

Janis Zilgalvis

ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH OF NAUKŠĒNI MANOR

Latvia has 650 manor ensembles that have preserved their historical structure to a greater or lesser extent until nowadays. In many places the environment is destroyed due to the new constructions erected during the Soviet period, the unreasonable destruction of historical buildings, changes in structuring construction sites, etc. In order to learn about the authenticity of the historic environment of manors, it is necessary to carry out architectonically historical research. The study of this kind has been carried out is Naukšēni manor, which is situated in the Northern part of Latvia near the Estonian bor-

der. In order to trace the changes that occurred over the period of time and to evaluate present situation, it is necessary to recur to the history of the manor and study the manor complex in terms of its construction, the development of the spatial structure of planning, the history of all buildings until nowadays.

Naukšēni manor, owned by Livonian Order around 1500, was completely destroyed during the Livonian war in 1558-1583. King of Sweden Gustav Adolph sold the manor to Alexander von Essen, colonel and later major general in 1630. The property was later inherited by his son Alexander, landrat and general adjutant (?-1728). The status of the manor in the end of the 17th c. is shown in the land plan designed by Jonas Beker in 1695.¹ The plan (Figure 1) schematically shows the oldest manor house on the bank of river Rūja. The building, with a yard in front of it, was situated alongside the river. The plan shows two more buildings on both the sides of the nearby road running. The larger, or new, garden was situated on the riverbank on the left side of the building. The second smaller, or old, garden was situated on the other side of the road. These were the decorative gardens, or, in other words, amusement, fruit and kitchen gardens very common in the manors of Latvia in the 17th c. Naukšēni manor was heavily destroyed by the Northern war in 1700-1710 and

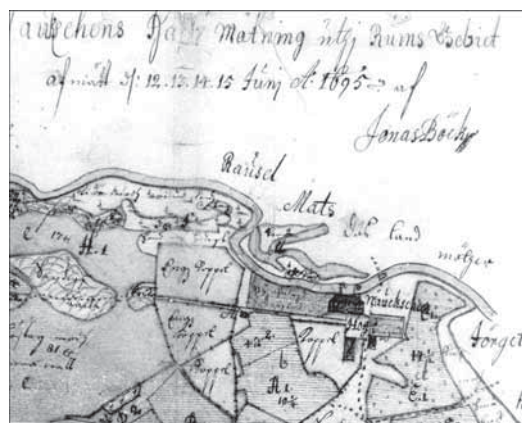


Figure 1.
The land plan of the manor. Jonas Böcker, 1695.
(Latvijas Valsts vēstures arhīvs)

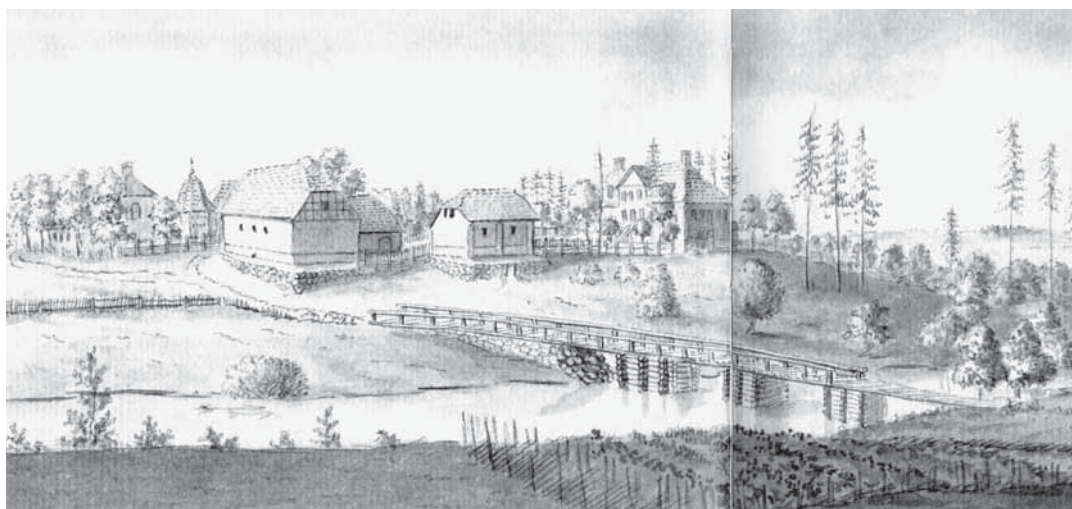


Figure 2.

