

Harmony of Rehabilitation Garden, Architecture and Interiors in the Brukna Manor Complex after the Functional Transformation in the 21st Century

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Abstract. The Brukna Manor complex, built in Classicism in the 18th century that was almost destroyed and used for keeping stock in the Soviet times, but renewed and functionally transformed in the 21st century for the needs of a rehabilitation centre's needs, has been analyzed in the study. In the 21st century, more and more attention is being paid to the result of the mutual influence between human beings and the nature. Nowadays rehabilitation with the use of a garden is being used near hospitals, care pensions, churches, kindergartens, schools, and prisons. Gardens, developed by specialists, help people to dispose of mental and physical suffering by ensuring expression of creative energy and activity that often has not been available to these people before, or they have known little about it. Basic principles of rehabilitation and therapeutic gardens hide not only in the esthetically enjoyable natural landscapes, but also in things that are material and to be felt by soul. The mutual harmony of rehabilitation garden, architecture and interior, developed there, allows people to clear their thoughts, communicate with each other, and participate in creation of their lives. The Brukna Manor complex and the cultural landscape makes a part of Latvian national identity that shapes inheritance of mental values from generation to generation through link to the past.

Keywords: architecture, interior, rehabilitation gardens and park, the Brukna Manor.

Introduction

The environment we live in, grow up in and spend our free time in is the one that improves our personality, gives an impression of relationship, mental and tangible values. Professor of psychiatry Kulberg in its works reflects social instability, on changes in the world in general, on termination of rituals and norms that often lead to use of harmful substances [14]. In this way the conflict of human's inner and outer feelings reflects, as a result of which human find escape from the pressure and concern in various addictions. Rush and the lack of time in the 21st century have left a definite influence also on the inhabitants of Latvia. People are tired and full of stress. Very often there is no time to listen to yourself, no talking about to listen to the other person. Rehabilitation of gardens functions in various levels that makes it as a very powerful and flexible means for improvement of health and life's quality. But it is still unexplored in depth and aimed at reinforced studying and use, at high quality, harmonious life for humans worldwide.

The World Health Organization defines health as complete physical, mental and social well-being. It predicts increase of mental health problems globally. Probably depression will serve as the second highest cause for bad health up to 2020. But in the West, excessive adiposity, heart and blood vessel diseases, and cancer will be of the factors, affecting health [17, 37]. Recently the governments, communities and health care specialists in many places worldwide have paid more attention in order

to act more actively, prevent and cure mental diseases, often causing physical illness. Harmony of the environment, architecture and interior is a body of positive attributes that may improve mental health for definite persons or society.

In the 21st century, more and more attention is being paid to the result of the mutual influence between human beings and the nature. Nowadays rehabilitation with the use of a garden is being used near hospitals, care pensions, churches, kindergartens, schools, and prisons. Gardens, developed by specialists, help people to dispose of mental and physical suffering by ensuring expression of creative energy and activity that often has not been available to these people before, or they have known little about it.

Such rehabilitation in Latvia is being provided in Bauska District, Dāviņu Parish, the Brukna Manor. Basic principles of rehabilitation and therapeutic gardens hide not only in the esthetically enjoyable natural landscapes, but also in things that are material and to be felt by soul. The mutual harmony of rehabilitation garden, architecture and interior, developed there, allow people to clear their thoughts, communicate with each other, and participate in creation of their lives.

Aim of the paper: to summarize aspects of rehabilitation garden, architecture and interior's (indoor/outdoor) mutual harmony in the Brukna Manor complex that as a result of functional transformation from the 18th century Baltic German

family's dwelling house was transformed in the 21st century rehabilitation centre. To define priority factors for outdoor/indoor harmony of objects of such type in Latvia in order to get closer to general principles in outdoor/indoor harmony with inductive study method. To create description of the Brukna Manor garden, park and interior's description for the current situation after the transformation of the 21st century. *Tasks:*

- to study and define stylistic features of the Brukna Manor architecture by comparing it in history and nowadays; to define factors of architectural harmony;
- to study and define stylistic features of the Brukna Manor interior by comparing it in history and nowadays; to define factors of interior harmony;
- to create analysis of the current scenic park complex, based on historical materials of the Brukna Manor garden, by defining the bodies of philosophical, architectural, esthetic aspects and ecological aspects of landscape that appear after the 21st century transformation;
- to define factors and priorities of manor's garden and park, building architecture, and its interiors mutual harmony.

Materials and Methods

For the study the Brukna Manor complex, built in Classicism in the 18th century, that was almost destroyed and used for stock keeping in the Soviet times, but in the 21st century – renewed and functionally transformed for the needs of a rehabilitation centre was chosen. Since 1995 *Kalna svētību kopiēna*, registered as a non-governmental organization in 2001, has been working in the historical manor complex. It was set up and is run by the dean of Roman Catholic church Andrejs Mediņš. Already for 17 years community's volunteers arrive in Brukna from various Latvian cities, seeking for shelter and hope to begin a life of full value again, who wish to get released from narcotics, alcohol and gambling or just settle their lives [8]. In the framework of rehabilitation process reconstruction works in manor building and territory improvement works have taken place, as well as construction of new buildings is being continued.

As the main method for studying of architecture and interiors was the comparative method that expresses as informative, archival and photo analysis. While inspecting the object in nature, photo images of architecture and interior were made with digital camera Sony X Peria C6603. Stylistic features of building architecture and interior (composition, coloristics, proportions – massiveness, filigreeing, glazing fields, level of emotionality), harmony in mutual interaction of garden, architecture and interior were analyzed.

In study of the Brukna Manor complex's garden and park landscape, inventarization has been used, taking into consideration the preserved historical materials. The landscape of manor's garden and the park's landscape was studied by field study method – by studying the current situation in the summer and autumn in order to define more precisely perspectives of sights and changes of landscape, colority, emotions and general harmony in various seasons. While inspecting the object in nature, photo fixations of the garden and park were made with digital camera Fujifilm FinePix S7000.

The community serves also as the cultural centre *The Brukna Manor* that in the territory of the manor organizes concerts, summer camps for Christian children and teenagers, workshops for painters and ceramists, music workshops, conferences, Bible classes; every year Renaissance music and garden festival takes place.

