

UNESCO World Heritage Site

URBAN REGENERATION PLAN

OF THE HISTORIC CENTRE OF SHEKI

WITH KHAN'S PALACE



**State Tourism Agency of
the Republic of Azerbaijan**



**RESERVES
MANAGEMENT
CENTER**



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



**Historic Centre of Sheki
with the Khan's Palace**
inscribed on the World
Heritage List in 2019

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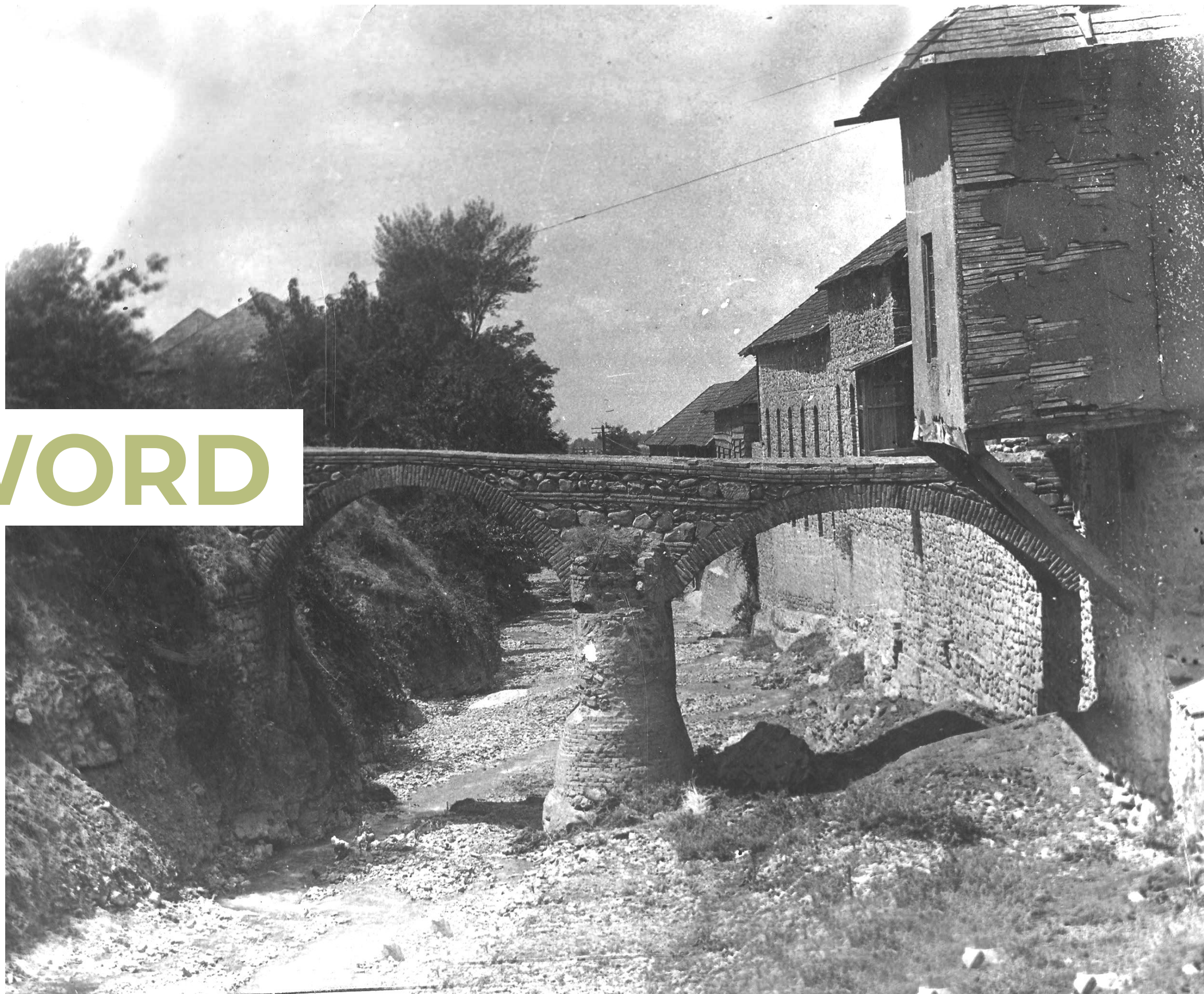
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FOREWORD



FOREWORD

WHY URBAN REGENERATION AT HERITAGE SITE

?

The Urban Regeneration Plan approach describes the path between the state of a region or city and the state it is desired to achieve and reveals the goals, and development methods.

For this purpose, we look for answers to basic questions such as "where are we", "where do we want to be", "how do we get to the designated place".

In other words, this approach is an important tool in turning potentials into opportunities, solving problems, setting priorities and realizing them. It defines the strategy and action areas for the realization of vision and goals in line with economic, social and environmental dynamics.

The Urban Regeneration Plan should determine the themes, principles and strategic goals by taking into account the short and long-term expectations of the parties in the city, to go beyond the development of the city based on its current dynamics.

This process should bring common sense, corporate and sectoral visions together, and all stakeholders should adopt this common vision.

To reach a common vision, priority areas and sectors should be determined, cooperation should be established to act towards a solution with the right timing, and public, private and civil collaborations should be defined by developing suggestions and project packages for implementation.

To reconstruct the cities, new city models and planning approaches and participatory management approaches should be discussed within the framework of a common vision.

THE URBAN REGENERATION PLAN SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING TOPICS

- **Vision-oriented urban regeneration**
- **Urban, institutional and cultural transformation**
- **Revitalizing the local economy**
- **Protection of environmental and cultural values**
- **Planning and infrastructure relationship system**
- **Cooperation with public and local governments, private sector and non-governmental organizations**
- **Creating equality opportunities**
- **Providing interdisciplinary working environments**
- **Project management**



Restoration project of Upper Caravanserai. 1970-s



INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION

Sheki is a city in northwestern Azerbaijan, in the district of the same name. Sheki city is an economic centre of Sheki-Zaqatala economical and geographical region. Nowadays, Sheki district possesses a small silk industry and relies on its agricultural sector, which produces tobacco, grapes, cattle, nuts, cereals and milk. The main production facilities of Sheki are the silk factory, gas-power plant, brick factory, wine factory, sausage factory, conserve factory and a dairy plant. Sheki city and district is one of the centres of local and foreign tourism in Azerbaijan. The number of Sheki population is 66.9 thousand people.

Geographically and spatially the city consists of two parts. The more significant and relatively modern amount is located alongside the Kish river valley limited by the Kish river from the west and Caucasian mountains ridge from the east region. Most of this part was formed in the XIX century. The city has already exhausted the fertile territory between the hill and the Kish river, protected from bad weather and flooding, and is now developing southward, into relatively steppe landscapes. In the last decade big scale new buildings constructed in the southern outskirts of the city according to masterplan.

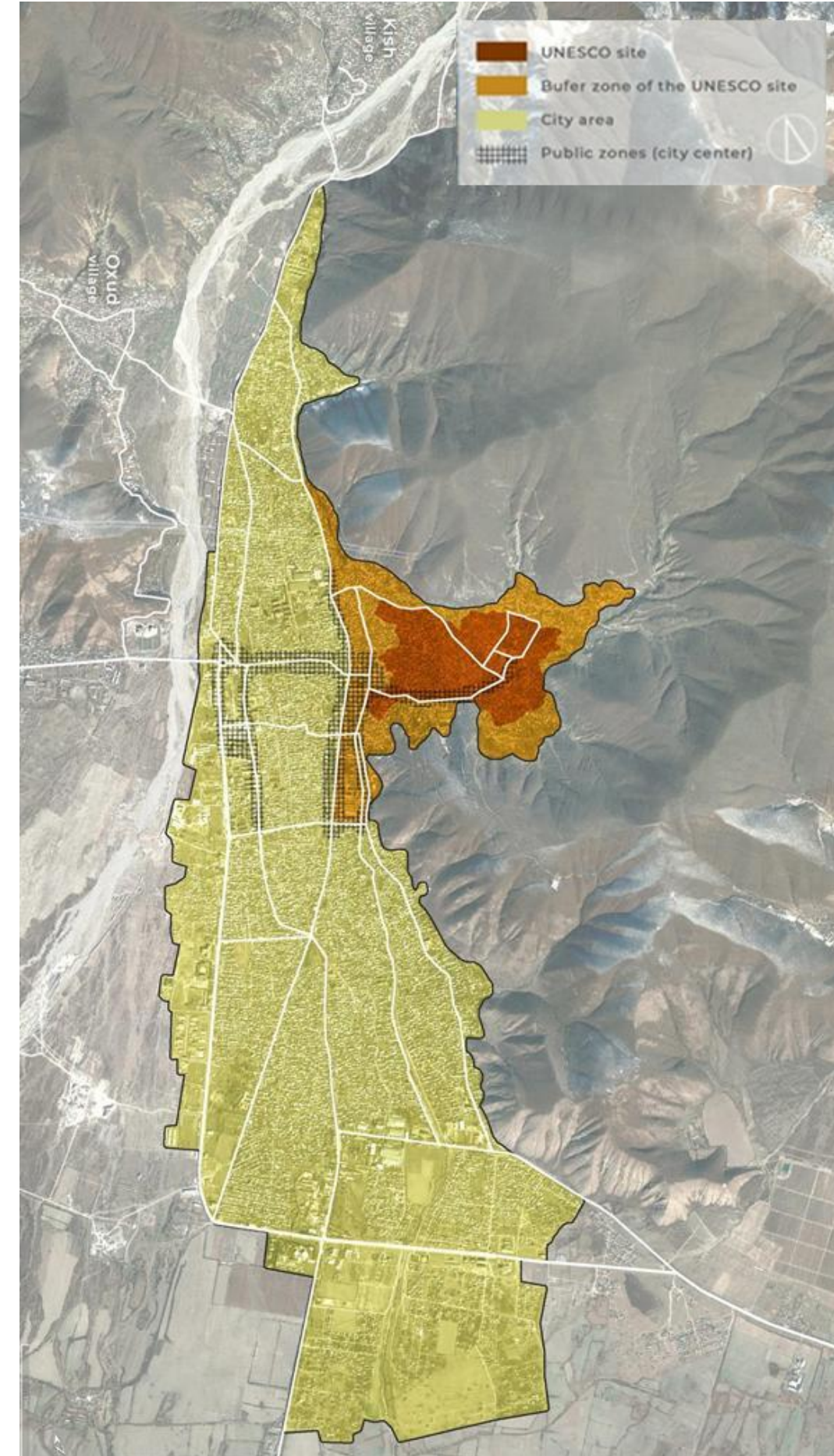
The urban fabric of the city predominantly consists of private low-rise development. There are few quarters of 4-5 floors buildings along some main streets, which were constructed in the 70-80-s of XX century.

The second part is the oldest urban fabric of the city, which is alongside the Gurjana river valley and relatively perpendicular to the new area. The entire old part of the town **has been included in the World Heritage List** (later referred as the **Site**) with the Buffer Zone. The old part of the city is surrounded by mountains and the Deyirmanarch canal which divides the city into two parts; the historical Sheki and the new town. The city does not have specifically delineated centre boundaries. Hence, several streets play the role of the city centre. These are Akhundov avenue in the old town and Mammad Amin Rasulzadeh and Heydar Aliyev avenues in a new part.

The administrative buildings and the bus station are located on Mammad Amin Rasulzade Street. The grocery and construction markets are situated down the relief on Salman Mumtaz avenue. Silk factory, which was the primary industrial object of Soviet time is in a new part close to the Buffer Zone.

Sheki has railway station which is 15 km far from the city centre. The nearest international airport is in Zagataly which is 70 km far from Sheki.