Naukšēni manor. Johann Christoph Brotze, 1800. (Brotze J.Ch. Sammlung verschiedener Liefländischer Monumente, Prospecte, Müntzen, Wappen etc.)

the succeeding epidemic breakout of plague. It is believed that the major part of the building pattern was destroyed completely. The manor remained unresided for quite some time after the war.

After the death of the owner of the manor A. von Essen in 1728, his widow von Ikskül inherited the property. She owned the manor until 1742, but later the property went to her son, also Alexander, who left it by testament to his nephew Alexander von Essen, the governor of Terbata (now Tartu) district.

In the second part of the 18th c. (around 1760), Wilhelm von Grote (1698-1772) who was a merchant and the senior of the Great Guild in Riga, bought the manor. His oldest son Adam Heinrich (1735-1817), also a merchant and the senior of the Great Guild, inherited the property afterwards. After his death, Naukšēni was inherited by his son landrat Fridrich von Grote (1768-1836). Shortly before he received the inherited property, J. K. Brotze made the drawing of the central part of the manor (Figure 2). The drawing of 1800 shows a different manor house than the one in the plan of 1695. It is a one-storey building erected on a high plinth, with the three-aisle sharp mezzanine that has a triangle fronton. The distinctive two-slope roof with the bevelled endings covers the building. The building has two chimneys and the roof windows on both the sides of the mezzanine. Moreover, the location of the building is changed as it is situated with the ending towards the river in this case. In comparison to the land planning of 1695, the drawing of J. K. Brotze shows a different building characteristic of the second part of the 18th c. Alongside the manor house,



Figure 3.

The manor house of Naukšēni (Photo by Zilgalvis)

the drawing shows the barn and the creamery, which have remained until our days, as well as two more buildings destroyed later – namely, a house manager's building and the edifice opposite to the barn, that is classified as a cellar-barn in the documents of the 20th c.

After dividing the heritage in 1836, the manor was managed by a son of F. von Grote, Heinrich Wilhelm von Grote (1797-1878). In the meantime, building master Friedrich Gotlieb Gläzer from the town of Cēsis finished the construction of the new manor house of Naukšēni² in 1843. The influence of German empire architecture is apparent in the new building (Figure 3).

After H.W. von Grote, his son Friedrich Vilhelm von Grote (1823 -1893) inherited the manor in 1878. In 1878 a list of Naukšēni manor buildings was made³. It is an important document testifying the existence of the buildings. There were overall 37 buildings in the manor, 5 of



Figure 4.
The land plan of the manor. 1904. (Latvijas Valsts vēstures arhīvs)

them designed for living. The list consists of the following buildings: manor house, two living houses, laundry, joinery, distillery, smithy, storehouse, three barns, stables with a coach-house, cattle-shed, two stables, pigsty, coach-house, greenhouse, three sheds, threshing barn, windmill, millers house, millers coach-house, ice cellar, lime-kiln, lime-shed, brick-kiln, living house for farm labourers, farm labourers' coach-house and six hay-sheds.

In 1880 F. W. von Grote sold the manor to his cousin landrat Alexander Michael Andreas Maria von Grote (1829-1917). The land plan of 1904, *Karte des im Wolmarschen Kreise Rujenschen Kirchspiele belegen privaten Gutes Naukschen*,⁴ shows the construction of the central part of the manor from the period when the Grotes managed the manor over the last decades (Figure 4). The plan is a copy of revision made by E. Kristiani in 1865 -1869 and the revised plan by R. R. Jacobsen in 1880 and 1881. The plan shows the whole household complex of the manor with its peasants' farms, borders of the land and other. The living and household buildings were situated in the center of the manor round the yard, including the manor house, the stable with a shed, the barn with a cellar, the cheese dairy, and the cattle-shed somewhat further away. A round entrance road was situated in front of the manor house, and there was a park along the river towards the family chapel.