Kalna svētību kopiēna is a place for mental and physical rehabilitation for people with addictions. The community's structure comes from the model of drug addicts' community *Senacolo* that is located in Međugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, mental supporter being Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Her photo decorates the wall of the manor's main entrance. Through prayers for God's blessing *Kalna svētību kopiēna* helps people who have lost hope and by failing to find the reason of living, have fallen into drug addiction, alcohol or other addictions. Nature, season change, rhythm of liturgical time, prayers, field works, care of reconstruction and maintaining of the Brukna Manor give an opportunity to people clear themselves both physically and mentally, and come back to normal life [27, 2]. Jesus is in the centre of the community's life. Problems in human souls are being cured through prayers. The length of rehabilitation and social adaptation in the Brukna Manor is individual – from 1 to 3 years. The main problem of these people do not cover narcotics, alcohol, gambling or other addictions, but the lack of willingness to live and lack of aim for life that have to be found through mental harmony and work therapy.

Results and Discussion

Features of the Brukna Manor complex architecture and interior after the 21st century transformation

With the spread of enlightenment ideas (in the 2nd part of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century), Classicism became the leading style in the whole Europe. In the territory of Latvia, Classicism appeared in the third quarter of the 18th century due to the influence of intellectuals of Baltic Germans. It reflected principles of town planning, construction of dwelling houses, public houses and household buildings. Also in countryside, in big manor centers at that time

outstanding ensembles were created that successfully became part of the surrounding landscape. As an example Eleja Manor, built by the project of the architect from St. Petersburg Dz. Kvarengi has to be mentioned here. Laconic, strict and monumental constructions are characteristic to the building. Sides of the facade are developed in majestic restraint, only central part of the building is decorated by portico of six columns with fronton. This architecture gained a significant appreciation and inspired many followers. For example, on the basis of aforementioned project J. Berlicis had made stylistically close ensembles in Kazdanga and Mežotne. Also in other places in Latvia, manor complexes in Classicism, balanced in forms, perfectly proportioned manor complexes the only decorative accent of which was symmetrically placed portico of various columns in facade of the building.

Classicism reflected itself also in construction of household buildings; those were barns of manors, stables, barns for keeping corn, and other buildings [5]. The Brukna Manor Castle is located in Bauska District, Dāviņu Parish, in the shore of the River Iecava. In the opposite of the manor, there is the Brukna castle mound. Its building has taken place since the 3rd quarter of the 18th century, rebuilt in the 2nd quarter of the 19th century; it was owned by von Korfu family. Initially the castle was built in Classicism. That is one-floor building with two-floor central scope of the building to which in both facades flatten flat porticoes with Ionic order pilasters and two side blocks that project along the yard, by creating double T-type plan in the park side.

A part of the wooden decoration, some shutters of window apertures, and brass pivots with acorn woodcut are preserved until nowadays. Wooden winding stairs, leading to the second floor of the manor, are authentic. From 1927 to 1931 repair works took place in the manor house, but already in 1935 rebuilding was being discussed in order to adapt it for the needs of a school and pupils. From 1919 until 1966 primary school was located in the manor house, in the castle a primary school of 4 forms with five teachers, and the government building were established there [24].

After closing of the school, rebuilding works of the manor house relate to construction of a number of door openings, enclosed with walls, and partition walls in order to make separate apartments in the building. Near the big hall of the castle, stage and room for cinema operator were created [27]. In the manor complex, manor house, two barns and cattle-shed have preserved until nowadays. Buildings have been set up around the parade yard, from one side covered by the barn, but in the opposite – by the cattle-shed.

The distance between Brukna and Bauska is 25 km. When driving 15 km from Bauska on the dusty Aizkraukle road (P87) that still awaits for the asphalt cover, the turn to left has to be taken in order to arrive in the Brukna Manor [3]. A surprise awaits the drivers today on side of countryside road, traditionally distant and low-populated: perfectly renovated manor in Classicism with set garden (Fig. 1). To the building of the manor, simple and clear stereometric scope of the building, closely one on another and one behind another set elements, peace, definiteness and nobility are characteristic that are highlighted by order system based on four white Ionic pilasters (flat porticoes) on background of main facades, colored in yellow. In the plannings of the building dominance of right angles and lines prevail by giving out laws of eternal harmony and beauty the roots of which may be found already in the Ancient world [11].

After the collapse of the Soviet occupation regime, the Brukna Manor was in miserable condition. In the dwelling house of baron von Korfu, as if stock was being kept. In the place of the current kitchen, there was a countryside shop. But by looking through the roof of the smashed up inner rooms, it was possible to count stars (from personal communication with Penders, A. 13.02.2014. – community's participant for many years). The dean Andrejs Mediņš, when serving in Talsi, faced a necessity to create a rehabilitation centre. An opportunity appeared to privatize the Brukna Manor, which at that time was uncared-for. The geographic location of the Manor also turned out to be suitable – proper distance from centers of social life, motorways. The silence and peace, prevailing around, gently sloping mounds, overgrown with woods that are supplemented by the calm flow of the River Iecava, create picturesque environment that architecture of the Manor and idea of the creation of a rehabilitation centre perfectly fits in.

Currently the building of the Manor has been renovated in its initial look that due to the monumental features of the Classicism form harmonic interaction with the surrounding natural landscape (Fig. 1; 2), garden in Renaissance style. The compositional harmony has been achieved by using axis of central symmetry that begins from the highway, crosses front yard, by etching the central fountain in the middle of the field. By breaking through the planning of the building, the central axis enters into the garden by organizing its structure around it. Various sculptures and the central fountain of the garden (Fig. 2) have been set in accordance to the central axis that ends at pedestal of monumental sculpture.



Fig.1. View on the Brukna manor complex from the drive
[Source: photo by author Aija Grietēna personal archive, 2014].



Fig. 2. View on the brukna manor from the garden
[Source: photo by author Aija Grietēna personal archive, 2014].