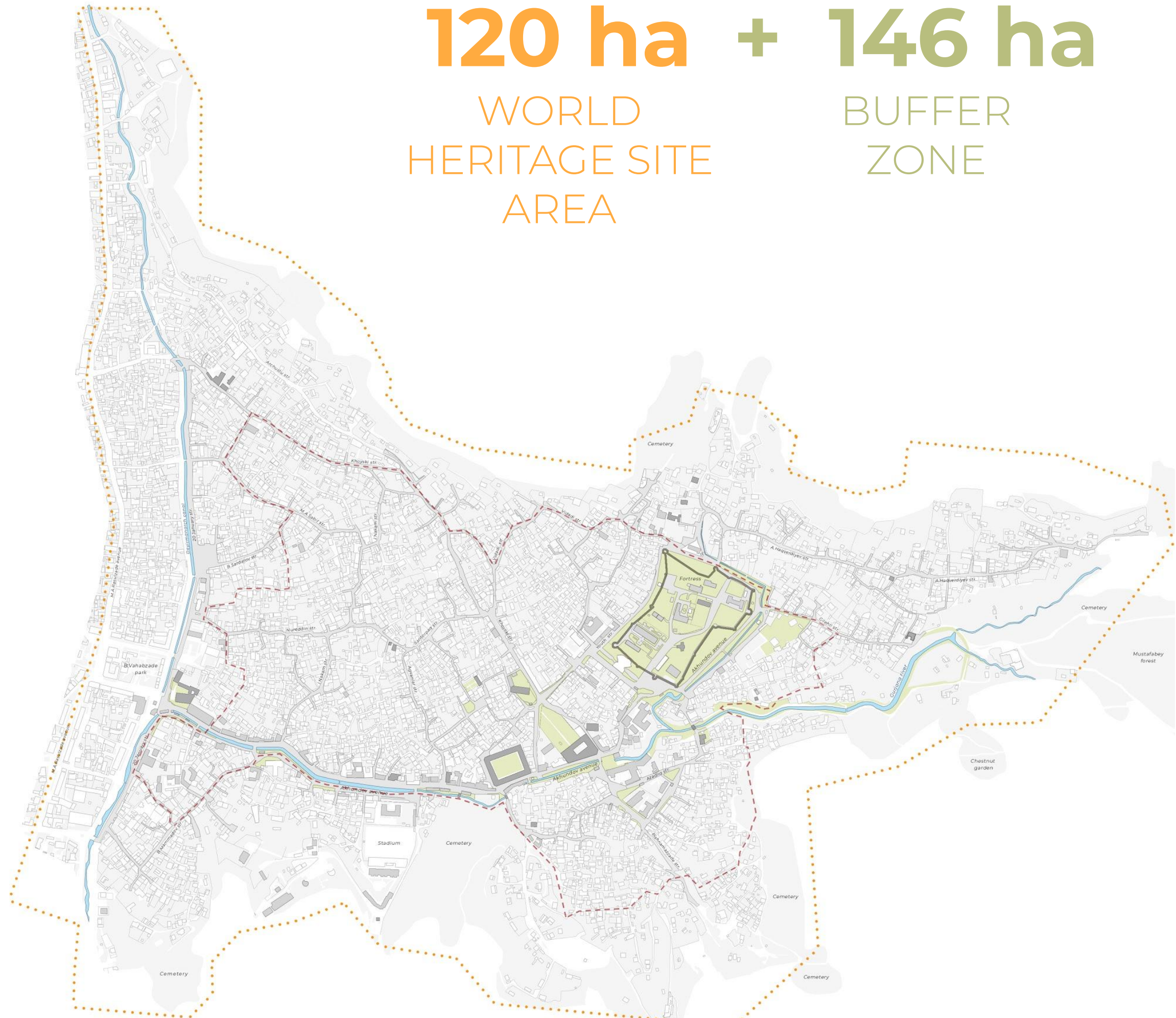
66.900
PEOPLE LIVE
IN SHEKI CITY



HISTORY OF THE PROTECTED AREA

The Site with the Buffer Zone has been protected zone since 1967 when “Yukhari Bash” State Historical and Architectural Reserve was established by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan. In 2020, the status of the Reserve was lifted from “state” to “national” as a result of its inclusion to the UNESCO World Heritage List. Thus, on July 7, 2019, at the 43rd session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Baku, a decision was made to include the historical centre of Sheki in the World Heritage List with the nomination of “The Historic Center of Sheki with the Khan’s Palace”..

120 ha + **146 ha**
WORLD
HERITAGE SITE
AREA
BUFFER
ZONE



SHEKI CITY MASTER PLAN

The current Sheki city master plan was accepted in 2016. In the master plan, the area of the Site indicated as a “Yukhari Bash” National Historical and Architectural Reserve which almost coincides with them. Present master plan in principle considers only the directions of the subsequent spatial development of the city without affecting special strategies for the regulation and improvement of its part of the heritage site

PRESENT MASTER PLAN OF
SHEKI CITY WAS ACCEPTED IN
2016



GOALS & OBJECTIVES



GOALS & OBJECTIVES

PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF
URBAN FABRIC, MONUMENTS AND
TYPOLOGIES

PRESERVATION OF THE MAIN
ATTRIBUTES OF GARDEN CITY
CONCEPT INCLUDING GARDENS,
WATER SYSTEM

URBAN ZONING FOR THE EFFECTIVE
USE AND REGULATION OF THE SITE

ENSURING AND ENCOURAGING
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE
PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION
OF URBAN REGENERATION
STRATEGIES



Dadanovs' Houses. 2016

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

SOCIAL-ECONOMIC WELL-BEING THROUGH TOURISM AND NON-TOURISM SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT THE HERITAGE SITE

ESTABLISHING CIRCUMSTANCES
FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT BASED ON TOURISM
AND ALTERNATIVE AGRICULTURE

IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC
FACILITIES

SOCIAL-INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT
AND DEVELOPMENT FOR LOCALS

DETERMINATION OF THE WORKING
VOLUME, RESEARCH POINTS AND
NEXT WORK STEPS





METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURE



METHODOLOGY

After the Sheki historical area was admitted to the World Heritage List, 4 main documents were required for the further conservation, management and development of the site: Conservation Master Plan, Urban Regeneration Plan, Management Plan and Restoration Manual. Each document covers specific topics and issues.

Analysis made in the frame of research for Conservation Master Plan enables to assess main architectural, urban typologies and individual monuments of the site.

Surveys launched in the site are supposed to embrace socio-cultural topics. The survey results were used to identify the main problems and objectives addressed in this document.

In the frame of field study data collection and mapping of the necessary data was released.

Acquaintance with the related materials: archive materials (old photos, maps, documents and etc.), research materials, books and statements related to Sheki history, architecture, culture, craft and etc.

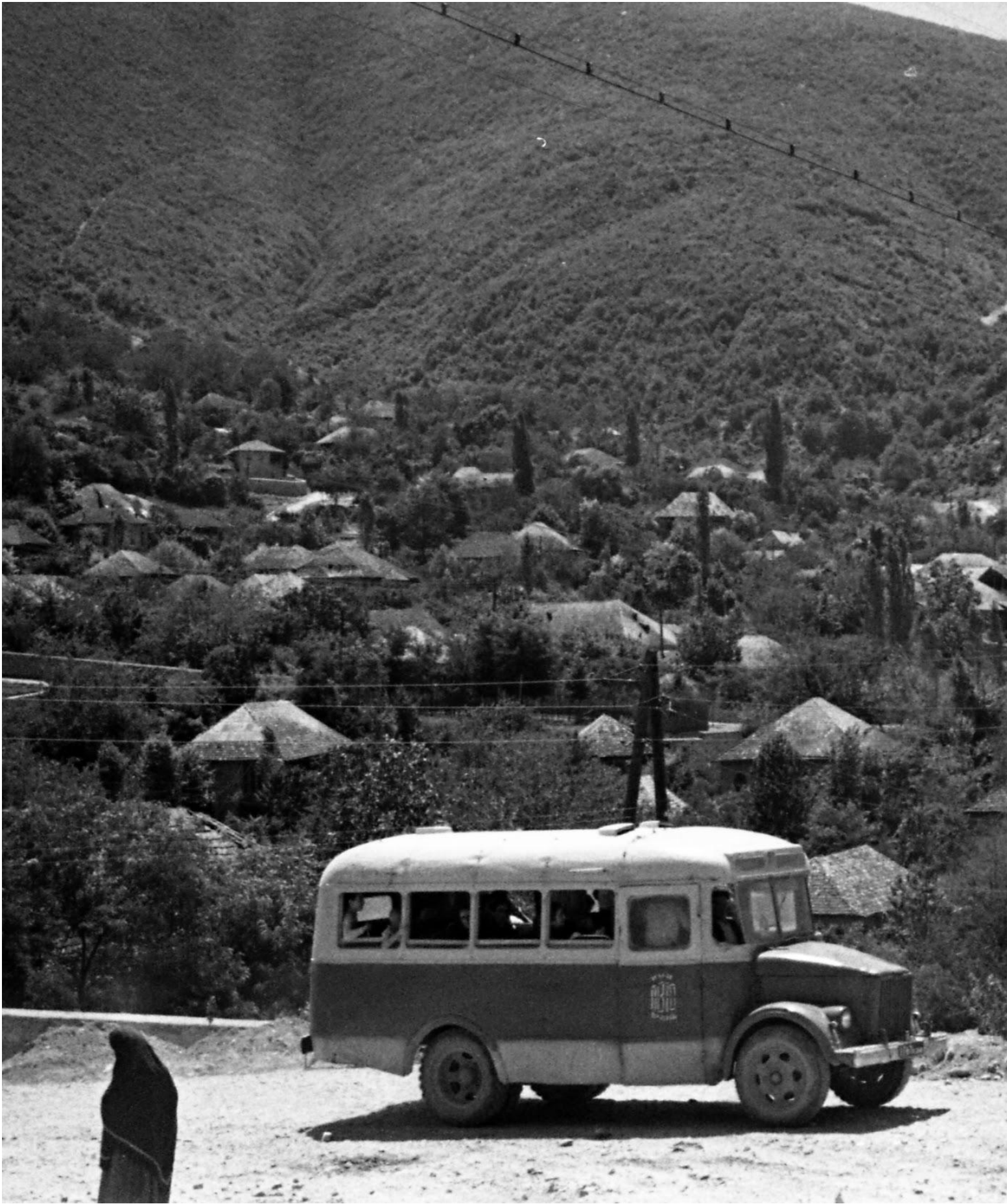
Technical approach. For managing and producing the data different softwares were applied among which QGIS, Autodesk AutoCAD, Graphic softwares (Adobe Illustrator, Indesign, Photoshop).

The appointment of issues based on statistical data, which has been received from State Tourism Agency Statistic Department and the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Analysis based on statistical data enables to trace main socio-economic dynamics of the site, including the number of visitors, allocated governmental investment and etc.

Analysis made in the frame of research for the restoration manual. This analysis gave an opportunity to get a deep understanding of vernacular architecture of Sheki, its features, construction technologies and assess the main problems in regulation of a new construction and restoration in the Site.

GIS DATABASE OF THE HERITAGE SITE



PROCEDURE

The Urban Regeneration Plan has been developed in the following phases:

PHASE I

The collection of the existing available data for the whole study area, from surveys and sector studies, concerning the following aspects:

- Socio-economic profile of the resident population
- Heritage features and OUV attributes
- Land use
- Mobility patterns
- Environmental conditions

PHASE II

The elaboration of large scale strategic regeneration planning guidelines concerning heritage preservation, land use control, urban board and circulation. Moreover, based on awareness-raising and participation initiatives, specific intervention projects could be identified for proposal to the relevant authorities for implementation.

PHASE III

Definition of possible appropriate implementation tools (regulatory, financial, etc...) to be extended to the rest of the Site, to form the basis for a comprehensive conservation, rehabilitation and regeneration plan.

PHASE IV

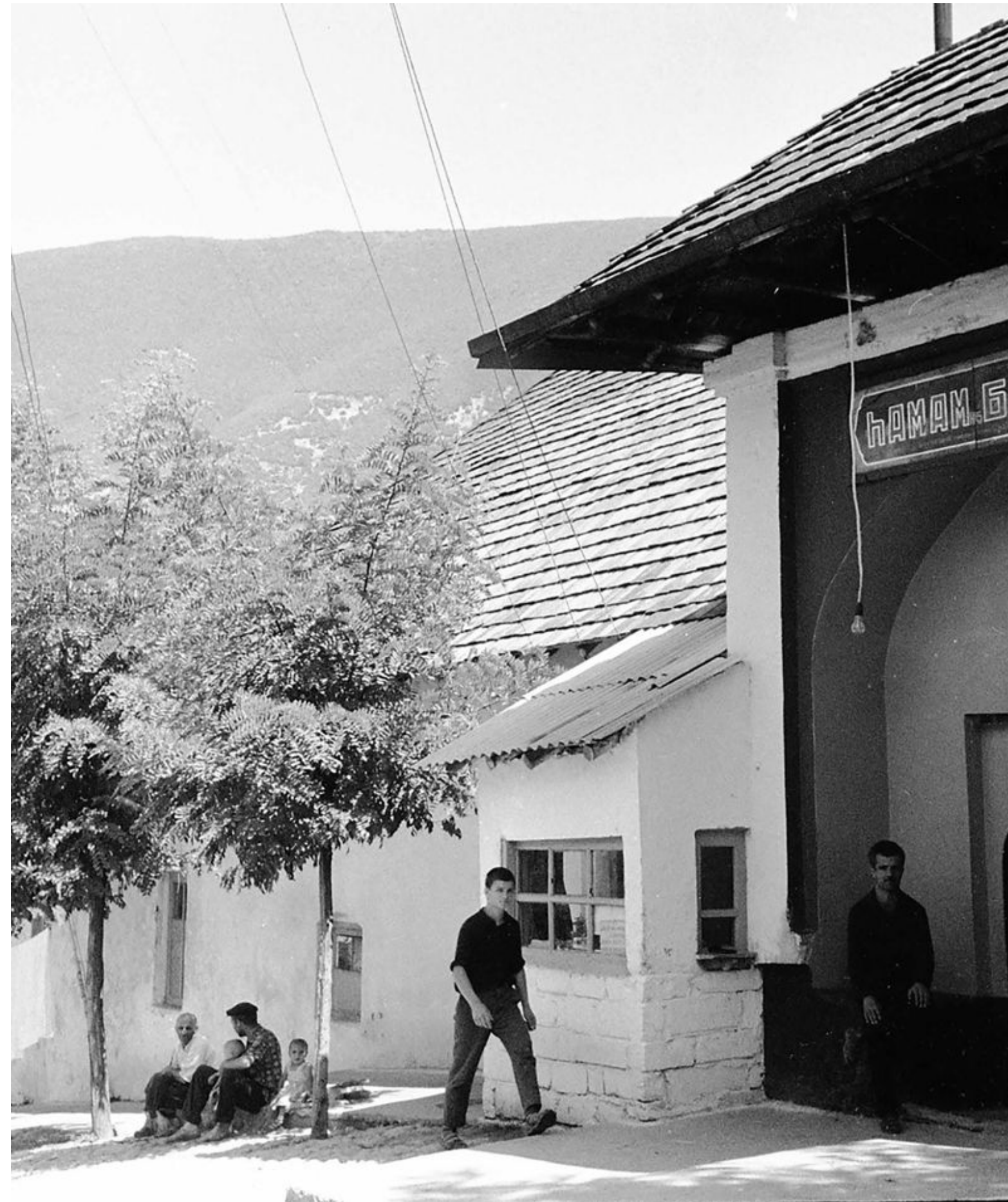
Detailed field survey and urban analysis for each “historic” and “modern” priority area, including the following operations:

- Field survey preparation (elaboration of survey forms, definition of the GIS database structure, performing a test survey on a sample area, revision and final definition of the survey forms and database structure, training of surveyors);
- Implementation of the plot-by-plot (buildings and open spaces) field survey, including the preparation of an updated base map (pre-survey), completion of forms in the field, data entry and cataloguing of photos;
- Development of initiatives for awareness-raising and participation.

