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Fig. 2. View of the estate now

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#### CHURCH OF HOLY ASCENTION

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The study established that such an architectural monument holds a special place in the cultural and historical heritage of Belarus. It should be noted that the temple was built of the material that was not typical of the time. The cathedral was founded and existed at the crossroads of epochs, which naturally left its mark on the formation of its structure.

The history of Orthodox architecture is deeply connected with the canonical and dogmatic teachings; it keeps a philosophical significance, not only in doctrine but also in architecture.

Practically the entire second half of the XIX century architects speculated on the problem of formation of style in Russian architecture. The so-called pseudo-Russian style gained ground and took the greatest development in that era.

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The Church of Holy Ascension in the urban village of Rossony was built in 1836 on the southern outskirts with the money supplied by the treasury. The building was made of wood, with a bell tower, covered with shingles, and an iron dome. The stone chapel on 4 pillars belonged to the temple. There was no decoration inside except for the crucifixion of the Savior. There were 7 cemeteries attributed to the temple.

In 1879 a new temple of rubble stone and red brick was built on the site of the wooden church. Laying of quarry stone requires great effort and great skill that shows the complexity of construction (Fig. 1). It should be noted that the quarry stone was of local origin. The temple has suffered a lot of completions and reconstructions [1].



Fig. 1. Fragment of masonry

The Church of Holy Ascension is an architectural monument of Russian retrospective (pseudo-Russian) style, which is characterized by an almost complete negation of sophisticated decor.

The main feature of pseudo-Russian style is large narrow windows, made in the form of codes, roof, similar to a tower, the so-called "pot-bellied" columns, and murals with ornamental plant themes, multi-colored tiles and massive elements of forging. As for shapes, triangles, tents, "cradling" and barrels were reflected in the architectural style. The doors were decorated with columns and a canopy on consoles.

Churches, built in pseudo-Russian style, can be found in many cities and towns of Belarus. However, not everywhere you can find a temple, made of stone and red brick which combines the features of Gothic and Byzantine architecture, and which is topped with five cupolas. For example, the Church of St. Sergius of Radonezh in the village of Leskovichi (Shumilina district). The temple has a three-piece three-dimensional composition with a two-tiered bell tower located on the longitudinal axis, the central volume and a triangular apse with side altars. The facades are decorated with columns, arches and other elements of ancient architecture. The sloping roof was previously hipped with five domes. At the moment, unfortunately, it ends with a cross. Holy Ascension Church has been better preserved, which distinguishes it from other similar monuments.

The bulk of the temple in the form of a cube in the urban village of Rossony is completed with five domes. The bunk ending head bell tower with lateral extensions is joined to the temple on the oriented to the west at sunrise planning axis (Fig. 2). The main entrance is solved with heavy proportions, a squat roofed-locker on two columns in the form of barrels (a characteristic attribute of Moscow churches of XVII century). High-arched window openings are surrounded by brick architraves. [2].

The church was build "cold", without Dutch ovens. However, the quarry stone can withstand temperature extremes very well, allowing you to keep warm.

The internal decor of the temple is quite restrained. [3] The interior is dominated by white, which makes the room bright and airy. The presence of narrow large windows brings to the temple the feeling of lightness and airiness despite the massiveness of the structure itself. What was the decoration of the temple before its restructuring is not known (Fig. 3).

The church was covered with a tin roof in the center, culminating the dome, which has not survived to our time.

During the occupation of 1941-1943. the church was closed, desecrated and vandalized. In 1992, the church began to act.

Thus, after conducting architectural-planning and compositional analysis of the temple we can confidently say that it is a unique architectural monument of the XIX century on the territory of Belarus. The uniqueness of this object is specified by the fact that, having undergone numerous reconstructions, the church hasn't lost its historical and architectural appearance. It is still of interest to researchers and tourists.

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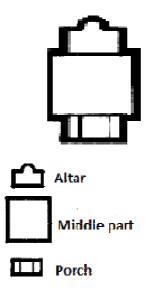


Fig. 2. Plan of the Church





Fig. 3. The modern view of the temple

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# USE DEPENDENCE OF "STRENGTH-HARDNESS" AT INSPECTION OF REBAR WITH A PORTABLE HARDNESS TESTER

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Development and improvement of methods and means of control the technical condition of reinforced concrete constructions of residential and industrial buildings, as well as special constructions is one of the most important areas in the field of quality control of materials and products. So at detailed inspection of reinforced concrete elements of buildings and structures a priority is to determine the parameters of reinforcing steel.