The elegant architectural proportions of Classicism, historically approbated, softly resound to the garden by creating mutual harmony and transition. The yellow coloring of the facade, enriched with white architectonic details in the facades of the building (window frames of elongated glazing bars, light grey socle, Ionic pilasters, cornices, etc.), witnesses about Classicism in everything, including the coloristic aspect. The nobility is reflected by the entrance motives – four angel sculptures and the edge of stairs, decorated with four classic flower vases in the main facade of the building from the road leading to the Manor (Fig. 1), two lion sculptures and the edge of stairs, decorated with flower vases from the garden (Fig. 2) and the edge of stairs, decorated with classic flower vases in the side facade that currently serves as the main entrance in everyday life.

The above-mentioned central symmetry axis of the complex is crossed by the other axis, defined by the planning of the Manor's building in longitudinal direction. The initial decoration of the interior has been lost. Today the linear planning is characteristic to the interior, creating halls of various size, linked consecutively with double doors. To this style, spatial depth of visual perspective is characteristic due to the etched location of inner donors between the halls.

The Manor's interior has a unique, inimitable aura, as with the history merging with the contemporary art an environment, suitable for living, is achieved without the smell of naphthalene and formal atmosphere of a museum.

For the decoration of premises, features characteristic to Classicism have been used: profiled cornices and decoration on the ceiling of gyps, framing the paintings on the ceiling and walls (Fig. 3). These works have been made in the 21st century, and the wreaths of leaves, flowers, blossoms, ribbons and clouds, reflected in them, are painted in more realistic manner, not so much in stylistic that is characteristic to Classicism [16]. Premises have been furnished mainly with furniture of Ancient Classicism or of style, derived from it, and household objects: chandeliers, candlesticks, etc. Also the decoration for the fireplace, made in nowadays, is corresponding to the style. The premises and their walls are decorated with paintings of various centuries and sculptures.

According to the historical drawings of the library that were found, nowadays the Manor's library furnishings were made of massive wood (Fig. 3), although with slight changes – resigning from the back of the double bookcase system that at some point of time most probably was used for keeping valuables and securities. The library furnishings that occupy all the room, including the only window in it, has been made in strict

architectonic manner, characteristic to Classicism. The furnishings have rectangular shape with order system that imitates shape of a classic temple [16]. The sash-door of the bookcases are decorated by round columns the traditional place of pedestals and chapters of which is marked with turned balls of massive wood. They support cornice of massive wood that is impressively profiled and round ends of the roof, decorated with medallions. The ceiling has been painted in pastel tones, reflecting cloudy sky with silhouettes of flying swallows. There are no authentic evidence of interiors of other premises; nowadays they have been furnished similarly to the analogues of that time.

For example, the dining-room is decorated with wallpaper, printed with green, stylish motives of flowers and plants, and paintings, reflecting the Holy way of the Cross of Jesus Christ. Above the long dining-table, on the ceiling, two big chandeliers that perfectly supplement the mantelpiece of massive wood, decorated with Ionic chapitels and made nowadays, show off (Fig. 4).

The main accent in the dining-hall that is connected with festive hall is the painted ceiling that are enclosed, as a frame for the painting, white, richly profiled ceiling cornice with ornaments of golden color. The ceiling painted with fine garlands of flowers, leaves and ribbons on background of light blue sky and white clouds correspond to the features of Classicism. Fine proportions of architectonic forms add solemnity and harmony to the hall. Here the row of oblong windows with decorative ledges along one wall of the hall that opens up a view to Renaissance garden in the frame of curtains by creating continued festival outdoors has to be especially mentioned (Fig. 5). Undoubtedly harmonic dialogue between the interior and the garden may be felt.

Whereas an opposite, meditative character is expressed by the chapel, set in the basement, the lightened up and painted ceiling vault, and the walls of which create the feeling of light and peace, helping to find dialogue with God.

The walls of the chapel's anteroom have been painted, the painting's decorative edges in flowing manner pass over to painting on the ceiling due to the rounded connection between walls and ceiling. The volunteers of the Manor with the help of piece of glass renewed the wooden stairs that lead down to the chapel in the vaults. The entrance in the chapel is decorated by contemporary sculpture of Jesus (Fig. 6). Stairs lead down to the chapel and the entrance to it is protected by heads of angels of plaster, attached to the ceiling in the door openings (Fig. 7). In the whole interior of this building, the presence of angels may be felt that materializes in various forms of sculptures and paintings. The Egyptian hall with topically corresponding

painting on the ceiling and wall decoration that serves for classes of art therapy in the framework of the rehabilitation has to be especially mentioned.

By studying the stylistic features of the Brukna Manor's interior and comparing it to the history, it may be concluded that the interior, just as the scope of the building corresponds to the Classicism and forms stylistic harmony. The coloristic, emotional and functional variety of the premises, rich saturation in details is low-keyed in principles of the Classicism. This method has formed an environment that quite successfully join the majestic character of the Manor's premises with cosy comfort. Environment as a living organism, located in continuous changes, has been created for living, not for the sterile needs of a museum. Currently the inner rooms are in the formation process and witness about the search for harmony.

Currently the construction of The Brukna St. Apostle's chapel is being continued due to the donation, collected during the charity concerts [28]. The chapel is planned similar to the Karsa Cathedral, built during the time of Bgratid dynasty under the aegis of King Aba approximately from 929 to 940. According to Armenian historian Stepfan Asogik 'the cathedral is built of stone blocks, covered with steel planes. On the upper part, there was a round dome, similar to sky vault'. Its name Svēto apustuļu was registered in the 19th century and testifies that the cathedral was decorated by 12 apostle figures on the cathedral's cylindrical part. The chapel that is currently being built in Brukna is from claydite blocks, for the decoration dolomite stone blocks, forged on the spot are being used, but in the future it is planned to place figures of apostles on ground level the total number of which would reach 14, to commemorate those apstotles who joined Jesus in the misison that started later. The works are being done by the inhabitants of the community *Kalna svētību kopiena* who are the participants of the rehabilitation program for fighting addictions under supervision of an experienced master. In the surroundings of the Manor building, pavement works are taking place, in the southern facade of the building, a circle with a fountain has been paved, benches and arches are being placed in the garden.