PHASE V

Detailed studies and pilot projects for the “priority areas”, which would be based on the above field surveys, and would include prescriptions, recommendations and guidelines for:

- The pre-modern urban fabric regeneration, focusing on housing rehabilitation and upgrading of public space;
- The regeneration of last historical and natural routes of urban fabric focusing on upgrading of commercial activity areas, services and streetscape;(silhouette)
- The regeneration of the more urban fabric adjacent to the Fortress Walls , focusing on services and facilities of urban interest.
- Use and enhancement of view points , focusing on tourist activities and the re-establishment of visual and pedestrian connections with the surrounding historic fabric.
- Reuse of underused buildings



ROADMAP

Historical, cultural and natural heritage sites are the essential building blocks in the formation of urban identity and cultural memory. The cultural heritage, which consists of archaeological, cultural, social, economic, aesthetic values transferred from the past to the present, establishes a connection between the past and the future, and the sense of belonging develops. Preserving the cultural heritage strengthens the common ties that hold the inhabitants of that city together.

Historical urban textures, life habits, traditions, and customs are living resources that transfer the knowledge of the kins to the next generations. Cultural heritage is of irreplaceable importance. Destruction of cultural heritage leads to irreversible consequences. Ensuring cultural continuity, preserving the cultural heritage, keeping it alive and developing in line with current living conditions within the constantly renewed dynamic structure of cities constitute an essential development potential for the town.

The primary purpose of the "culture-oriented road map", which takes cultural heritage as the focus of urban development to contribute to RMC's Urban Regeneration Plan;

To present innovative approaches on difference and awareness by bringing together with the cultural heritage and natural abundance of cities and institutional skills.

5 STAGES OF ROAD MAP

I STAGE

EVALUATION OF PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

II STAGE

SETTING OF VISION AND GOALS

III STAGE

PREPARATION OF DRAFT ROADMAP

IV STAGE

DISCUSSION OF DRAFT WITH GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC, PRIVATE, CIVIL ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

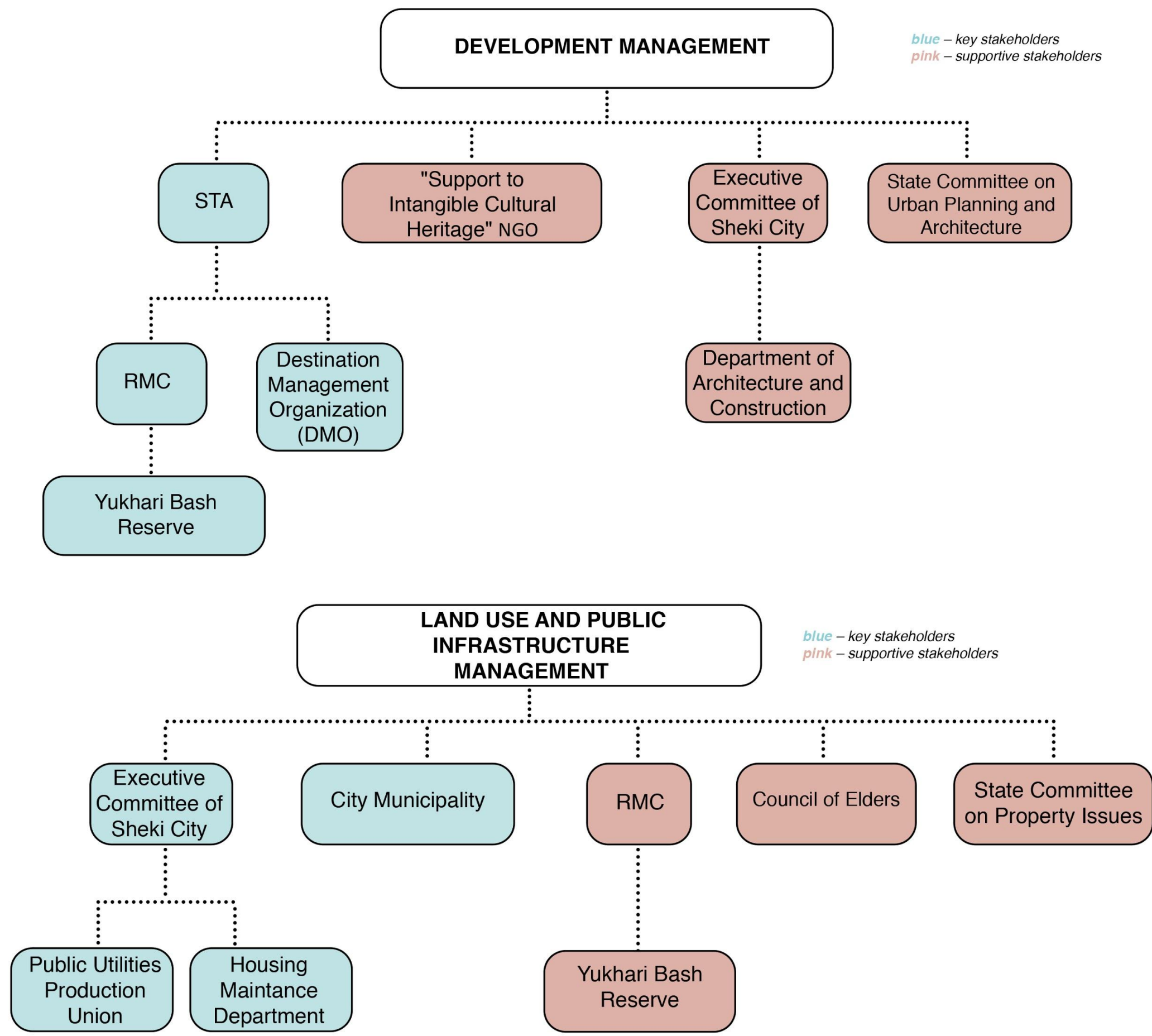
V STAGE

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THE ROAD MAP



ACTORS & PARTNERS

ACTORS & PARTNERS



ACTORS & PARTNERS

Stakeholders have different responsibilities and powers, as well as influence on topics and choices that will impact the cultural heritage itself or the heritage site covered by the Management Plan. There are two groups of stakeholders:

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

They are interested in preserving and increasing the value of the cultural heritage site and have a high impact/authority/commitment on the territory of the reserve; they are directly involved in the decision making process of the mentioned management areas.

State Tourism Agency (STA)

STA is a body established by the order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on some measures to improve public administration in the field of culture and tourism. The Agency was established on April 20, 2018 as a result of restructuring the Ministry of Culture and Tourism as the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the STA of the Republic of Azerbaijan. STA is a central executive body implementing state policy and regulation in the field of tourism, as well as in the field of protection of historical and cultural monuments located in the territories of state reserves under its subordination.

Reserve Management Center (RMC)

RMC was established as a public legal entity under STA by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on December 20, 2018 in order to ensure the efficient management of the reserves subordinated to STA. RMC is a public legal entity engaged in scientific, historical and cultural study, promotion, purposeful use, preservation and development of historical and cultural heritage assets and monuments in the territories of the reserves subordinated to STA, including Yukhari Bash Reserve.

“Yukhari Bash” National Historical Architectural Reserve

The Yukhari Bash Reserve was established by the Decree No. 594 dated November 24, 1967 of the Council of Ministers of the former Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic (SSR) and today it operates under STA and is managed by RMC. The reserve is guided in accordance with its latest Regulations adopted on December 12, 2019. The Reserve is an organisation funded from the state budget.

Sheki Destination Management Organisation (DMO)

Sheki Destination Management Organization (DMO) operates in the Reserve area.

Sheki DMO aims at achieving sustainable and continuous tourism development in Sheki-Zagatala region by awareness raising and promotional activities, organising trainings, connecting the public sector with the private sector (public-private partnership). DMO also manages local tourist information centres.

SUPPORTIVE STAKEHOLDERS

They are an interested party in the mentioned management area, but with limited involvement in decision making process. They support key stakeholders with consultations, active participation in the process, contribute to the final outcome of the issue, but with no specific and direct obligations.

Executive Committee of Sheki City

Yukhari Bash Reserve is located in Sheki region which is a separate administrative territorial unit of the Republic of Azerbaijan and governed by the Executive Committee which is a leading executive body of the local government.

The activities and responsibilities of the departments and offices within the structure of the Committee in relation to the reserve are the followings:

Department of Architecture and Construction is responsible for repair works in the private houses in the reserve. Projects of repairs in private houses are to be approved by the Chief Architect. The Department also controls the implementation of the works. Repair and beautification projects concerning the streets and public spaces are also developed and/or coordinated with the Department. Permits for construction work in the reserve are issued by the Department after the approval of the STA.

Housing Maintenance Department is responsible for maintenance of non-private (public) buildings in the reserve, collection of maintenance fees, issuance of certificates of registration to local residents and their registration at the place of residence.

Public Utilities Production Union is responsible for cleaning, garbage collection and beautification works in the reserve territory together with the reserve management. Installation and maintenance of communication and utility lines are undertaken by specialised entities separate from the Executive Committee:

- power grid by **Azerishyg**;
- water supply and sewerage by **Azersu**;
- gas lines by **Azerigaz**;

ACTORS & PARTNERS

SUPPORTIVE STAKEHOLDERS

They are an interested party in the mentioned management area, but with limited involvement in decision making process. They support key stakeholders with consultations, active participation in the process, contribute to the final outcome of the issue, but with no specific and direct obligations.

Sheki City Municipality

There are municipal properties in the Site's territory, and they are managed by Sheki City Municipality. The municipality has the right of ownership over its property, i.e. it freely owns, uses and disposes of its property.

Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources

The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR) of Azerbaijan Republic is a governmental agency in charge of regulation of the activities in the country relating to ecology, environmental protection and use of natural resources of Azerbaijan.

State Committee for Urban Planning and Architecture

The State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture (the Committee) is a central executive body that conducts a unified government policy and regulation in urban planning, zoning, architecture, and related design.

Council of Elders

Sheki Regional Organisation of the Council of Elders is a non-governmental organisation operating under the Sheki City Executive Committee on a voluntary basis since 2017. Council members are closely involved in the socio-political life of the region; they promote public policies among older generation, deal with social and cultural matters, and develop proposals on the issues important to local population

CRITERIA AND ATTRIBUTES





CRITERIA

TO EXHIBIT AN IMPORTANT INTERCHANGE OF HUMAN VALUES, OVER A SPAN OF TIME OR WITHIN A CULTURAL AREA OF THE WORLD, ON DEVELOPMENTS IN ARCHITECTURE OR TECHNOLOGY, MONUMENTAL ARTS, TOWN-PLANNING OR LANDSCAPE DESIGN;

Criterion II:

As the major cultural and commercial center in the region, the Site exhibits an important interchange of multiple cultural influences, which have their origin in its history over two millennia, but developed particularly under the Safavid, Ottoman and Qajar influences, and the later impact of Russian rule. Sheki in turn influenced a wider territory of Caucasus and beyond. The current urban form, which dates back to the new construction after the flood of 1772, continued earlier building traditions responding to the local climatic conditions, and the requirements of the traditional economy and crafts activities. In particular, construction elements and details of Sites domestic architecture, such as balconies, doors, arches, and fences, reflect oriental characteristics that later evolved under Russian influence. Sheki is also an exceptional testimony to the feudal system of the Caucasian khanates, which developed from 1743 to 1819, as expressed in the architecture of the Khan's palaces, the interiors of wealthy merchant houses, and the fortifications.

TO BE AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF A TRADITIONAL HUMAN SETTLEMENT, LAND-USE, OR SEA-USE WHICH IS REPRESENTATIVE OF A CULTURE (OR CULTURES), OR HUMAN INTERACTION WITH THE ENVIRONMENT ESPECIALLY WHEN IT HAS BECOME VULNERABLE UNDER THE IMPACT OF IRREVERSIBLE CHANGE;

Criterion V:

Completely realized according to ancient rules, the Site represents an extraordinary example of a planned productive 'garden city', as exemplified in its hydraulic water system for driving mills and irrigation, productive structures related to sericulture, and the peculiar organization of the houses aligned with their cultivated fields, all set within a forested landscape setting.



URBAN UNDERSTANDING



г. НУКА. 988
А. МЕЛИКОВ.

Main Trade street, present Akhundov avenue
photo of the beg. of XX-h century

URBAN REGENERATION

UNDERSTANDING of THE URBAN

UNDERSTANDING of THE URBAN FEATURES

UNDERSTANDING of THE URBAN MORPHOLOGY

UNDERSTANDING of THE URBAN LANGUAGE

UNDERSTANDING of THE URBAN ISSUES

PLAN SCENARIOS FOR URBAN

UNDERSTANDING OF VALUES

LEARNING LESSONS FOR VISION

IDENTIFICATION OF DESTINATIONS

DESIGN STRATEGIES FOR URBAN

UNDERSTANDING VALUES OF the Site

LEARNING LESSONS FOR VISION

IDENTIFICATION OF DESTINATIONS FOR TOMORROW

IDENTIFICATION OF REGENERATION INSTRUMENTS

WORLD HERITAGE SITE from TOURISM PERSPECTIVE

DESTINATION FOR TOURISM PERSPECTIVE



Dadanovs' Houses. beginning of XX-s century

UNDERSTANDING THE URBAN LANGUAGE

URBAN LANGUAGE

The processes of creating an image, experiencing and transferring the story created by the environmental, historical, social, cultural, functional and spatial values of a city on the user constitute the language of the town.

