color, shape or scale, not even by style. The advertising sign is posted poorly; it shuts the half of the window and spoils the overall composition of the facade. The size and nature of letters does not match the scale of the facade.



Fig.3. Entrance units of “Masandra” shop.

Entrance units of “Massandra” shop on Naberezhno-Khreschatytska street 19/21 (Fig.3) includes a canopy with forged decorative consoles – an example of successful usage of forged elements which repeat the decorative metal-plastic facade motif (in this case the decorative motif of balcony railings). The circular form symbolizing the sun and the arched shapes can be traced in the window, canopy and decoration of the facade decisions, which are decorated with a metric number of rounded, wavy elements above the windows. Forged canopies are the most common elements in Kyiv entrance units’ design.

The entrance units’ decision on the Chervonoarmiiska/Baseina street 3/2 (Pic.4) follows the Kyiv characteristic iron canopies on columns. The molded ornaments that resonate with plaster facade decorations are used here. The dome form resembles a semicircle

shop windows on the first floor. But the color of signs, its decor, letters size, logo and shiny dome material do not meet the general concept of the building and look more like kitsch.

Entrance units of the beauty parlor at Volodymyrska street 40/2 (Fig.5) has no permanent building additions, modern materials and simple, light constructions “marquee” are used, they can be easily removed, but large shop windows violate the proportionate and metro-rhythmic structure of the facade. The font and the emblem of the institution, as well as the colors are successfully chosen. Light green along with the contrasting black color with white and beige colors of the building and contrasting forged balcony railings.



Fig.4. Entrance units of the “Arena” club.



Fig.5. Entrance units of the beauty parlor.

The restaurant on the Khreshchatyk street 15/4 has entrance units resolved in the form of rectangular vestibule slightly retreating from

the plane of the wall. But its proportions, scale and division do not correspond to the structural organization of the facade. Signs and font size are too large (Fig.6).



Fig.6. Entrance units of the “Mocco” restaurant

Entrance units in electronics store on Saksaganskogo street 16/43 (Fig.7) – do not meet either the scale or style of the building, the sign is of bright blue color not suiting the delicate pastel tones of the facade. The proportions and separability of the entrance units violate the proportional and metro-rhythmic organization of facade.



Fig.7. Entrance units of the electronics shop.



Fig.8. Entrance units of the catering facilities.

The main element of the entrance units of catering facility on the Chervonoarmiiska street 40 (Fig.8) is the canopy with the balcony on it, decorated according to the logo name. The windows of the first floor, advertising and the sign are out of scale to the elements of the facade building. The beige color of the logo repeats the color of the facade, but the bright red color is too contrasting, in the result the huge red sign crosses the facade and spoils the impression of the building.



Fig.9. Entrance units of "Premier palace" hotel.

The entrance units of "Premier Palace" hotel, which are situated on the Pushkinska street (Fig.9), look pretty presentable. The main accent element here is a characteristic for old Kyiv canopy carried out on the entire width of the sidewalk with molten metal pillars and an opened passage space underneath it. Proportions, color,

architectural and artistic decisions are consistent with the composition of the facade and the environment.

Unfortunately, there are few positive examples of resolving entrance units in the historical center of Kyiv.

The contributory result of this research proved to be a classification of entrance units by the following criteria: a) the plane of the facade wall, b) the nature of the spatial organization of the entrance units.

There are 4 main types of entrance units identified, in the redeveloped areas of the historical center of Kyiv:

1. – Wall-mounted entrance units – installed in the same plane with the wall structure using sculpture or other props for decoration;

2. – Volumetric entrance units (external tambour) retreating from the plane of the wall usually by 1-2 meters of closed internal space (Fig.1, 6, 7);

3. – Entrance units with canopy (often with consoles) with partially opened space in front of the door (Fig.3) retreating from the plane of the wall mostly by 0,7-1,5 meters;

4. – Entrance units carried out by the columns, with an open passage space beneath it (Fig.4, 9) retreating from the plane walls by 2-4 meters.

Types 3 and 4 of the entrance units can be divided into 2 subtypes, depending on the availability of the balcony (or terrace) on the canopy:

3.1 and 4.1 – Entrance units with canopy on brackets or on columns without balcony (or terrace);

3.2 and 4.2 – Entrance units with canopy on brackets or on columns with a balcony or terrace.

Conclusions. Most of the considered entrance units in the redeveloped historical areas are violating the proportional, metro-rhythmic and colorful organization of the facades. Almost all of the entrance units with shop windows on the first floor and advertising signs are out of scale regarding the buildings facades architecture of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Entrance units should emphasize and complement the architecture of the building, meet its style, because it is an important accent on the building facade, and often the environment as well.

While developing entrance units for the historical building designers need to: 1) study the style and architectural composition of the building facade as a whole and in particular, pay special attention to scale and proportion, also the scale and proportion of the entrance units in the newly created establishments should match the size and proportions of the facade; 2) consider the architectural details of the facade and use them in the styling development of entrance units design; 3) use metro-rhythmic series appropriate to the entrance units facade; 4) The colors of the entrance units have to match the color scheme of the building facade.

Forged parts could be a particular advantageous element of the entrance units of the Kiev historic buildings. Its decorative motifs should overlap with decorative elements of the buildings (mostly motives of the balcony rails or interfenestral and window sill plaster decorative inserts).

Research perspectives. The structure, composition and certain elements of doorways and front door areas of the late 19th and early 20th century redevelopment will be the subject of the next publication.

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Аннотация:

Сидорова Е. И., Сидорова М.-Ю., Евтушенко А. С. Архитектурный анализ входных групп реконструированных зданий исторической застройки города Киева. Рассмотрены положительные и отрицательные черты входных групп реконструированных зданий в застройке Киева конца XIX-начала XX века. Выявлены основные типы входных групп и наиболее характерные для них элементы. Предложены пути сохранения целостности исторической застройки.

Ключевые слова: входная группа, композиция, пропорции, масштаб, цвет, целостность, историческая застройка, Киев.

Анотація:

Сидорова О. І., Сидорова М.-Ю., Євтушенко А. С. Архітектурний аналіз вхідних груп реконструйованих будівель історичної забудови міста Києва. Розглянуто позитивні та негативні риси вхідних груп реконструйованих будівель в забудові Києва кінця XIX- початку XX ст. Виявлені основні типи вхідних груп та найбільш характерні для них елементи. Запропоновано шляхи збереження цілісності історичної забудови.

Ключові слова: вхідна група, композиція, пропорції, масштаб, колір, цілісність, історична забудова, Київ.

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