A special attention is being paid to the creation of an attractive landscape; it is a part of the Brukna Manor's 'long-term development strategy, being implemented by the community *Kalna svētību kopiena* by attracting financing of European Union Structural Funds', informs the project manager Terezija Lasmane. In 2012, society implemented the next in turn project of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) for the improvement and availability measures of the Brukna Manor. The assigned financing in amount of more than 8'000 lats was spent for purchase of 50 garden benches, 8 arches, a water pump that was placed in the Renaissance garden.



Fig. 3. Interior of the Brukna manor library
[Source: photo by author Aija Grietēna personal archive, 2014].



Fig. 4. Fragment of the mantelpiece of the Brukna Manor dining-hall [Source: photo by author Aija Grietēna personal archive, 13.04.2014].



Fig. 5. View from the interior to the graden [Source: photo by author Aija Grietēna personal archive, 2014].



Fig. 6. Anteroom of the chapel
[Source: photo by author Aija Grietēna personal archive, 2014].



Fig. 7. Decoration over the entrance in the chapel
[Source: photo by author Aija Grietēna
personal archive, 2014].

This year a fountain was placed in the garden, shed for soup pot and bell stand were built that was beyond the framework of the project. The EAFRD projects, programs of the Environmental Protection Fund and Hipotēku banka have been implemented. A new financing has been assigned for creation of a new, spacious potter workshop with skylights and heat-insulated walls. The Manor's household building will be renewed by rebuilding it as dwelling of the community's inhabitants. It will provide with an opportunity to welcome in more short-term guests to the Manor that simply wish to recover from the everyday stress and rush, to revive mentally. Volunteers regularly come to help in the community's work, donate funds, materials, agricultural produce, says Terezija Lasmane [29]. In total, 5 development projects have been implemented in the Manor, and this year the 6th will be implemented.

In January, 2012 10 year anniversary was celebrated since the community *Kalna svētību kopiena* functions in the Brukna Manor (personal communication with Penders, A. 13.02.2014 – participant of the community for many years). Every summer, summer camps for Catholic teenagers and children, pilgrimages, recollections, concerts and Bible lessons take place here [19]. In the Brukna Manor already traditionally annual Renaissance festival, concerts, theatres are being organized participants of which are the participants of the community itself, artists, popular in Latvia and in the world. The dean Mediņš says – ‘We are unique in that we do not have neither medicine, nor psychotherapy, only the Rule of Saint Benedict who established the Order of Saint Benedict that is based on two principles – prayers and work. It is a lifestyle that helps to release oneself from everything that human destroys or wounds oneself with. But the most important is communication, as family forms the basis for everything, which is why we all pray together in the community, work together, relax together. These people who look for help have faced the lack of family. An incomplete family,

a wounded family or family without love is in the basis of a misfortune [8]. The participants of the rehabilitation program do not use media, cell phones in order to seek for God in silence – all pray to Jesus Christ, independently of the confession. The agenda is strict and the day begins at 6 a. m., and it follows like this – at 7:30 – morning prayer, at 8:00 – breakfast which is followed by work, at 12:00 – tea pause, at 14:00 – lunch, afternoon work, at 19:00 – night prayer, at 20:00 – supper, which is followed by cleaning of premises. Everyone who seeks for help is being helped. No one is questioned before the broken-hearted person begins the discussion himself. A person is not legally bound in the community, he/she is free to come and leave again when feels ready to continue its way independently.

Features of the Brukna Manor's garden and park complex after the transformation of the 21st century

Historical review on arts of gardens for mental rehabilitation

The founder of l'Arche community Jean Vanier has worked with defected people throughout the world. In his works, he describes the inner essence of a human that hides the mix of light and dark, confidence and fear, love and hatred. There a hidden world of darkness and sadness in every human being that is ready to appear with greater or less great power. As a Christian adviser, he highlights the idea that a human heart is fragile and vulnerable. The contemporary world makes a person to forget about his inner world, but it exists and does not fade away with all wounds of life. It dominates over and influences substantially the inner and outer harmony of a person during the lifetime, by not acknowledging it himself [31]. While not revealing their fears, pain and emotional experiences, people shrink into themselves, and they try to fulfill the inner emptiness with addictions. But independently from the outer shallowness of the world, the garden rehabilitation, harmonic architecture and interior has the ability to awake hope and willingness to understand who I am, what is MY reason to live in people.

Rehabilitation is based on one of the basic human needs – mental and physical harmony – short-term relaxation from the rush. It expresses more truly through nature, religion, communication and pleasant occupation the basis of which is determination – the main feature of human activity [32].

The nature is peaceful and harmonic which is why there is less stress in it. Throughout the whole world garden is being reflected as a confined and safe place to be found shelter in from the sadness and pain [18]. This assertion only intensifies the

positive influence on the rehabilitation process. By being more in fresh air and in nature, the length of the rehabilitation period decreases [25, 26]. Rehabilitation through work is being applied in practice in so many countries. The use of garden landscape in curing and rehabilitation has a long history.

Already in 1699 Leonard Meager in its paper English Gardener suggests people to spend more time in a garden. There is no better way of preserving one's health that by digging, planting or weeding in the garden [15]. Textures, smells and colors of plants create harmony in a person, allowing to clear thoughts and find peace.

Also in 1810 in the book by Goethe Theory of Colors studies on influence of optics on person's psyche may be found, in which the author highlights significance of emotions and experience in the process of color perceiving by humans. The surrounding environment influences not only the way of thinking but also the intellectual development of a person. [10]. Also the psychiatrist and signer of the United States Declaration of Independence Dr. Benjamin Rush in one of his first descriptions in American medicine declares that 'digging in the garden' and 'cutting wood', to be helpful to 'sufferers of mania' [21].

Plants, trees, light, water and other elements of the surrounding nature and environment are able to produce different feelings, and the curing power of these elements has been used already in previous centuries by creating gardens near Medieval monasteries, hospitals, pavilion system hospitals of the 19th century, homes and sanatoriums of the beginning of the 20th century.