STORY OF THE CITY

Having a story of the urban language also enables the space to be branded in a meaningful frame. While creating the story of a city; elements such as heroes, great leaders and events, origin, continuity, and traditions are used. Besides, an "original" or "authentic" perception of identity is created by establishing museums, transferring myths to symbols, folk stories, maps and transferring them to music and food culture.

LIVING AN URBAN EXPERIENCE

The process of experiencing the city emerges as a result of the city dwellers or visitors living in the city. Experiences include the senses; social interaction takes place along with mind, emotions, active participation and observation. The city language, which can be perceived differently depending on the experiences, may differ from person to person or from location to location.

CREATING AN IMAGE OF THE CITY

People's perception of the city is the image of that city. Urban spaces, uses and symbols form the idea of the town. Satisfaction determines the future of decision-making and visiting processes. Individuals and groups may have a different and fragmented perception of a space. The "image of the city" is the sum of the dominant views and judgments about the city.

4 NOTIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF URBAN LANGUAGE

PATTERN

- Local identity and cultural heritage
- Spaces, which harmonies with urban texture and topography
- Public spaces between different social strata integrative



DYNAMISM

- Sectoral specialization
- Production and consumption balance
- Diversity for locals and visitors



VALUE

- Transgenerational transmission of cultural heritage
- A sense of belonging for locals and visitors
- Managing perceptions about the city and positive image

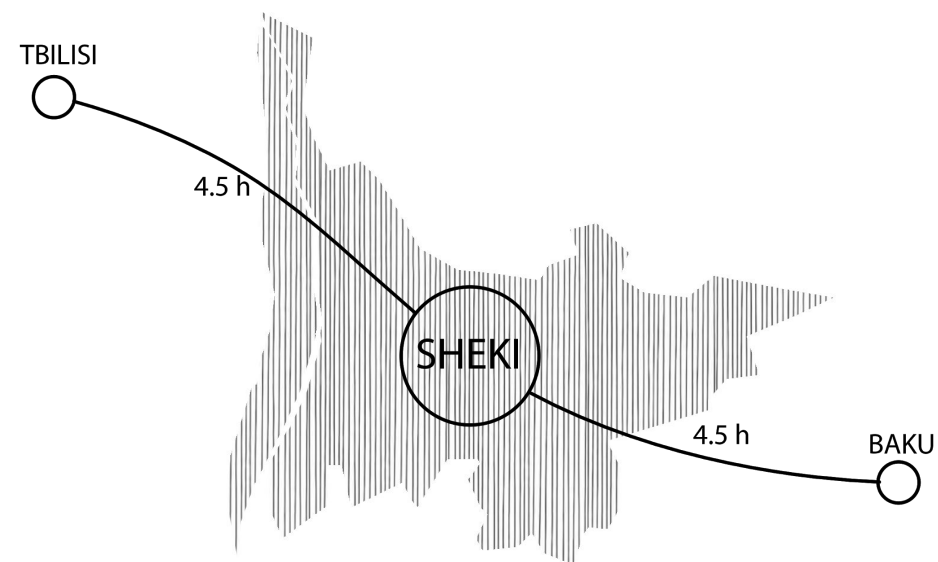


EXPERIENCE

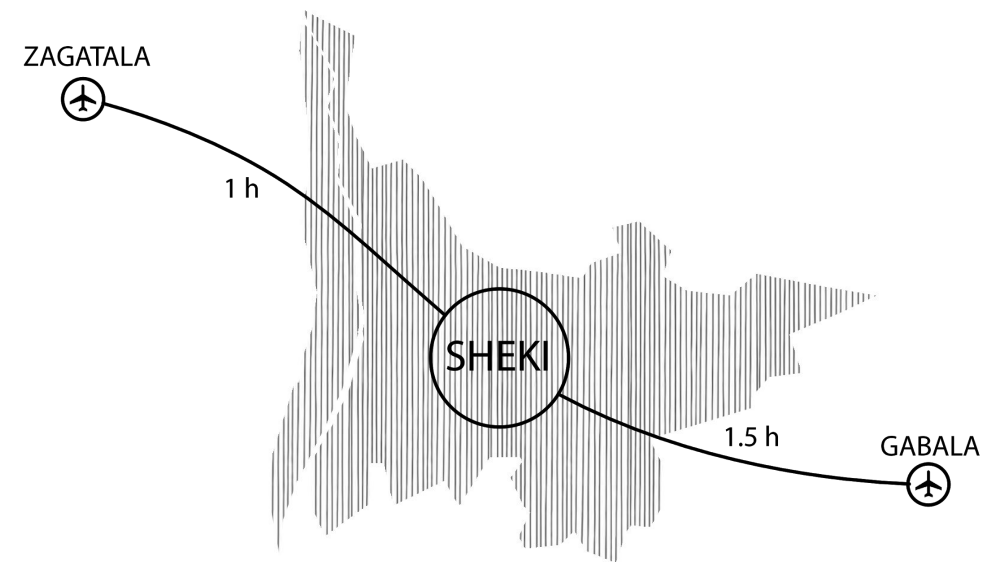
- Opportunities for socializing and learning for different personal experiences
- Creating a collective identity with the participation of the public
- Creating an urban image with the use of communication tools, stories, visuals and media



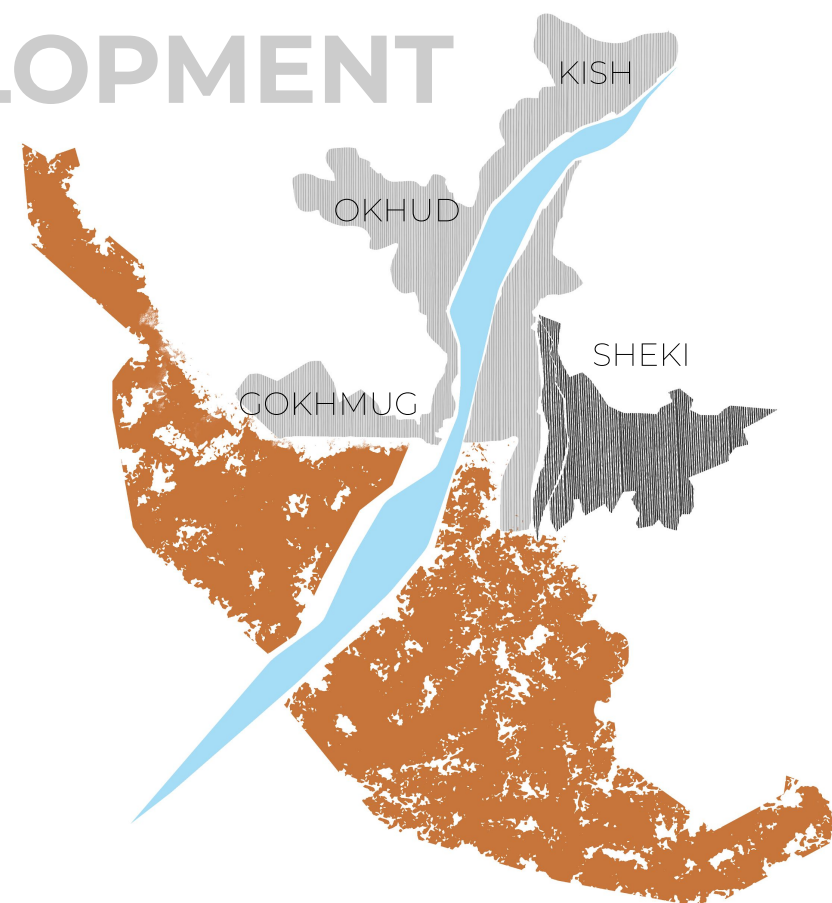
BETWEEN TWO CAPITALS



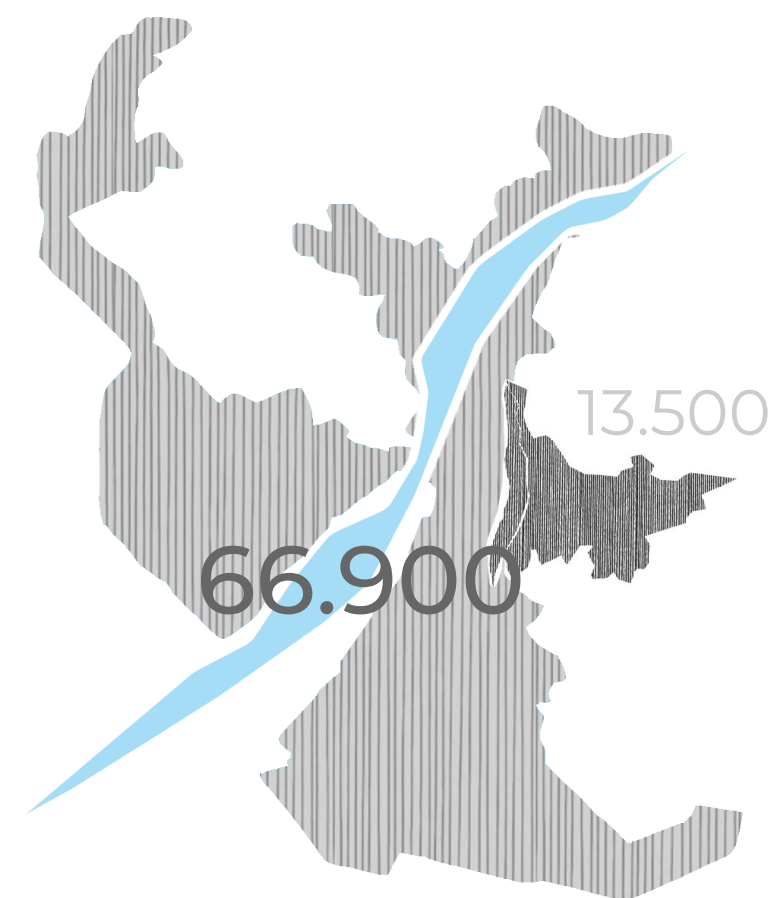
BETWEEN TWO AIRPORTS



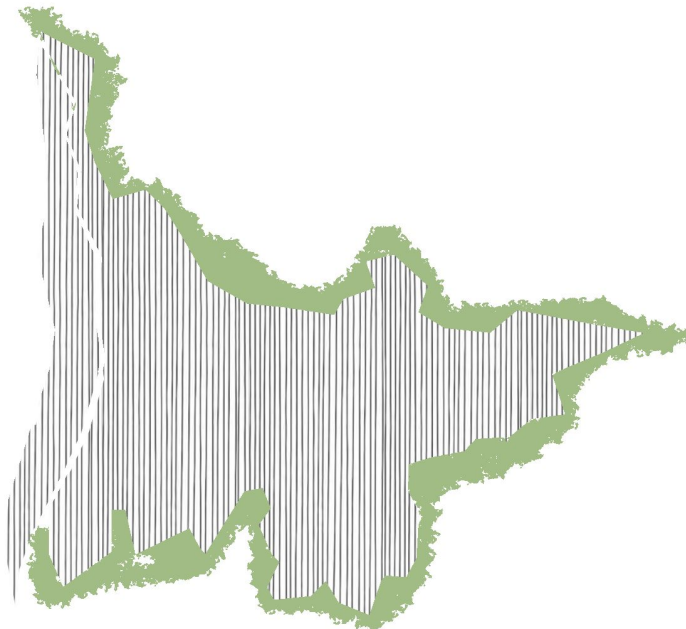
SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT



POPULATION



GREEN ENVIRONMENT



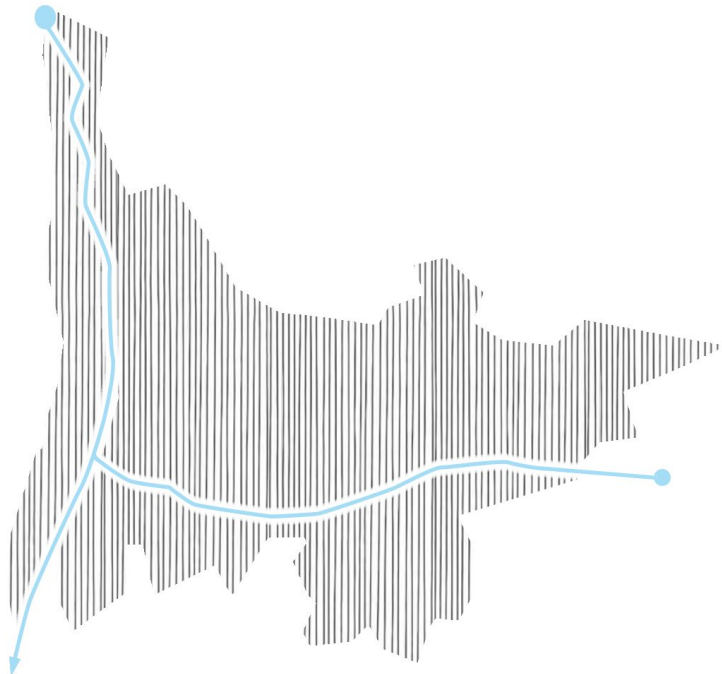
CONNECTION



GREEN BELT



TRACES OF WATER



UNDERSTANDING OF THE URBAN MORPHOLOGY



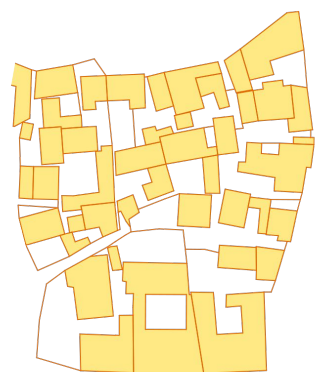
URBAN PATTERN



DISTRIBUTION AND SUPPLY



INTERTWINED WITH GREEN



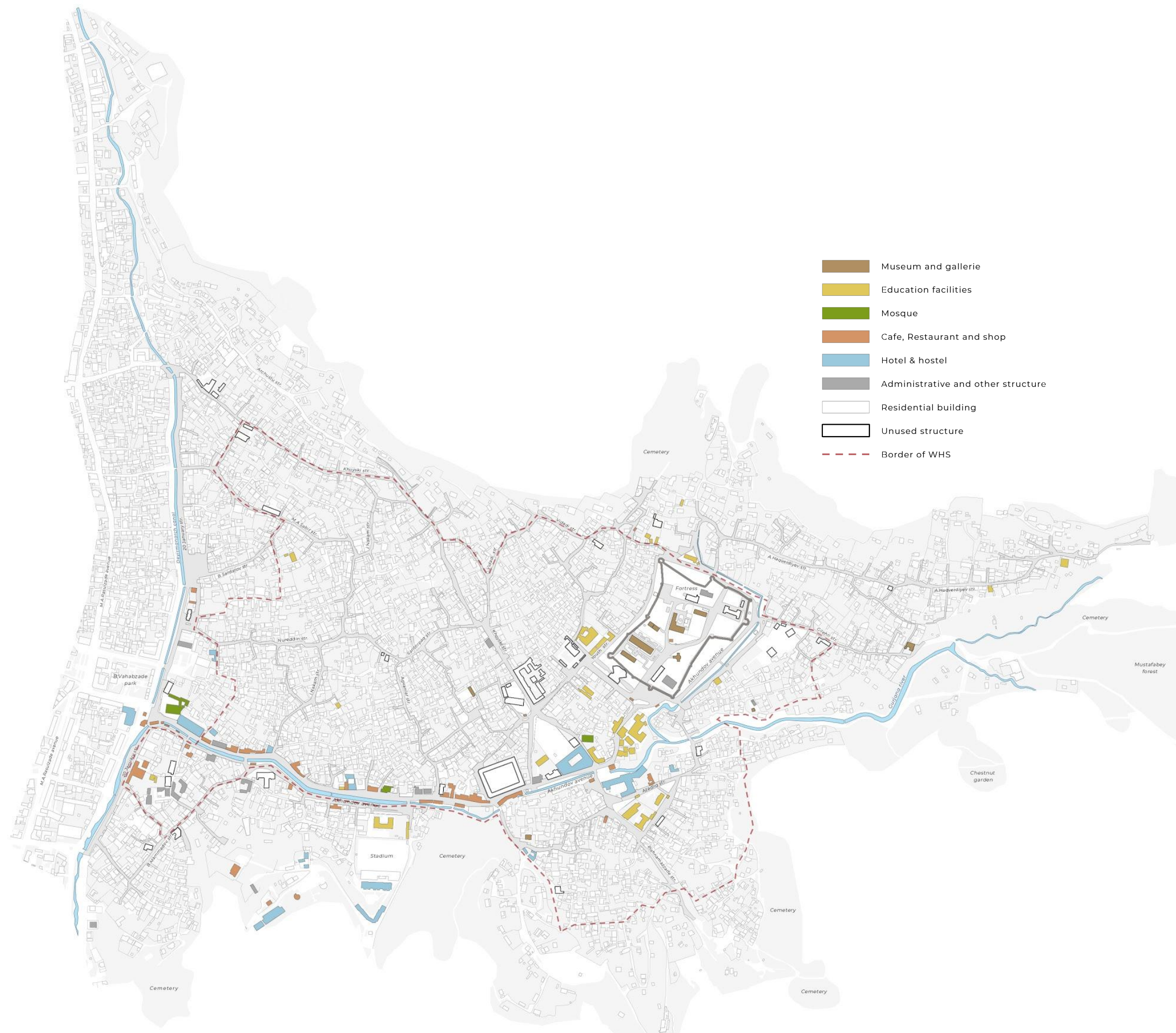
BUILDING DENSITY AND TYPOLOGY



SPATIAL ISSUES IN TERMS OF HERITAGE

- historical urban structure
- residential houses with adjacent gardens
- unused buildings and plots
- water system.
- Deyirmanarkh canal and Gurjana river. Historical water supply lines and springs
- forest landscape
- fortress and its surroundings
- historical streets
- the role of the mehelle system

- transport system
- influence of tourism to economic social-cultural spheres



IDENTIFIED ISSUES



Lower Caravanserai. photo of beginning of XX-s century

THE FORTRESS WALLS AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

FORTRESS WALLS AND ITS SURROUNDING

Sheki's fortress walls, which is located in the upper northeast raised part of the town was a planning centre. It was built in 1790 by Huseyn-Khan and had two gates: Ganja and Shamakhi. Buildings on its territory (the Khan Palace with its adjoining garden, The round temple and several auxiliary buildings) against the backdrop of the surrounding mountain forest landscape create a complete architectural ensemble. Protrusive towers and loopholes protect stone walls of the Fortress Walls with the overall length of 1300 meters. The terrain has identified the broken nature of the configuration of the Fortress Walls.

LANDMARKS

There are 16 structures inside the Fortress Walls. The prominent landmark of the area and whole Sheki is the Khan palace. The second famous building is the Round Temple which for this moment is using as a museum of applied art. There is no precise information concerning its construction date, but it is supposed that it was built at the beginning of the XX-th century. Museum and art gallery and also a house of shebeke are located in two buildings and the Round Temple.



Mockup of Sheki fortress

FORTRESS WALLS AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

BARRACKS

There are 3 barrack buildings built in the late 19th century on the territory of the fortress walls which remained unchanged. One of them is used as an art gallery, one as a Museum of History and Ethnography. In 2018, were also completed the works of restoration of one of the buildings of the fortress, then used for ABAD Ceramics and Applied Art Centre. It was noted that sale of products made by artisans will be organized at Sites Ceramics and Applied Art Centre. In total, about 40 citizens will be provided with a permanent job. The building of the Site's Ceramics and Applied Art Centre is one of the 5 barrack buildings inside the Fortress Walls.

PRISON

There are 2 buildings of the former prison on the territory inside the Fortress Walls and the Russian military men built these buildings at the end of the 19th century. There is a club and library in one of them. The second building of the prison was renovated in 2005-2007 and a business incubator of the artisans is organized there and the artisans are working there. The two-storey building also has leisure rooms for employees and staff members. It also houses thermal furnaces and training rooms, raw and ready-made material warehouses, ethno-boutique, office, and carpet-making rooms.

MEDICAL INSTITUTION

Two buildings were used by the medical institutions for various purposes during the Soviet period. These institutions are transferred and now the buildings are not used.

OTHER STRUCTURES

There is a Seismological station in the backside of the Sheki Khan palace. The building was constructed presumably in the mid of 19th century. There are few small new structures built during soviet time and last decades which do not have historical and architectural significance. Policy concerning them will be discussed in the Conservation Master Plan.

The fortress contains the majority of tourist attractions such as monuments, museums, art centres, workshops and boutiques, but it should implement outdoor activities, even at nighttime in summer season, with a program of events of national and international relevance (e.g. concerts, food festivals, sport events).

PROBLEMS

- urban situation and linkage
- illumination
- parking
- the role and function of the Fortress

Walls

THERE ARE

16

STRUCTURES
INSIDE THE
FORTRESS



Sheki fortress

METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURE

Explanation of the crucial importance of streets in perception of the historical integrity of an old town.

AKHUNDOV AVENUE

Akhundov avenue was a highway from the Fortress Walls along the Gurjana river, which became the primary trading and market street and characteristic element of the urban structure. This highway was underlining the importance of the Khan Palace on top of the Fortress Walls, as the main dominant of the town. The placement of the shopping centre on the highway was no coincidence. The town was linked by caravan routes to shopping centres of Azerbaijani khanates and other countries converged on the trade route. There were trade, handicraft and uptown around the Fortress which was the core of spontaneous urban development. This characteristic floor-plan diagram of the eastern feudal town of the Site unites the lack of pronounced urban boundaries. Its linear ensemble and key buildings allows to say that this avenue is the main street of the Site.

KHOYSKY STREET

It is supposed to use Khoyski avenue as the main transport road in the Site. Its width, configuration and location allows it to replace part of transport flow from Akhundov street to Khoyski avenue. Thereby make partial pedestrianisation possible in Akhundov avenue.

KHANS` ROUTE

Feudal khanate heritage is comparatively well preserved in the Site. Due to imposing this Khans' route concept was suggested as the secondary tourist route.



THE ROLE OF THE MAHALLA SYSTEM

MAHALLA

Mahalla is the largest urban element of a traditional eastern medieval town pattern. The mehelle, in turn, is divided into a large number of garden plots with residential buildings, which are the smallest elements of traditional urban pattern.

There are 28 mehelles in the City. 9 out of 28 ones are in the historical part of the City i.e. the Site's area. But the boundaries and the number of official administrative mehelles are somewhat different from the historically established boundaries of the mehelle. The mehelles are mainly divided by large or medium streets. The size of the historical mehelles varies from 2 to 13 ha.

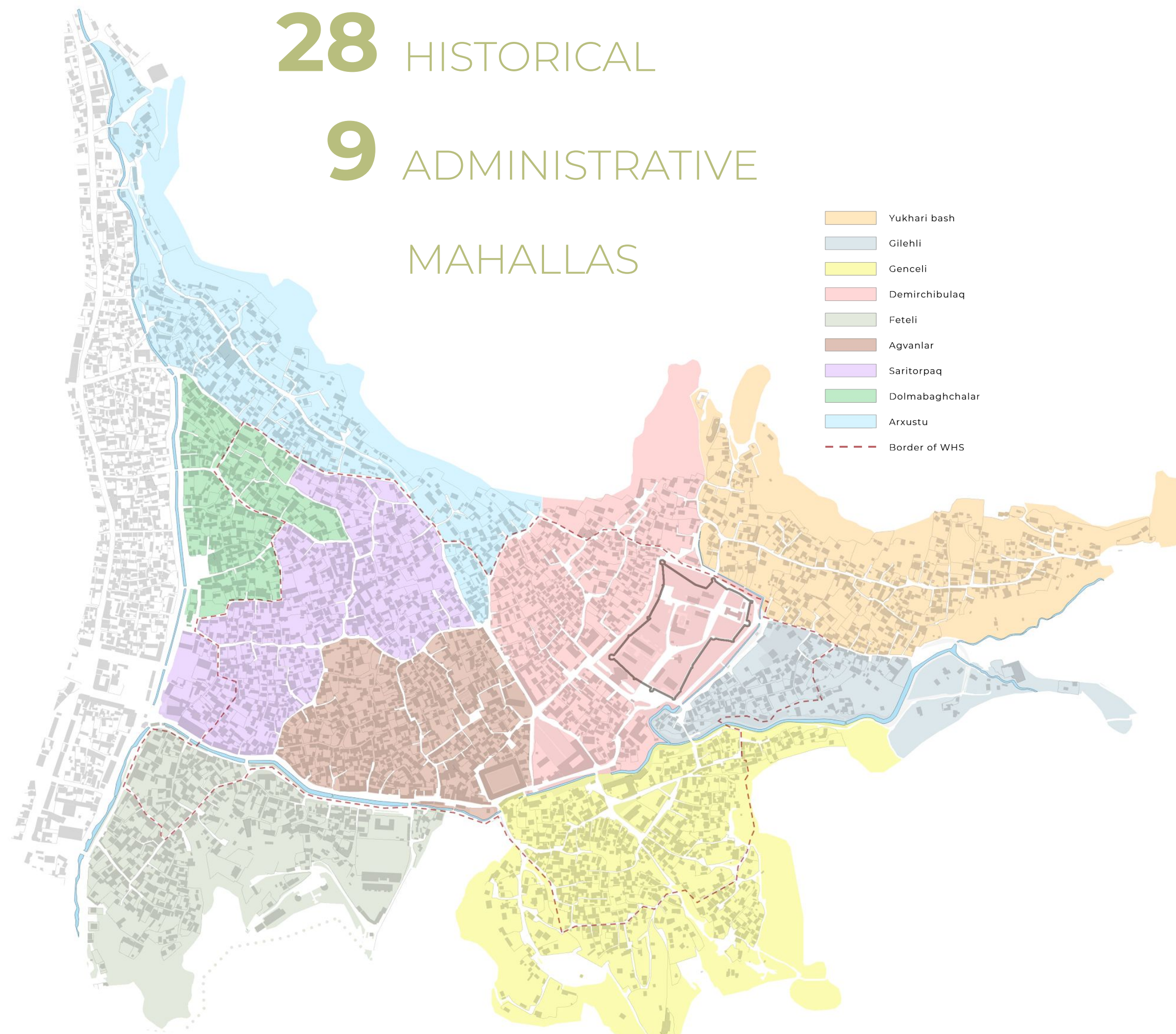
kimga (traditional public spaces)

kimga (jimje in local dialect of Sheki people) is a small public space at the intersection of several roads, often at the border of the mehelle, where mehelle residents congregate. Some kimgas are located right in front of mehelle mosques, bathhouses, or springs. kimgas have preserved its importance till today.