Naukšēni manor suffered heavily during the war in 1919. At the end of 1919 the Ministry of Agriculture took over the manor under its auspices. In 1930 the manor house served as a state educational and correction facility. The building was rebuilt in 1938 in line with the design by architect Arnolds Čuibe, which led to destroying the historical interior. After the World War II, Naukšēni manor house served as an orphanage, and later from 1957 until the end of the Soviet period served as a vocational technical school. The reconstruction project of the manor house designed in 1998 turned the building into the Naukšēni educational and correctional establishment with the facilities of assembly room and hotel.

Besides the manor house, the building pattern of the Naukšēni manor complex consists of several more edifices nowadays. The land plans, other iconographic materials and the lists of buildings from different times give a taste of the historical location of the buildings. The available sources make it possible to study where the new buildings likely contain the ancient constructions and to set the time of the existence of the buildings.

One of the buildings is a cheese dairy, or a *watchtower*, that can be seen already in the draft of J. K. Brotze of 1800. It has maintained its original exterior until nowadays (Figure 5). The second building is a barn, which is not presented in the land plan of the manor of 1695, but it is present

in the draft of J. K. Brotze of 1800. Judging by the size of the spatial structure, the building is constructed in the middle or the last quarter of the 18th c (Figure 6.)

Only a small mound has survived from what was once a cellar barn. The shape of the cellar as well as the foundations of boulder masonry was still seen in 1989. The foundations of the building should be exhibited in order to mark the place in sustaining the memory of the lost part of the complex.

A house manager's building burned down in 1970. It was later reconstructed by changing completely its exterior. It is believed that the object was built in the middle of the 19th c., because the plan of 1904, which is a copy of the plan made in 1865 –1869, shows the building.

A master's graveyard and a chapel have been present in the location since 1793. The land survey of the 19th c. dates the building in evidence of this presence. The graveyard was destroyed in 1944 with the Red army entering the country. The chapel has survived in the form of the ruins, which are now an important element of the park. (Figure 7).

The stockyard buildings are grouped around a squared yard in line with the land plan of 1904. In the plans of later dates, the buildings are represented differently. In 1922 only two parallel buildings, which are not connected, have survived from the stockyard complex. These buildings cover a stable and cattle-shed. It is not known when the connecting element between both the buildings disappeared.

The former parish shop was already seen in its current location in the land plan of 1904. It obtained its name in the inventory lists of 1922.

Two sheds are only outlined in the land plan of 1904. In the plan of 1922 they are represented as existing buildings named as a mill shed and a shed. These buildings are the first ones one can see at the entrance to the manor from the side of town Valka.

Only the ruins have survived from what was once a drying-house. The drying-house is seen in both the plans of 1904 and 1922. The heavy walls and impressive dimensions of the building show that the building could have been constructed already in the 18th c.

A drying kiln is mentioned in the inventory list of 1922. The building was located close to the central part of the manor, on the other side of the road leading to the manor from the side of town Rūjiena. Today the foundations and, probably, the walls are used for building a shop, a typical construction of 1960-ies.

A small building nearby the so-called drying kiln, according to the inventory lists of 1922, is a



Figure 5.
Cheese dairy (Photo by Zilgalvis)



Figure 6.
Barn (Photo by Zilgalvis)



Figure 7.
Masters graveyard and chapel (Photo by Zilgalvis)

henhouse. Drawing on the information provided by local people, the building housed a smithy. This function is more likely to be true judging by the look of the building (Figure 8). A household building right behind the smithy along the road was marked as a shed and a brewery in the plan of 1922. The building underwent significant reconstruction in the course of time, which is clearly seen in the plan of 1904.