Starting from the middle of the 20th century, the curing rehabilitation gardens of the medical institutions in the Western countries gradually disappeared. It may be explained by the rapid development in medicine and other technologies. The balconies and terraces for ventilation were replaced by modern ventilation systems. As a result of influence of the rapid development, the medical institutions lost the beautiful views through windows. A rapid grow of urban landscape took place by forgetting about the green nature and its curing power. After the Second World War, the hospitals were built like buildings of many floors, not like buildings of pavilion style by paying more attention to comfort of hospital staff, not to comfort of patients [9]. Gardens near the medical institutions were created by basing on medical equipment of high value in technological sense, ignoring emotional needs of patients, families, employees for mental recovery in outdoors [6].

The Brukna Manor garden and park after the transformation of the 21st century

The Brukna Manor complex and its surrounding cultural landscape is a part of Latvian national identity forms inheritance of mental values from generation to generation through a connection to the past. It may not be denied that in the new socially economic conditions the majority of the fragile, architectonic and historical landscape spaces face significant changes in respect of property relations that bring also distinct interests of property running that in rural municipality territories sometimes have character of elemental development [35]. After the land reform, that was not fully implemented until summer of 1940 the alienated manors were often used for state needs as buildings of administrative institutions, general schools and schools of vocational training, sanatoriums, societies and cultural institutions. The premises of different management, cultural and other institutions did not have such requirements in respect to the type of the usable premises and the level of improvement as it was later and especially in the beginning of the 21st century [13]. The choice for construction of the Brukna Manor in a landscape, rich of waters, witnesses of aristocratic countryside lifestyle, rich of English traditions, deeply linked with sentimentality and romantically esthetic sound, rooted from Rousseu's ideas in Latvia [23]. The Brukna Manor park, as near the all Classicism manors in Latvia at that time, has been made as exquisite background for buildings [36] that mutually form values of architecture and environmental landscape. The garden near the castle was made in the end of the 18th century that even nowadays is still decorated by rows of lime-trees, planted in terraces in slope of the garden to the River Iecava side [33].

Although the Brukna Manor complex with heritage value that was almost destroyed in the Soviet times and even used for keeping stock, it was renewed and transformed functionally for the needs of a rehabilitation centre in the 21st century. By managing this valuable environment preservation and enrichment of harmonic Manor's with heritage value and identity of landscape space has been reached that provides the whole society with an opportunity to enjoy preserved manor of cultural inheritance with the surrounding landscape space also nowadays. The scale and feeling of proportion in the Manor's park reflect the positive attitude of people to features of local and regional landscapes, architecture and art. Transformation processes, taking place after the 21st century in the Brukna Manor, have preserved and taken into consideration harmony between the scope of the Manor's building and the common context of nature basis, silhouetted from the very roots.

The Castle gradually returns into its previous shape, the lost interior is obtaining new solutions that are being implemented by the inhabitants themselves. The first addicts arrived here for the recovery already in 1995 and then several premises of the Manor were renovated, including the big hall with magnificent decorations on the ceiling. Above the entrance of the chapel, one of community's volunteers who is being cured from alcoholism, has created bright paintings of water landscapes in harmonic blue and green tones that match the distant view above the water landscape. Sight lines have been renewed in the landscape space of the Manor, symmetry made in the geometric-style garden, relief and the old road's bed preserved, and water landscapes put in order (Fig. 8).

The earth owed by the Brukna Manor is 13.6 ha. The park's territory is 6.7 ha that currently may be slightly wider, as the territory of the prospective church is to be added. The complex of the Manor is functionally in united respect located in landscape where the main building is placed in the highest

point of the surroundings. A typical feature in Latvian historic manors' landscape parks was use of natural landscape. Just as other manors, also this one is located on a hill with perspective views on natural and artificial water reservoirs [7]. Like to many other manors, the main road Brukna-Baltiņi-Bārbele leads to the Manor house of the parade yard or to the front of the Manor leads from the side (Fig. 9) through alley of old linden-trees (*Tilia cordata L.*), in direction west-east. From the road the parade yard is being decorated by a round fountain, and plantings of green hostas (*Hosta L.*) and roses (*Rosa L.*) in a form of circle around the fountain (Fig. 10).

Unlike parks of other manors, developed in low-land, the coulisses and closings of outgoing view perspectives of the landscape of the Brukna park are natural. It is rich of waters and meadows that makes this place as a harmonic and relaxing oasis for everyone who comes here. Blue and green views of water landscapes with bushes of silver willows (*Salix alba L.*) harmonically resounds with the wall paintings (Fig. 6) near the entrance to the chapel.



Fig. 8. Planning of the current situation of the Brukna manor complex in 2014
[Source: plan designer Linda Balode's, 2014].

1 – The Brukna Manor; 2 – The Household building; 3 – St. Apostles Chapel; 4 – Herb bed; 5 – Limekiln; 6 – Grotto; 7 – The Renaissance geometrical garden; 8 – Labyrinths of hawthorn; 9 – Cattle-shed; 10 – Sauna; 11 – The historic place of linden alley, offshoot of lindens; 12 – Stairs of Rose garden; 13 – The island with the chapel of the Christ's revelation; 14 – The Garden of fruit and berries; 15 – The Parade yard with the fountain; 16 – The arable land; 17 – The pasture land; 18 – Foalted, swampy lake; 19 – The River Iecava; 20 – Kitchen in the garden.



Fig. 9. View on the Brukna Manor from the road Brukna-Baltiņi-Bārbele [Source: photo by author Linda Balode's personal archive, 2013].



Fig. 10. The fountain in the southern facade's side [Source: photo by author Linda Balode's personal archive, 2013].



Fig. 11. The pool with the fountain in the Renaissance geometric garden [Source: photo by author Linda Balode's personal archive, 2013].



Fig. 12. View perspectives from the second floor of the Brukna Manor on the geometric garden [Source: photo by author Linda Balode's personal archive, 2013].

The garden near the Castle has been made in the end of the 18th century, in which there were terraces with lanes of clipped lindens (*Tilia cordata L.*) [33] that after cutting down with new browses may be felt even today. Near to the lane of lindens, in the hollow of hillside, a labyrinth of hawthorn (*Crataegus L.*) hedgegrow has been made, the cultivation of which is inconvenient.