PROBLEMS

- weakened physical conditions
- lack of facilities

28 HISTORICAL
9 ADMINISTRATIVE
MAHALLAS



RESIDENTIAL HOUSES WITH ADJACENT GARDENS

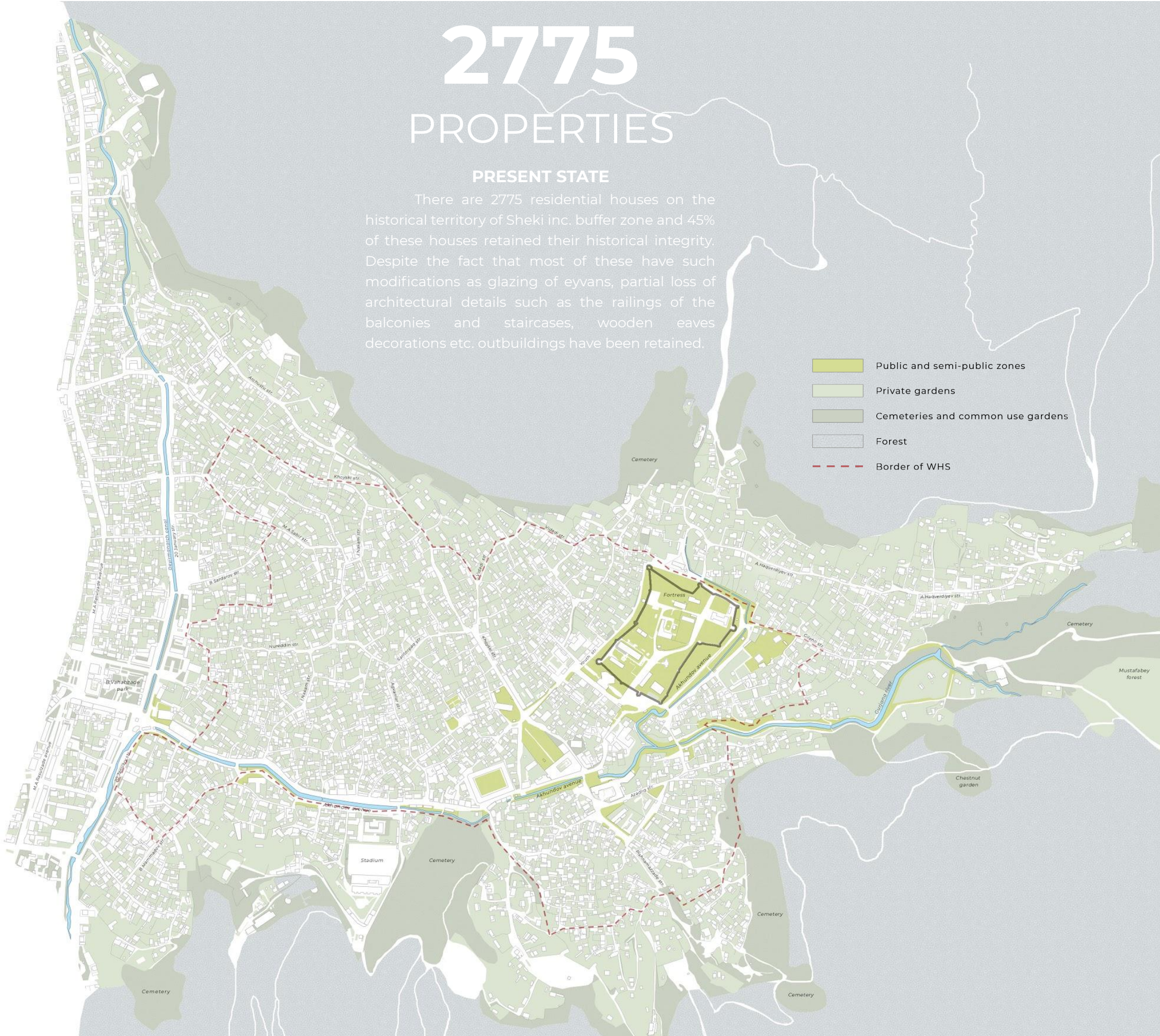
TRADITIONAL SHEKI HOUSE WITH GARDEN

Local natural and climatic peculiarities and available construction materials had a decisive role in a location of traditional residential houses in the Site. Most often they are located on the side of a cone alluvial, at the bottom of a mountain. The dimension of the Sheki houses is determined by the availability of maximal length of construction material. The location in the catchment area of the Kish river, at the confluence of two waterways Gurjana and Deyirmanarkh canal, that influence human habits.

The inhabited and agricultural parcel is a productive and self-sufficient structure based on agricultural and manufacturing processes. The main activity of a productive garden was the silk production. The special irrigation of the garden is carried out by gravity according to the system of surface canalizations and fields cultivated by orthogonal strips. The planting principle of these gardens is based on the ecological usage of the water.

DECLINE OF SILKWORM PRODUCTION AND ITS INFLUENCE TO PRIVATE GARDENS

After the fall of the Soviet Union, silk production also stopped in the province. The demand for silk cocoons and their staple feed, mulberry trees led to the mass destruction of the mulberry trees. Today silk production has declined and it exists as an alternative source of income in the few households. Today mulberry trees are only preserved for shade and food.



HOUSE YARD PRODUCTIVE GARDEN SYSTEM AND SERICULTURE

All residential houses were adapted to agricultural production, especially sericulture and silk production. A typical house faces the street on one side and the adjacent land plot on the other side, thus creating an unusual perspective for a garden city. Closed layout of the residential house and its garden, which is traditional for the Site, isolates it from the outside world in a manner characteristic for the mediaeval urban planning. The house has an adjacent land plot with a garden, which is reflected in the general character of the urban planning. Mulberry trees are dominant elements in the garden and their leaves served as food for silkworms.

Thus, in orchards surrounding residential buildings, mulberry plantations prevailed, the leaves of which served as food for silkworms. In the depths of the garden or adjoining the street with a blank facade, there was a residential building, which, as a rule, had a single-row arrangement of living rooms. The front part of the house, and therefore the garden, was oriented to the south or east

Main elements of silk production such as factories, warehouses and individual production houses should be preserved and reused. These structures are primary evidence of the silk industry of the Site.

PROBLEMS

- lost of silkworm production
- lost of garden culture
- overbuilt of garden plots
- the lost of high attic roofs & seyvans
- unused silk fabrics



Soviet poster depicting sheki worker of a silk-winding plant

UNUSED BUILDINGS

There are a number of abandoned buildings in the Site and Buffer Zone, all have been abandoned in different time periods for different reasons.

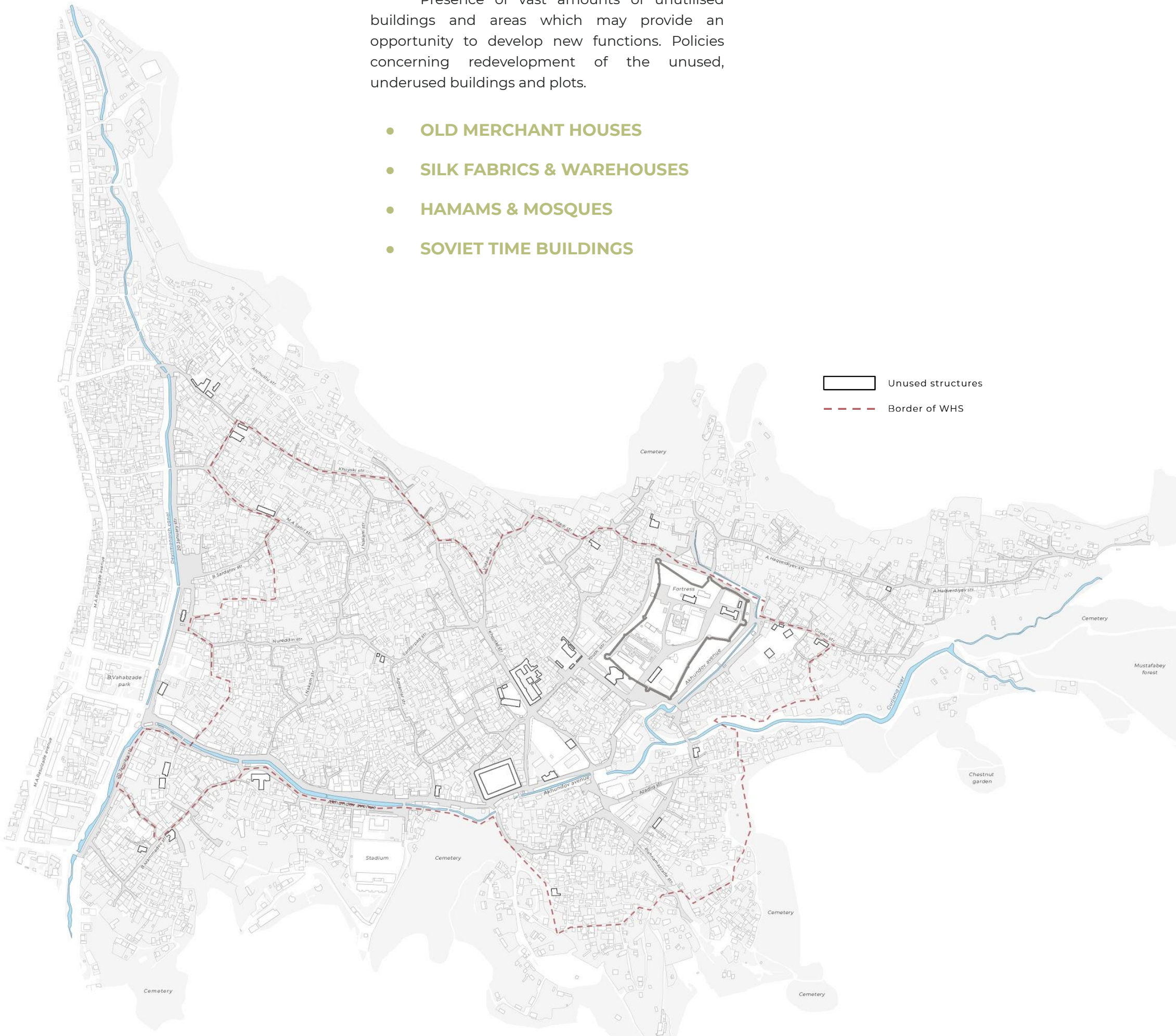
For example the merchant houses were built in the period of Russian Empire. Their architecture was particularly striking, as the merchants could afford better architecture artists and expensive materials since they were rich. When the communists came to power in 1920, all the wealth of merchants were seized by the state and some of them used for public purposes, such as a kindergarten, college, hospital and so on. After a while maintenance works became expensive and laborious for the operator, therefore the users moved out and the merchant houses remained unused and abandoned.

The second reason for abandoning the building is to stop production after the collapse of the Soviet Union, such as the silk factory, retail houses and the printing house.

The third reason is the changing lifestyle of local people. For instance, public hammams lost its demand since the water infrastructure was set for individual houses and majority of people could build their private bathrooms in their houses during the Soviet times. Eventually, public hammams became unused.

Presence of vast amounts of unutilised buildings and areas which may provide an opportunity to develop new functions. Policies concerning redevelopment of the unused, underused buildings and plots.

- OLD MERCHANT HOUSES
- SILK FABRICS & WAREHOUSES
- HAMAMS & MOSQUES
- SOVIET TIME BUILDINGS



WATER SYSTEM

The Site receives its water supply from Deyirmanarkh channel taking its water from the Kish River, and an earthenware pipeline network (Tajlig) taking its water from mountain springs that feed the Gurjana River. Tajliq water supply network covers all private houses and land plots throughout the Site bringing water from its sources through ditches and underground tunnels and ends in the Gurjana River and the Deyirmanarkh canal. The old water mills on the Deyirmanarkh used to supply the neighbourhoods with flour.