Figure 8.
Smithy (Photo by Zilgalvis)



Figure 9.
Farm labourers' house (Photo by Zilgalvis)



Figure 10.
The group of mill buildings (Photo by Zilgalvis)



Figure 11.
The group of brewery buildings (Photo by Zilgalvis)

Several houses of farm labourers are seen today in their initial places as marked in the plan of 1904. They have maintained their original appearance. Most of them are likely the buildings from the middle of the 19th c (Figure 9).

The house of farm labourers situated at the crossroads is shown in exactly the same place as the plan of 1904 shows it. The historical exterior of the main facade has been lost. However, the photography of 1938 witnesses the original historical look. The regular roof with a big chimney used to cover the building. In the course of time, the group of the buildings has changed in terms of appearance, as it should have included two cattle-sheds, an old distillery and a stable in accordance with the documents of 1922. As the plan of 1904 testifies there were four buildings altogether in the group.

The further building pattern of the manor can be divided into two groups – one of the mill and another of the brewery. The group of the mill shows some buildings that were used for dwelling in 1922. There is a wooden shed, built on the foundations of boulder masonry behind this building. Opposite to this building on the other side of the road is a log building marked as a twin barn. It is impossible to determine the connection of the barn with one or another building on the site (Figure 10). According to the plan of 1904, further at the end of the road was a windmill which has not survived until nowadays. Instead of the windmill, there is a masonry household building in this place today, which can be dated to the middle of the 19th c. There are two living houses right in front of the mill on both the sides of the road. These buildings were already marked in the plan of 1904. They functioned as typical servants' houses.

The group of brewery buildings includes several objects. The most important is the brewery itself located round the yard to create a complex characteristic to industrial heritage (Figure 11). These are the buildings typical of the architecture of the end of the 19th c – the beginning of the 20th c. The buildings are not marked in the plan of 1904. They were most likely constructed in the end of the first decade of the 20th c. There is a single masonry building, most likely constructed much earlier, in the brewery group on the riverside.

Naukšēni Manor Park covers the territory of more than 50 ha. The park is located along the bank of Rūja River. The construction of the decorative park was started at the end of the 17th c., however, later it was included in the landscape park.

The analysis of the historical plans and the current situation leads to the conclusion that the building pattern of Naukšēni manor in its current location was already created at the end of the 17th c. However, most of the buildings that

have survived until nowadays can be related to the 19th c. The most remarkable element of the spatial composition in the plan is a manor house, an outstanding empire-style monument, which has retained its exterior appearance. There is a high-quality landscape structure in the centre of the manor with a park on the bank of Rūja River, which has been carefully maintained over the period of time until nowadays.

The major part of the building pattern of the manor has remained in its initial location. It still creates the spatial structure of the plan characteristic of the 19th c. The fact that very few uncon-

sidered objects that would degrade the environment were built during the Soviet time or later on increases the attractiveness and the historical value of the building pattern of the manor. Although historical, the location of the glasshouse complex, the multi-storey living houses on the way to a masters' graveyard and the barbaric reconstruction of the building for a house manager could be disputed. The results of the study confirm that it is not acceptable to interfere with the historical spatial structure in pursuit of preserving an environment or a site as genuine, attractive and rich in terms of history and art.

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Janis Zilgalvis

ARCHITEKTŪRINIAI IR ISTORINIAI REIKŠMINGŲ LATVIJOS VIETŪVIŲ TYRIMAI (NAUKŠĒNI DVARO PAVYZDŽIU)

S a n t r a u k a

Maždaug nuo 1500 m. Livonijos ordinui priklausęs Naukšēni dvaras buvo visiškai sunaikintas per Livonijos karą (1558–1583). 1630 m. Švedijos karalius Gustavas Adofas pardavė šį dvarą pulkininkui A. von Essenui. Vėliau dvarą paveldėjo jo sūnus Alexanderis (?–1728). Ant upės Rūja kranto išsidėščiusio XVII a. pab. dvaro situacija schemiškai pavaizduota 1695 metų J. Bekerio žemės plane. XVIII a. I pusėje Naukšēni dvaras buvo smarkiai apgriautas per Šiaurės karą (1700–1710) ir besitęsiančią maro epidemiją.