Starting from 2002, the community *Kalna svētību kopiēna* has begun the creation of a garden in Renaissance style in front of the northern facade of the Brukna Manor; in 2011 due to the project *Renewal of the Renaissance Garden*, financed by the bank *Hipotēku un zemes banka*, the garden has achieved even brighter looks. The idea for garden planning has come from the Italian monasteries' gardens of the 15th and the 16th century. The flourishing period of the regular gardens began with the Renaissance in Italy already in the 14th century. They are called gardens of Italian style. Already in the ancient history, the promoters of Renaissance was the clergy of the Catholic church [20, 4]. The garden shows off and attracts attention with fine elegance, order and complexity. The main features of them are the following: the cooling effect of water, refreshing shadow of leafages, and the strict architectural and symmetric planning that corresponds to the proportions and symmetry of the Manor's building. The regularly axial composition of the Brukna Manor's garden has been created from boxwoods (*Buxus sempervirens L.*), decorative vegetables and herbs. Carrots (*Daucus carota sativu, L.*), beet (*Beta vulgaris L.*), cabbage (*Brassica oleracea L., var. Capitata*) are being planted in geometric stalls, cultivated and harvested by the community in autumn for communal meals. Cultures are being changed every year by symbolizing changeability in the world. Fields of plants and vegetables in various green tones are mutually linked in harmony and they highlight the magnificent mobility of the renovated Manor. Nowadays the regular beds with big fields with some plant groups have become less popular in comparance to landscapic irregular beds, however the regular ones create an immediate and impressive effect. A symmetric axis is in the centre of the geometric garden where crossings, created from grass, are highlighted by round beds and a fountain with 3 levels, domes of cascade type, above which the water flows into the concrete pool of a rectangular form (Fig. 11).

Architectonic elements – decorative flower vases, sculptures, benches, arches and other creations in the garden, like other parts of it, make commensurate proportions in order not to oppress the main building. In the regular garden, such simple geometric forms of highlighting plants as spheres, cones have been chosen, but the whole garden is

covered by rectangular planting of white cedars (*Thuja occidentalis L.*). To highlight the depth, expression of form and sculptures, arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis L.*) have been planted in geometric ornaments in parallel to the symmetric axis of the garden, ensuring successfully the vertical accent and helping to highlight the symmetry and proportions of the planning. Parallely, in both sides of the geometric garden daylilies (*Hemerocallis fulva L.*) have been planted. To fully enjoy the view on the garden or separate details of it, it is the best to look at it from the up – the upper floor of the building, terrace or some other high point (Fig. 12). The popular scientist of Renaissance architects Leon Battiste Alberti (1404–1472) by describing a Renaissance landscape has said: ‘There (in the Garden) you may sit and enjoy clear brilliant days and beautiful prospects over wooded hills and sunlit plains, and listen to the murmuring fountains among the tufted grass’ [1]. Also in the evening’s twilight the Renaissance garden of the Manor sends out feelings, rich with emotions. During the Renaissance festival, romantic white wooden benches and white wooden arches are placed in the territory, and the geometric garden is decorated with burning torches and outdoor candles, but the facades of the Manor are enlightened in various tones by creating an additional play of lights and harmony also in the dark. The garden of the Manor reflects magical feelings, making people to come back again and again.

Along the eastern facade of the Manor, Eastern arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis L.*) have been planted, separate from which, in the parallel lane uncountable sorts of peonies (*Paeonia lactiflora Pall.*) with white, red and pink flowers are growing.

Near to the parallel plantation of peonies and arborvitae, the so-called rose stairs are leading down, started with pergola, twined with sweat peas (*Lathyrus odoratus L.*). On both sides of the stairs, plantation of different sorts of roses (*Rosa L.*) may be seen. A landscapic meadow on the shore of the River Iecava may be seen over the brightly flowering roses with a countryside sauna near ponds of landscapic forms (Fig. 14). A bridge with a platform of cross form leads to the sauna over the biggest pond. On the banks of the pond, natural meadow plants are growing, but near the sauna – quite a big chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum L.*). In the landscape of the river valley, the sauna may be seen also from the gravel road, leading to the Manor. Harmony in the park is brought by the landscape of the River Iecava’s naturally winding banks that meanders along the southern-northern side by crossing the gravel road Brukna-Baltiņi-Bārbele, leading to the Manor. In summers, the gravel road dries up and is very dusty which creates



Fig. 13. Parallel plantation along the eastern facade of the Manor [Source: photo by author Linda Balode’s personal archive, 2013].



Fig. 14. In the landscapic meadow of the sauna near the River Ievaca [Source: photo by author Linda Balode’s personal archive, 2013].



Fig. 15. The pergola of the Manor’s fruit garden [Source: photo by author Linda Balode’s personal archive, 2013].

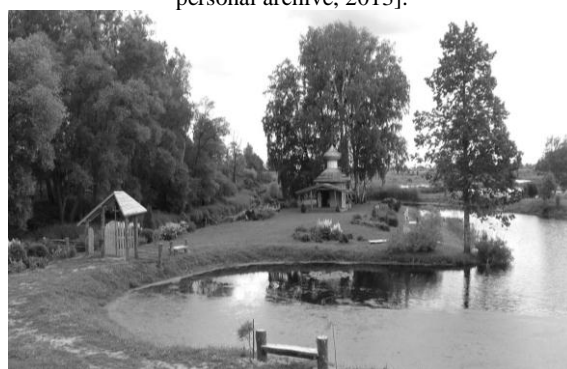


Fig. 16. A small island with praying chapel of the Christ’s revelation around the water landscape [Source: photo by author Linda Balode’s personal archive, 2013].

discomfort to the inhabitants of the Manor. It is planned to reconstruct and improve it. It would not be recommendable to plant the road tightly with lanes of plantation for protection, as therefore the beautiful panorama views, seen from the southern facade of the Manor over swampy ponds and landscaped fields, would be lost. On the southern side of the Manor complex, on the other side of the road, there is a new garden of fruit and berries. A pergola with a lane of grapes (*Vitis vinifera L.*) (Fig. 15), more than 10 m long, has been created that continues the common feature of the garden's axis and leads down to a swampy lake.