*Group photo near the mehelle spring.
photo of the beginning of XX-s century*

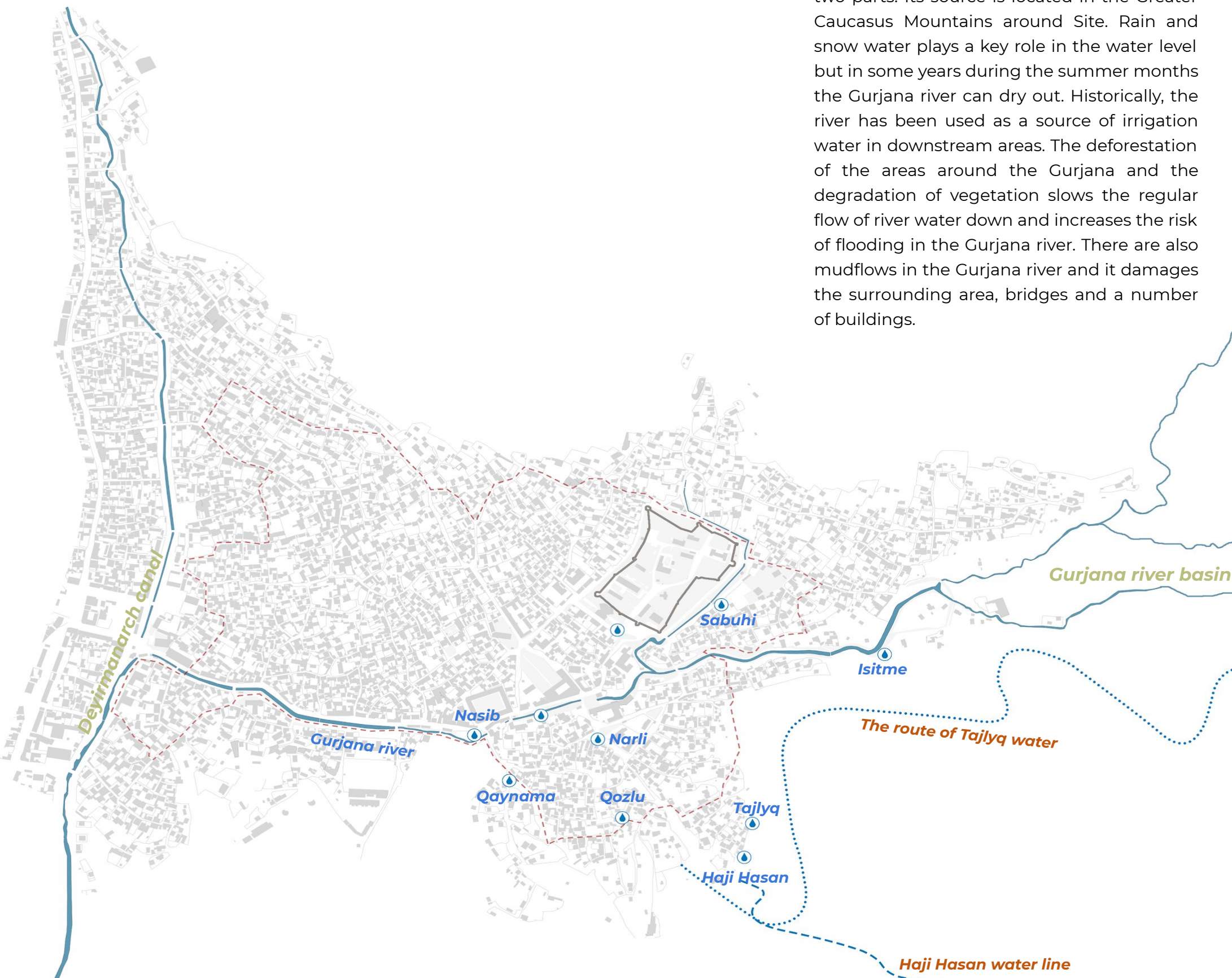
WATER SYSTEM : HISTORIC WATER SUPPLY LINES & SPRINGS

Gurjana River

The main river flowing through the territory of Site is the Gurjana river. The Gurjana River divides the heritage area into two parts. Its source is located in the Greater Caucasus Mountains around Site. Rain and snow water plays a key role in the water level but in some years during the summer months the Gurjana river can dry out. Historically, the river has been used as a source of irrigation water in downstream areas. The deforestation of the areas around the Gurjana and the degradation of vegetation slows the regular flow of river water down and increases the risk of flooding in the Gurjana river. There are also mudflows in the Gurjana river and it damages the surrounding area, bridges and a number of buildings.

Deyirmanarkh Canal

Deyirmanarkh canal was initially built for the connection of collected rain underground water and Gurjana river. In the past there were a lot of water mills on the Deyirmanarkh canal, but nowadays there is only one watermill left, which maintains the historical and heritage function. Historically the source of the Deyirmanarkh canal has started from the Kish river, but the water collecting system at this point has been destroyed over the time. Deyirmanarkh canal collects the water from small surface collected water and puddles. The function of Deyirmanarkh canal is not only limited with an operation of the mills, besides the water of Deyirmanarkh canal is an irrigation source for the locals. Through the analysis we can determine that there was an alternate regulation between the neighbors for the water distribution. Deyirmanarkh canal is the best example for the regulatory services of ecology, as well as for the historical meaning. Because of the inadequate waste disposal and solid wastes the Deyirmanarkh canal has been polluted and cannot be operated as a watermill. The lack of the sewage at the riverside causes deterioration of the water quality. The regeneration and conservation of the Deyirmanarkh canal depends on the management of the waste and sewage system.



WATER SYSTEM : DEYIRMANARKH CANAL AND GURJANA RIVER

PROBLEMS:

- solid waste pollution at the riverside
- discharge of bath water into the river and canal
- bad condition of the riverbed
- degradation of vegetation
- lack of accessibility to the side
- lack of public infrastructure along the riverside
- non-contextual design of contemporary bridges
- crossing communication lines over and along the Gurjana river and Deyirmanarkh canal



Gurjana river. photo of Sheki reserve mockup



Deyirmanarkh canal

WATER SYSTEM : HISTORIC WATER SUPPLY LINES & SPRINGS

TAJLYG WATERLINE

Tajlyg Waterline is a water distribution system in Sheki, which principally based on gravity distribution and transport the water from the mountains and forests to the Site's mehelles. This waterline was built 250 years ago and constructed with pottery pipes, manufactured by potters from the Site. Nowadays, a short part of this system has remained and provided the Ganjali mehelle of Sheki with drinkable water. Tajlyg waterline has been restored last time by the local communities though inappropriately. The working principle of the Tajlyg waterline system is the best example of human consumption as the filtration of the water is one of the expensive and energy wasted industrial processes. This art of the ecological method saves financial and ecological resources and should be protected.

- PROBLEMS:**
- constant maintenance and sustainability
 - partial of incompatibility of material (part of the ceramic pipeline was replaced by metal pipe)
 - lack of ability to demonstrate and promote the water line significance
 - the issues concerning the conservation of the Tajlyg waterline are described in the Conservation Master Plan.



Tajlyq ancient terracota water pipeline

SPRINGS

There are many springs in the historical area and most of them are built springs. The natural springs are the "isitma" (Heating) and "Qaynama" (Fount) springs. The "Isitma"-Heating spring is located in the north-eastern part of the city, north of Ganjali neighbourhood. This spring is a natural spring with low flow rate and it is used as a source of water by locals and tourists. The importance of the "isitme" spring as a source of water has historically been greater. The locals confirm that historically the flow of the spring has been very high, but now water has decreased, most likely due to climatic factors and deforestation of the surrounding area. Another reason may be the drilling of wells, which has not yet been confirmed. It should be noted that the decrease in the flow rate of the spring is not a local issue. Generally, all springs in the region have a decrease in water, and in most cases, it leads to dehydration.

- PROBLEMS:**
- low flow rate
 - dehydration
 - unmaintained condition
 - non-contextual architectural design
 - less of integration to the public place



Spring

FOREST LANDSCAPE

The Site is located in a valley in the Caucasus. The locals have used this kind of floral wealth of the Caucasus for centuries. They integrated nature into their everyday life, habits, building style and urban adaptation. The forests around the city supplied people with drinking water, food, medicine, building materials, and combustion agents. Due to the demographic growth, the forests are threatened by human use. Overconsumption of people threatens the loss of certain types of plants that are on the red list. Through the spontaneous tourist visits, the environment is littered and there is even a risk of forest fires. The uncontrolled grazing of the herd by locals also creates an added threat to forests and rare plants.

PROBLEMS

- urbanisation
- undefined picnic and camping areas
- lack of infrastructure in view points and trekking routes
- poor solid waste management



TRANSPORT SYSTEM

Tourism based activities are the main economic and financial resources in the Site. It is estimated that in the next decades the effectiveness of tourism based activities will grow. These are for the local population and state party which manages protection, management and rehabilitation of the Site. Due to sustainable development all regeneration processes should be under control. For this purpose besides preservation of the historical attributes some infrastructural improvement are also necessary in the Site. List of the main issues are given below.

According to the Conservation Master Plan (CMP) Reserve Administration applies certain regulation regarding transportation system in the site area. For instance, heavy vehicles for construction is not allowed to enter in the fortress. This is due to protect monuments from the vibration of heavy vehicles that potentially pose threat for the monuments.

The very regulatory measures and policies should be applicable for the whole historic town. Thus, traffic within the historic town must be strictly controlled. Pedestrian traffic is to be encouraged and speed on the historical territory is to be limited as well as parking along the main highway is to be prohibited. Taxi stands should also be determined. Public transport should be environmentally friendly.

Development of tourism brings to the need of parking places for excursion buses and individual transport as a result of increase of number of tourists. These parking places should be determined from the point of view of development of old town.

PROBLEMS:

- Unsatisfactory public transport system
- Undefined and non-installed bus stops
- Undefined pedestrian routes
- Unsatisfactory state of roads



PUBLIC SPACE INFRASTRUCTURE

LOCAL PUBLIC SPACES

- kimgas
- dalans
- pocket space
- squares

Open public spaces have a special meaning for the locals of the Site. The neighbours, who meet in kimgas and dalans during the hours of the day, spend their free time here. This is why kimgas and squares have been scattered throughout the historic mehelles of the Site. Public spaces cannot meet their demands today and they have many problems. If their problems are periodically investigated and intervened, we can keep this public interaction in the kimgas and dalans in Site vital. This is characteristic for this town that the people move chairs to every space and shade they find, turning it into an open public space. They are the masters of the emergence of public space.

PROBLEMS:

- Lack of pedestrian passages, public spaces and street furniture (benches, garbage bins)
- Incomplete and imperfect street illumination
- Lack of the infrastructure for the people special needs (accessibility, wc, guidance)
- Absent of navigation signage (wayfinding)
- Lack of vision & planning instruments
- Poor waste management
- Visual pollution (names, advertisements etc.)



Otaq Eshiyi square

PLAN SCENARIOS FOR URBAN



*Ganja gate of the Fortress.
photo of the Soviet period*

UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITE VALUES

ABUNDANCE OF HISTORY

Located at the intersection of trade routes, the city has accumulated the historical heritage of civilizations that passed through the Site. If this heritage is revived and transferred to future, it will also have economic benefits for the locals. .

ABUNDANCE OF NATURE

The advantage of the Site's location in the valley of Great Caucasus mountain is that it has fertile water basins. The protection of Tajlyg water, which is a tradition of years, will shape its development dynamics. After this first step, a sustainable study can be envisaged in order to restore the historic water system of the Site, such as the restoration of the partly destroyed historical waterlines.

ABUNDANCE OF LOCAL PRODUCTION

In the city where dry agriculture is dominant, traditional agriculture should be kept alive. The convenient logistics location of the city and the fertile lands open up opportunities for organic production. Sheki's local products and production techniques should be protected and branded as "local organic production" for the visitors.



Fresco from the Shekhanovs' House interior

LEARNING LESSONS FOR VISION

1 URBAN IMAGE

Making the values of the city visible, enhances the feeling and attracts the attention of visitors. A strong image should be created on the historical importance of the city. The focus should be on the development of public spaces for meeting spaces that support the urban image. Preserving the urban texture and architecture, which are indicators of the city's unique identity. It should be adopted as a basic condition and should be featured in the new image of the city.

2 COMMON SENSE

Public, private and civil sectors can produce projects together and their implementation capacities should be developed. Developing different sectors by supporting each other and increasing their ability to work together will increase the gain of all parties.

3 ADDED VALUE

In production methods, old and new should be brought together by adding new technologies as well as traditional methods. The value of production should be increased with technology, design, promotion, training and cooperation.

4 BALANCED DEVELOPMENT

Balanced development of tourism, agriculture, trade and industry sectors should be ensured throughout the region. While evaluating development dynamics, protection of natural resources and cultural values should be a priority.

5 VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Providing infrastructure and activities that will allow different tourist groups to come to the city at different times of the year improves the visitor experience. Modernizing the infrastructure of the visited areas and accommodation facilities has an important place in competition with other cities.

6 HYDROPOWER

The attractive and unifying power of underground and surface waters should be used. While benefiting from the productivity of water, the continuity of resources should be ensured and importance should be given to the management of water.

7 LOCAL PROTECTION MODEL

The restoration of historical neighborhoods and the preservation of the city of natural and historical values should include not only the renewal of physical space but also social renewal. Tourism and conservation strategy should be integrated as an economic model.

8 THEME

Themes defined over the differences and diversity of cities, shows the priority issues in the formation of urban identity. Themes reveal which sectors need to work together to achieve a common vision.

9 VISION PROJECTS

Themes defined over the differences and diversity of cities, shows the priority issues in the formation of urban identity. Themes reveal which sectors need to work together to achieve a common vision.

10 Action Plan

Priorities and action steps must be defined for realization of Projects in line with the vision. Financing and cooperation models should be established and the roles of the actors should be defined as well.



Fresco from the Shekhanovs' House interior

IDENTIFICATION OF DESTINATIONS FOR TOMORROW

1 BALANCED DEVELOPMENT

Balanced development of tourism, sericulture, agriculture, trade and industry sectors should be ensured throughout the region. While evaluating development dynamics, protection of natural resources and cultural values should be a priority.

2 REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Examining the relationship networks for the city and its surroundings and revealing the strategic bridges that can be established will determine the framework of the regional perspective. The level of impact of regional changes on our cultural heritage area should be kept under constant observation, risks and potentials should be evaluated.

3 EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY, AWARENESS

Social education should be a means of informing about the city. In order for the city dwellers to embrace the city, first of all, awareness should be created, it should be aimed to make the society more active in urban life by creating an environment of awareness that is necessary for development.

4 COMPETITION

Competition, quality standards and promotion strategies should be developed in order to bring the values of the city to the forefront and become known in the domestic and foreign markets. In order to increase competition, better quality products and services should be among the priority development goals of the city, and opportunities to open to foreign markets should be created through standardization and accreditation.

5 LIFE QUALITY

Establishing the union of citizens with the city and society should be through their participation in urban life. Activities such as cultural and artistic activities, concerts, exhibitions, theater performances, ensembles, sports activities to meet the needs and expectations of locals, young people and visitors should be encouraged in the city center and the region.

6 INTEGRATION

Cooperation method solidarity and production, which is the result of rural life culture, maintains its continuity. Economic contribution and support of the city to the countryside should be provided by developing economic programs between rural and urban areas. It is important for non-governmental organizations to become more active in social life, to defend the rights of employees and residents and to initiate the necessary change.