XVIII a. II pusėje (apie 1760) dvarą nusipirko pirklys W. von Grote (1698–1772). Po jo dvarą paveldėjo jo vyresnysis sūnus Adamas Heinrichas (1735–1817), o šiam mirus Naukšēni atiteko jo sūnui F. von Grote'ui (1768–1836).

Vėliau (1836) palikimas buvo padalytas, ir dvarą valdė F. Von Grote's sūnus Heinrichas Wilhelmas von Grote (1797–1878). Jo valdymo metais (1843) meistras F. G. Glāzeris baigė naujųjų Naukšēni dvaro rūmų statybą. Naujajame pastate galima įžvelgti vokiečių ampyro architektūros įtaką.

1880 m. F. W. Von Grote pardavė dvarą savo pusbroliui A. M. A. M. von Grote'ui (1829–1917). 1904 m. žemės plane atsispindi centrinės dvaro dalies statyba pakutiniaus Grote's šeimos valdymo dešimtmečiais.

Naukšēni dvaras labai nukentėjo per karą (1919). 1930 m. dvaro rūmuose įkurdinta valstybinė švietimo ir pataisos įstaiga. Pastatas atstatytas 1938 m. pagal architekto A. Čuibe's projektą, tačiau buvo sunaikintas istorinis interjeras. Po II pasaulinio karo Naukšēni dvaro rūmuose įkurti vaikų namai, 1957m. – profesinė technikos mokykla, gyvavusi iki sovietmečio pabaigos. Pagal rekonstrukcijos projektą 1998 m. dvaro rūmuose įkurtos administracinės ir švietimo patalpos, taip pat asamblėjos kambarys bei viešbutis.

Šiandien į Naukšēni dvaro kompleksą, be dvaro rūmų, įeina dar keletą didingų pastatų. Analizuojant abu minėtuosius žemės planus, taip pat kitą ikonografinę medžiagą ir gilinant į įvairių laikotarpių pastatų sąrašus, aiškėja istorinis pastatų išsidėstymas ir santykis su šiandienine situacija. Šiuo būdu galima tirti gražius naujuosius statinius, į kuriuos įkomponuotos senosios konstrukcijos, taip pat nustatyti pastatų gyvavimo laiką.

Atlikus istorinių planų ir šiandienės situacijos analizę, galima teigti, kad Naukšēni dvaras dabartinėje vietoje sukurtas jau XVII a. pab., tačiau daugelis iki šių dienų išlikusių pastatų sietini su XIX a. Svarbiausias erdvinės plano kompozicijos taškas – dvaro rūmai, žymus ampyro stiliaus paminklas, išlaikęs savo išorinį pavidalą. Išsiskiria aukštos kokybės landšafto struktūra, besisiejanti su per amžius kruopščiai saugotu parku ant upės Rūja kranto.

Dauguma dvaro pastatų tebėra pirmą kartą vietoje ir vis dar kuria XIX a. būdingą erdvinę plano struktūrą. Dvaro pastatų patrauklumą ir istorinę vertę didina ta aplinkybė, kad nei sovietmečiu, nei vėliau čia nepristatyta daugybės neapgalvotų, nederančių ir aplinką menkinančių objektų. Ginčijamas galėtų būti šiltnamių komplekso (irgi istorinio) bei daugiaaukščių gyvenamųjų namų pakeliui į šeiminkų kapines išdėstymas ir barbariška valdytojų pastato rekonstrukcija. Tyrimų rezultatai patvirtina, kad norint išsaugoti istoriškai tikrą, patrauklią ir meniškai turtingą aplinką ar vietovę, intervencija į istorinę erdvinę struktūrą nepriimtina.

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