There is a small swamp garden, consisting of two beds with cranberries (*Vaccinium macrocarpon Ait.*), with quite big berries. To create a positive environment for the cranberries, plantation of new pines (*Pinus sylvestris L.*) has been created near. The fruit garden is supplemented by lanes of new apples (*Malus domestica L.*), blackcurrants (*Ribes nigrum L.*), redcurrants (*Ribes rubrum L.*) and European gooseberries (*Ribes uva-crispa L.*) in rhythmic plantation in southern-western direction apple trees are of half height, basically – winter and autumn's, some – summer's. There are also Latvian sour cherries (*Prunus cerasus L.*). In eastern direction from the fruit garden, near the swampy water landscape, there is a place of a hearth where people from Latvia and other countries gather for common dinner of spiritual festivals during them. That is communication between people and in harmony with the nature. The majority of events take place in the natural environment.

In the southern-eastern furthest side of the Manor's park, around the bridge of the River Iecava, praying chapel of the Christ's revelation is located (Fig. 16).

Between the river and the pond of landscaped form, a small island shapes where you may sit and enjoy the peace of nature by listening to the murmur of the flowing river. The banks of the River Iecava have widely open landscapes and views of bank water. The entrance to the chapel's island is enclosed by interesting wooden gates, along which the newly-planted mountain-ash (*Sorbus aucuparia 'Pendula'*) shows off. More close to the bank, near the gates, newly-planted Norway maple (*Acer platanoides L.*) grows. The opposite bank is decorated by white willows (*Salix alba L.*), but the chapel is displayed on the background of white silver birches (*Betula alba L.*). Around the chapel, flower beds, of landscaped curving lines, with different sorts of conifers and witergrees, such as Siberian iris (*Iris sibirica L.*), orange daylilies (*Hemerocallis fulva L.*), goatsbeards (*Aruncus dioicus L.*), meadow cranesbills (*Geranium pratense L.*), fanals (*Astilbe x arendsii L.*), spotted deadnettle (*Lamium maculatum L.*), hostas (*Hosta L.*) etc. have

been planted. The banks of the pond are decorated by some rhododendron bushes (*Rhododendron L.*), supplemented by shrubby cinquefoils (*Potentilla fruticosa L.*), Japanese spiraeas (*Spiraea japonica L.*), lemoines (*Weigela praecox L.*) and natural reeds on the bank. On the bank of the pond a new oak (*Quercus robur L.*) casts a shadow in summertime days. Trees have been mentioned in Herbert W. Schroeder's studies on aesthetics and relaxation as having psychological value. Trees, bushes, the united views on a landscape affects our mood, emotions, joy. Schroeder believes that it roots from the beginning of human evolution. Undoubtedly the reception of the joint landscape and harmony in which open viewing line, further places of view, grassy, ground plane and sparse trees, reducing as landscaped park are important moments. It serves as an ideal place to find a shelter mentally and feel comfortable in [22].

There are not only landscapes, rich of waters, Renaissance geometric garden of vegetables and fruit in the Manor's complex, but also meadows with biological variety, used for driving the castle to pasture. The community is based on the grounds of natural economy. People of the community take care of the animals, including horses, pigs, hen and other. For pollination of the fruit garden, several bee-hives have been set near the swampy pond. Some time ago also helixes were grown here. Communication and care of animals also is some kind of rehabilitation, amassing of knowledge and a way of gaining positive energy for people of the community. The household territory is located successfully closer to the agricultural lands from the southern-eastern part of the Manor. The plantation of root-crops and herbs in Renaissance style in the northern side of the Manor are supplemented by the plantation of decorative conifers, leaf-bearing trees and wintergreens in a garden in free English style in the western part of the Manor, supplemented by different sculptural works. There is a pergola for relaxation (Fig. 17), just like near the sauna, as well as a playground of groundsel and bell stand, characteristic to manors, near to which there are herb bed with mints (*Mentha x piperita L.*), catmints (*Nepeta cataria L.*), balms or melissas (*Melissa officinalis L.*), oreganoes (*Origanum vulgare L.*) and other odorant herbs. Features of Baroque may be seen in the park. In Portuguese the Baroque is known as pearls of irregular form; it is the way the graphic of garden's elements may be described, reflecting in the images of fountains, flower vases and praying angels from gyps with wings, turned up. In the western side of the Renaissance regular garden, row of old Norway spruces (*Picea abies L.*) is partly preserved, windbroken tree to western winds (Fig. 17). After the powerful winds of 2014, only 3 of the old spruces have left. Not far from the row of



Fig. 17. Historic row of Norway spruces.
In the foreground – landscaped garden's pergola for relaxation [Source: photo by author Linda Balode's personal archive, 2013].



Fig. 18. The artificial grotto with the small garden pool and greenery [Source: photo by author Linda Balode's personal archive, 2013].

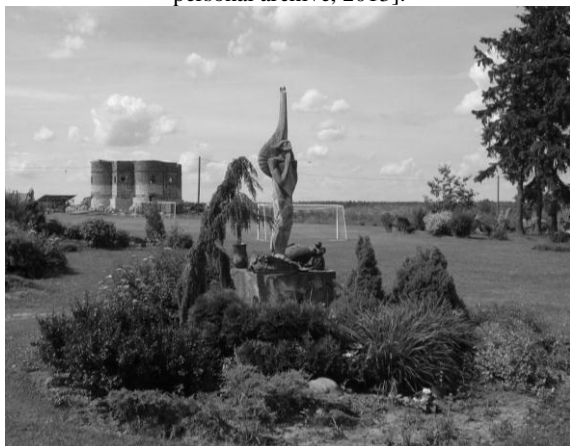


Fig. 19. The landscaped flower bed with the sculpture – praying angel. From the distance the construction of the new church may be seen [Source: photo by author Linda Balode's personal archive, 2013].

these trees, there is a potter's limekiln where the potter Evalds Vasiļevskis teaches and shares practical knowledge of pot creation.

