

The main factors forming SPA-architecture

Halyna Lukomska¹, Zoriana Lukomska²

1. Architecture Design Department, Lviv Polytechnic National University, UKRAINE, Lviv, S. Bandery street 12, E-mail: cherrygrain@rambler.ru

2. Architecture Design Department, Ivano-Frankivsk National Technical University of Oil and Gas, UKRAINE, Ivano-Frankivsk, Karpatska street 15, E-mail: aplusb@bigmir.net

Abstract – the article considers a number of factors that have direct influence on the planning structure of SPA facilities. Special attention is directed to study urban factor that influences the architecture of urban and suburban SPA. A number of natural and climatic conditions that affect the formation of the architectural environment of SPA facilities are considered. The impact of social and economic factors on the SPA architecture is also examined.

Keywords – SPA, SPA architecture, architecture forming factor, SPA location, climatic factor, geographical factor, urban factor, urban SPA.

I. Introduction

Analysis of the formation of existing SPA architecture [1] environment during its evolution showed that the most important factors determining the structure, content and features of SPA spaces planning are: climatic, landscape and environmental, urban, social, economical, cultural and geographical. (Pic.1)

II. Main factors

Natural and climatic conditions - one of the most important factors that have wide influence on architecture environment of SPA facilities: site development, building forms and its functional planning features. Climate determines the choice of certain planning principles for building structure, its construction and building equipment. Many traditional techniques of folk architecture emerged and formed as a result of the need to overcome adverse climatic factors.

Lets consider natural conditions complex that determine recreational specialization of area:

- hydrogeological characteristics of the area include the availability of fresh water-, balneo- (mineral water), thalassotherapeutic- (sea water) resources.
- availability of forest, parklands, steppe areas is a characteristic of territory and its landscape. In addition, plants actively influence on the human body by producing phototherapeutical components. For this reason, type and area of parks and forests is a condition influencing on recreational specialization of territory.

Special condition of area recreational specialization is landscapes characteristic, because it affects not only the demand to SPA facilities, but also dictates the character of architectural structures.

Economic factors are reflected in: rationality of SPA facilities design; space planning structure of different

SPA areas; horizontal and vertical communications; connections between floors and rooms within a story; comfort in using of various functional groups; and after all time consumption.



Pic. 1. The main factors forming SPA architecture

Complex of social factors combine the following factors: rising living standards, leading a healthy lifestyle, shortening the workweek, the development of recreational areas in the region.

Collection recreational needs of society includes - requirement for rehabilitation of overbooked citizens, rehabilitation and treatment, sports activities, tourism, rest requirement.

It should also be noted that the industrialization of modern society creates great stress loads on the population and therefore leads to the need for rest, recreation, restoration activities which can be obtained by using SPA treatments. For this reason industrial cities are places increased demand for spa services in order to recovery. This factor reflects citizens demand on a particular functional SPA type and lead to the emergence of new typological SPA units. [2]

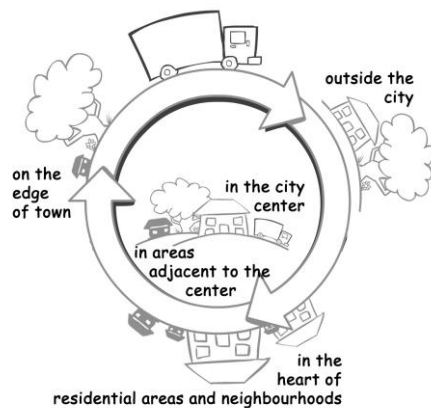
Cultural and geographical factors includes a complex of ethnic and regional cultural features of the SPA building territory. Which in turn affect both the shape structure, function and a number of spaces in designed complex.

What about urban factor, it includes an analysis of the location of the SPA facilities in the structure of the city or beyond and location within the urban development and the main features submission or domination over the prevailing architectural environment.

Functionality of the SPA facilities significantly affects at its location in the urban fabric of the city. Town

Planning Analysis of SPA placing in planning structure of large and major cities help us to mark few specific techniques of location (Pic. 2):

- In the city center;
- In areas adjacent to the center;
- In the heart of residential areas and neighborhoods;
- On the edge of town;
- Outside the city.



Pic. 2. Specific location techniques of SPA facilities

Central location of SPA results necessity to comply with organic architectural ensemble of streets, squares, neighboring buildings. However, the building of SPA is often the main architectural accent in housing estate, it stands apart by floors or by original architecture.

The construction of the SPA facility in the densely built-up central urban district leads it to compact building form. Configuration of site boundaries determines the choice of building planning type. Most spa facilities in central city are characterized by a small number of storeys and often rectangular or trapezoidal form of building basis.

SPA building location in an urban or suburban parkland leads to a combination of architecture structure with features of the natural landscape.

SPA facilities located in the tourist and recreation areas between natural landscapes are characterized by direct communication of architectural and planning forms with the surrounding relief. The character of the natural landscape brings us choices of architectural forms, among them:

- architectural forms that match the landscape
- architecture contrasted to landscape or relief.

- According to this approach there are two variants of dominance: in first case landscape play accent role in second one – structure itself.
- architecture submit to landscape - in this approach, the natural form of the landscape and architectural forms harmoniously merge. [3]

Conclusion

The above studies have shown that a major factor that affects the architecture of the SPA facilities is urban. It defines: the relationship with the surrounding landscape; the choice of building form; structure planning type; number of stories; its subordination to the main features of the environment. Equally important are the natural and climatic factors that influence the formation of SPA environment: site development, building forms and its functional planning features. Complex of social factors primarily determine the demand for a particular functional type of spa and influence the development of health architecture branch in common. On the other hand affects the planning structure with reference to the needs of different consumer groups. Social factors also lead to the emergence of new typological SPA units. Economic factors are reflected in rationality of SPA facilities design and space planning structure of different SPA areas. And finally geographical factor reflects a number of ethnic features of the region which influence the structural and spatial concept of SPA facilities.

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