A grotto with a small garden pool for waterlilies (*Nymphaea candida* L.), garden of stones for Siberian irises (*Iris sibirica* L.), Asiatic lilies (*Lilium asiaticum* L.) and summer flowers (Fig. 18) are made at the very end of the old trees' row, in the corner of the park. Also the grotto's niche of the Brukna Manor is decorated by the image of St. Maria, similarly like from 1918 to 1921 in the territory owned by Latvia – the Palanga Manor's grotto of Lurda, near the River Raza. The grottos, made of stones and grout, and the chapels of the manor park's have always witnessed about the religious standing of the manor owners [12]. The grotto is supplemented by wide collection of peonies (*Paeonia lactiflora* Pall.) and a new cultivation unit of pines (*Pinus sylvestris* L.). Next to the grotto, a quite big maple (*Acer platanoides* L.) grows. This emotional expressiveness in park creation next to Classicism manors may be compared to Romanticism, flourishing in the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century that expressed in small architectural forms – monuments, grottos, etc. [34].

A unique project of the sacral architecture and art is being implemented in furthest side to the west in the territory of the Brukna Manor. Works on the chapel construction that will have a classic shape of a medieval Armenian church are taking place (Fig. 19). An avenue, consisting of 14 apostles will lead around the St. Apostles chapel. The sculptor, designing them, is Sandis Aispurs who together with the artist Brigita Zelče-Aispure is the author of the interior's project for the future Brukna St. Apostles chapel.

The landscape of the Brukna Manor complex in its essence is a bright example of eclecticism. But it does not create disharmony in the landscape, just the opposite – a successful mixture of garden art styles of different times may be seen in the landscape. Every element in the Manor complex has a strictly functional and practical significance, and each of them supplements one another.

The quality of an environment, promoting rehabilitation process has a significant role that is evaluated by almost everyone who has visited the Brukna Manor. This harmonic environment radiates presence of rational and irrational peace. By summarizing the facts about the factors of the mutual harmony of The Brukna Manor territory's garden and park, building architecture, and priorities according to the functional transformation, it may be concluded that the Manor building and interior have preserved the initial features and harmony of Classicism. The architecture, supplemented by Renaissance garden, creates a balanced environment,

corresponding to rehabilitation tasks. The newly erected buildings, supplementing the complex in the 21st century, introduce stylistic variety. Despite the fact that all the Brukna Manor complex is not in one academically clear style, there is a strong organizing and linking factor for its garden, architecture and interiors – central symmetry axes, maintaining harmony despite the challenge of functional transformation. The human factor has to be

mentioned as the second factor, linking indoor and outdoor premises in creation of monolithic environment, as all the work since the beginning of the Brukna Manor's reconstruction has been run successfully by the dean Andrejs Mediņš for many years. Vertical as the central symmetry axis of mental dimension is irreplaceable report system in creation of harmonic environment.

Conclusions

- The building of the Brukna Manor, due to the fact it has been renovated according to the stylistic feature of Classicism in architecture, may be considered as standard for harmony.
- The new interiors of the Brukna Manor building create a unique synthesis of ancient heritage and contemporary art. The coloristic, emotional and functional variety, rich saturation in details is in Classicism principles. This method has created an environment that quite successfully links the majestic character of the Manor's premises with everyday cosiness. The environment as a living organism by changing continuously has been created for living, not for the sterile needs of a museum. The inner premises, currently unfinished, still witness about seeking for harmony.
- The Brukna Manor's garden and park after the functional building and landscape's transformation of the 21st century has regained their esthetic and architectonic looks that postulates in themselves through mental dimensions, feelings and attitude to things. Despite the totality of socioeconomic conditions, consciousness of values of heritage value and attitude towards the long-term use of ecologically high-valued cultural landscape in raising the cultural level in society are reflected in the landscape of the Manor's complex. By ensuring a regular management of the park's

- landscape and its helpful use in social life, a useful basis relating to the history of civilization is being created, on the basis of which awareness of the identity for local inhabitants and people, living further, especially for the new generation is being ensured.
- The Brukna Manor complex is a harmonic environment for the needs of a rehabilitation centre, linking values of material harmony and mental harmony. The building and interior of the Brukna Manor corresponds to one architectonic style – Classicism that is perfectly supplemented by a garden in Italian Renaissance style. Due to the newly erected buildings in the 21st century, the whole Brukna Manor complex has become various in stylistic sense. However, there is a strong organizing and linking factor for the garden, the architecture and interiors of the Manor's building – central symmetry axes, maintaining harmony despite the challenge of functional transformation. The human factor has to be mentioned as the second factor, linking indoor and outdoor premises in creation of monolithic environment, as all the work since the beginning of the Brukna Manor's reconstruction has been run successfully for many years by the dean Andrejs Mediņš. Vertical as the central symmetry axis of mental dimension is irreplaceable report system in creation of harmonic environment.

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Kopsavilkums. Pētījumā apkopots un analizēts 18. gs. klasicisma stilā celtais Brukņas muižas komplekss, kas padomju gados ticis teju iznīcināts un izmantots lopu turēšanai, bet 21. gs. atjaunots un funkcionāli transformēts rehabilitācijas centra vajadzībām. Šajā kompleksā ar lielu pietāti pret pagātni tikusi restaurēta muižas ēka tai raksturīgajā klasicisma stilā, kas atspoguļojas arī interjeros, meklējot harmoniju starp arhitektūras stilu, mūsdienu funkcionālajām vajadzībām un praktiskām iespējām. Šodien Brukņas muižas komplekss ar tai piegulošo teritoriju, neraugoties uz savu stilistisko daudzveidību, veido harmonisku vidi rehabilitācijas centra vajadzībām, kas apvieno gan materiālās, gan garīgās harmonijas vērtības. Veidotā vienotā rehabilitācijas dārza, arhitektūras un interjera savstarpējā harmonija ļauj cilvēkam vieglāk sakārtot domas, komunicēt vienam ar otru un iesaistīties savas dzīves veidošanā. Brukņas muižas komplekss un to ieskaujošā kultūrainava ir Latvijas nacionālās identitātes daļa, kas caur pagātni veido garīgo vērtību pārmantošanu no paaudzes paaudzē. Dārzam, muižas ēkas arhitektūrai un interjeram piemīt kāds spēcīgs organizējošs un vienojošs faktors - centrālās simetrijas asis, kas saglabā harmoniju neraugoties uz funkcionālās transformācijas radīto izaicinājumu.