7 COMMON VALUE

Common Management Models should be produced in line with the Common Vision by determining the natural, cultural and historical common values in the city and the region. With this model, joint projects can be developed under the umbrella of Common Culture. Increasing the capacity of public, private and civil sectors to produce and implement projects together and their ability to do business together will ensure the balanced development of the city and the region.

8 INTERACTION

The crossroads where tourism and commercial facilities are concentrated should be reconstructed within the framework of new scenarios. The intersection, which is the meeting point of tourism, trade, agriculture, cultural heritage and entertainment themes, should be handled with a management approach that will increase the added value of the economy.



ARRANGEMENT OF REGENERATION INSTRUMENTS

Numerous financial resources and policy instruments to overcome problems and achieve objectives related regeneration of Sheki which sets out in the Management Plan. In general, they are the followings:

MUNICIPAL INVOLVEMENT

(citizen's engagement in rehabilitation of cultural heritage through city municipality)

CREDITS

with low interest rate for restoration and investment on cultural heritage objects.

GRANTS PROGRAM

for incentivizing private participation in restoration

TAX INCENTIVES

for investors to invest in cultural heritage conservation and use

LONG-TERM LEASING

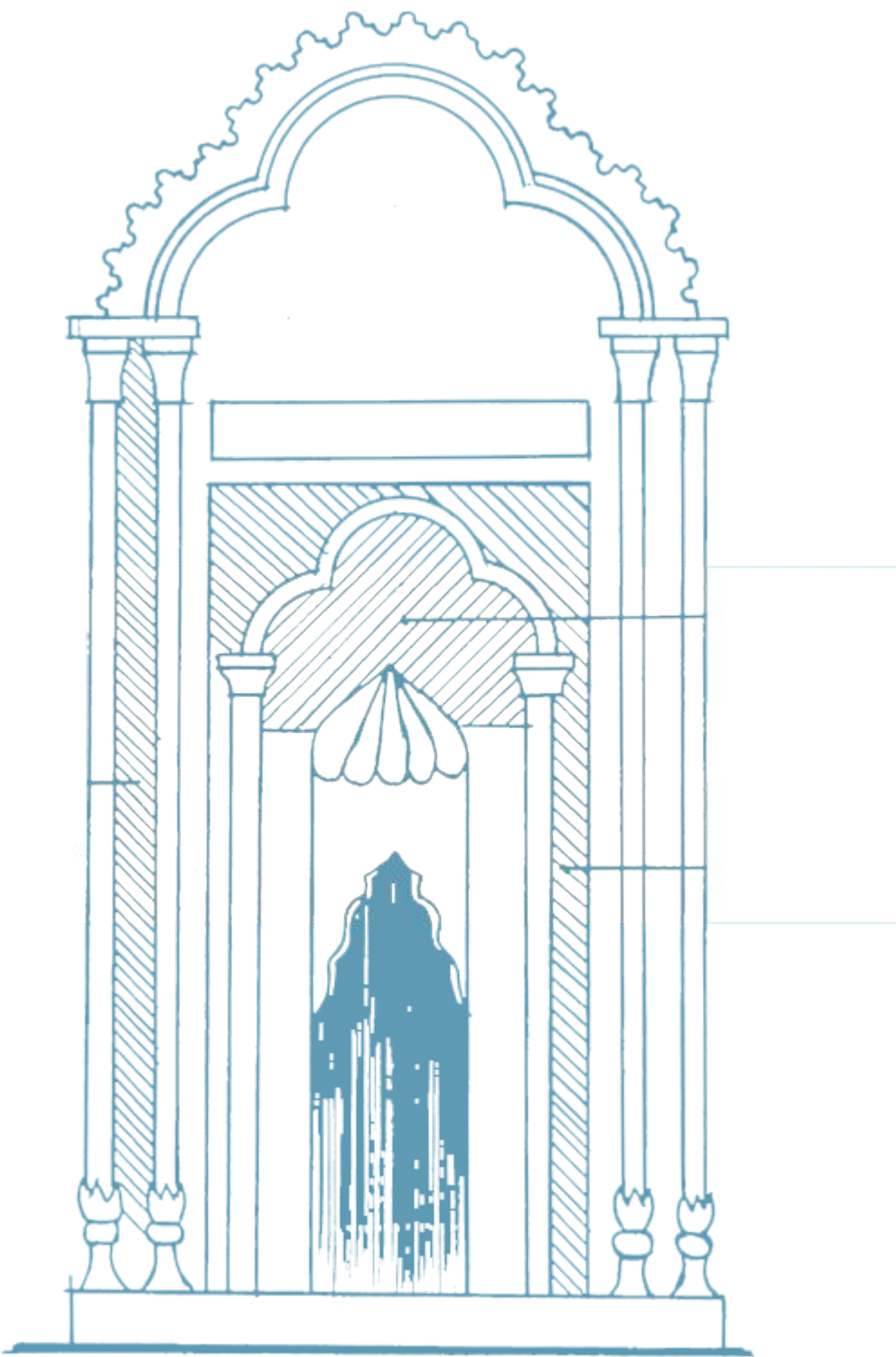
of cultural heritage monument for sustainable use (PPP)

SUBSIDY

for having and using traditional construction materials in restoration

STATE INVESTMENT

IN RESTORATION AND DEVELOPMENT



PLAN WITH ACTIVE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

ORGANISATION OF FIELD SURVEY

Organisation of field survey to the historical projects fields with the reserve architect for informing and awarenesses.

INVOLVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE IN THE PROCESS OF DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

Regular grant award for the locals for determination of the site issues and minimization of illegal actions in the Site area

COOPERATION WITH COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Informing and voting at the beginning of strategies and projects with the Council of Elders about the implementations at the site by the “Yukhari Bash” National Historical and Architectural Reserve.

COOPERATION WITH LOCALS AND MAHALLA

Informing and voting strategies and projects with the heads of mehelles and their locals by the **“Yukhari Bash” National Historical and Architectural Reserve team.**

INVOLVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE IN THE PROCESS OF DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

Regularly grant award for the locals for determination of the site issues and minimization of illegal using of reserves

COOPERATION WITH PUBLIC ASSOCIATION

“Support to Intangible Cultural Heritage Public Association” (NGO). In 2020 this association was founded with the help of the Reserve Management Center in order to promote and support cooperation with craftsmen.



WORLD HERITAGE SITE AT THE TOURISM PERSPECTIVE

TOURISM INFLUENCE

Acceptance of the Site to the list of the World heritage will significantly reflect on the tourist visitor attendance. It also will create an opportunity for governmental and private investment.

The Coronavirus pandemic of 2020 drastically influenced the tourism industry as a result foreign tourism flow was completely suspended. The total number of tourists in Azerbaijan was around 2,4 millions. This shows that Sheki Reserve is visited by only 5 % of all inbound tourists. The number of tourists decreases in winter. So, the winter period could be considered as a low tourism flow time. Sheki is a multi-activity area that is not dependent on certain tourist seasons. In summer and in winter the area offers lots of different activities containing nature, culture, entertainment, discovering the local culture, unique culinary etc. Sheki is both summer and winter destination.

It is suspected that tourism in Sheki will increase in the post-pandemic process. In this process, the implementations for the site will support the improvement of the condition and infrastructure. Tourism creates an alternative source of income for locals in Sheki. In future, it should be made works on stabilisation for turning tourism into the main source. In the following strategies, the aim in urban is to achieve even distribution and thus avoid excessive gentrification.

Furthermore, tourism is new territory for Azerbaijan. Therefore, no thorough studies and research have been made about its social and economic effects. We aim as a next step to keep in the eye the results and effects on the people of tourism and make necessary interventions. To achieve this, close cooperation with the locals and the associated authorities is essential. It is important that these examinations are made periodically and continuously. Current research indicates the following;

POSITIVE

- tourism as an economic accelerator
- governmental and private investments
- appearance of new workplaces.

NEGATIVE

- uncontrolled gentrification
- emergence of many external entrepreneurs
- Supplanting local communities from their original neighborhoods.
- Increasing the prices of the property, products and services



The front of the Sheki Khan Palace. Khan garden

WORLD HERITAGE SITE AT THE TOURISM PERSPECTIVE

CULTURAL COMPATIBILITY BETWEEN COMMUNITY & TOURISTS

Every authentic community has its own mentality and habits based on local cultural codes. Presence of a mass tourism on native habitat leads to cultural interchange between Sheki community and tourists. In many cases this interchange positively reflects on the local community, bringing universal human values of different cultures.

Despite this fact some negative impacts also may occur in the frame of cultural interchange. Cultural landscape of the Site is formed by the influence of geographical location, religious and socio-political issues. Sheki city is located in Caucasion region and its population is predominantly muslims. Muslims of Azerbaijan due to the long period of soviet presence (more than seventy years) are quite secular and have tolerance to modern cultural and social phenomenons. For example sensitive topics in islam culture concerning issues of alcohol consumption, restrictions on dress code and etc. do not have preconceptions in local community.



DESTINATIONS FOR TOURISM PERSPECTIVE

ECO-TOURISM, ALTERNATIVE-TOURISM

The resources of the city and the region should be designed so that tourism visitors as well as those living in the city can reach them. Public spaces should be increased in order to increase the perception of owning the city and the quality of life, that is, to revive life, and economic alternatives should be offered to citizens to discover values such as national parks. It is an advantage to have extremely strong tourism activities in Sheki. Alternative plateau culture, observation facilities, camping, mountaineering, history tours, walks, water sports are an alternative to ecotourism. Alternatives such as thematic package tours, rural accommodation, village life experience should be revitalized in order to revive eco tourism in the region.

GLOBALISM

Thanks to Tourism, the global order is benefiting for SHEKI. International market gaps can create opportunities to promote the products produced here and thus improve the economic level of the local population.

TOURISM AND AGRICULTURE

The agricultural production heritage and sericulture of the city are losing their effectiveness today. If the loss of this forgotten cultural heritage is prevented by strategic interventions and production is encouraged with the opportunities created and tourism is used as a tool for this, the economy of the region will be able to reach a wide market. The tourism approach to be adopted in the region should focus on life by producing, not on consumption.

EQUAL FUSION

The vitality that tourism brings to the city is an important means of income and movement for the city. Entertainment and recreation areas of a type that meet the expectations and needs of the tourists should be planned and these people should be able to embrace the city and socialize with the local people.



MASTERPLAN

- DESIGN STRATEGIES FOR URBAN
- 1 Sheki Khan Palace

2 The Round Temple

3 Gilahli mosque Minaret

4 Khan mosque

5 Sheki Fortress

6 Shekikhanovs` House

7 Upper Caravanserai

8 Lower Caravanserai

9 Aghvans` bath

10 Imam Ali mosque

11 Tajliq ancient water pipeline

12 Fabric №1

13 Alijanbekovs` house

14 Farkhadbekovs` house

15 Z.Efendiyev`s house

16 Abdu Salam bath

17 Juma mosque

18 Omar Efendi mosque

19 The short minaret mosque

20 Dere bath

21 The Minaret

22 Ancient bridges (4)

23 M.F.Akhundov`s house

24 R.Efendiyev house

25 Monument to the World War II

26 Prison building 2

27 Prison building 1

28 Art Gallery (former barracks)

29 Local History Museum (former barracks)

30 Shabaka workshop (former barracks)

31 ABAD (former barracks)

32 Former ophthalmology hospital

33 Former diabetes hospital

34 Former soldiers pray house

35 Former Huseynbekovs` houses

36 M.Aliyevs` Mollakhana

37 Upper Caravanserai` kitchen

38 Former youth club

39 Former kindergarden №1

40 Samadovs` house

41 Library №1

42 Haji Rzaqulu`s house

43 Dadanovs` houses

44 School №2

45 Haji Zeynalabdin`s house

46 Pedagogical school building (former M.S.Aliyevs` shop)

47 Club named after C.Mustafayev (former M.S.Aliyevs` warehouse)

48 Fabric №3

49 Children orphanage (former Zulfuqarovs` house)

50 Pedagogical college building (former M.S.Aliyev`s house)

51 Kindergarden №6 (former Haji Ismail`s house)

52 Haji Musa Agha`s house

53 Memmed Kerim`s sock artel

54 Kindergarden №18 (Haji Qedir`s and Haji Mamed`s house)

55 Watermills (3)

56 Shirinov`s house

57 Gulnar Nasirov`s house

58 Qemze daughter Mulayim`s house

59 Chopurlars` house

60 Gullu qari mosque

61 Hemid Agha`s house

- 62 Ancient shop

63 Ismailbek`s houses

64 Molla Aghamirze son Yahyabek`s house

65 A.Efendizadeh`s house

66 Memmedov Abbasqulu`s house

67 Hemzêh`s house

68 Haji Yusif`s house

69 Rice-grower Jafar`s house

70 Aghashirinov`s house

71 Former typography building

72 Haji Abdulalimov.İsmayil`s house

73 Former kindergarden №5 (former Mustafabeks` house)

- 74 Abdulla Ali son`s house

75 Former Narcological Dispensary

76 Karimov Nargiz`s house

77 Ancient church

78 Abdurrahmanov Qurban`s house

79 Abdulalibek`s house

80 Abbasqulu`s house

81 Brick factory tower

82 Seismological centre

83 Pouse of folklore with amphitheatre

84 Sheki Palace Hotel

85 School №3

86 Green hill hotel

87 Sheki Pedagogical College dormitory

88 Multifunctional building (Former Intourist hotel)

89 Sheki Executive Committee

90 School №1

91 Ruma hotel

92 Kindergarten №3

93 School №4

- Building which will be restored

Building which will be added to the list of monuments

Inappropriate structure

Non-residential structure

Residential building

Streets rehabilitation I phase

Streets rehabilitation II phase

Barrier-free line

Planned landscape projects area

Private garden

Forest

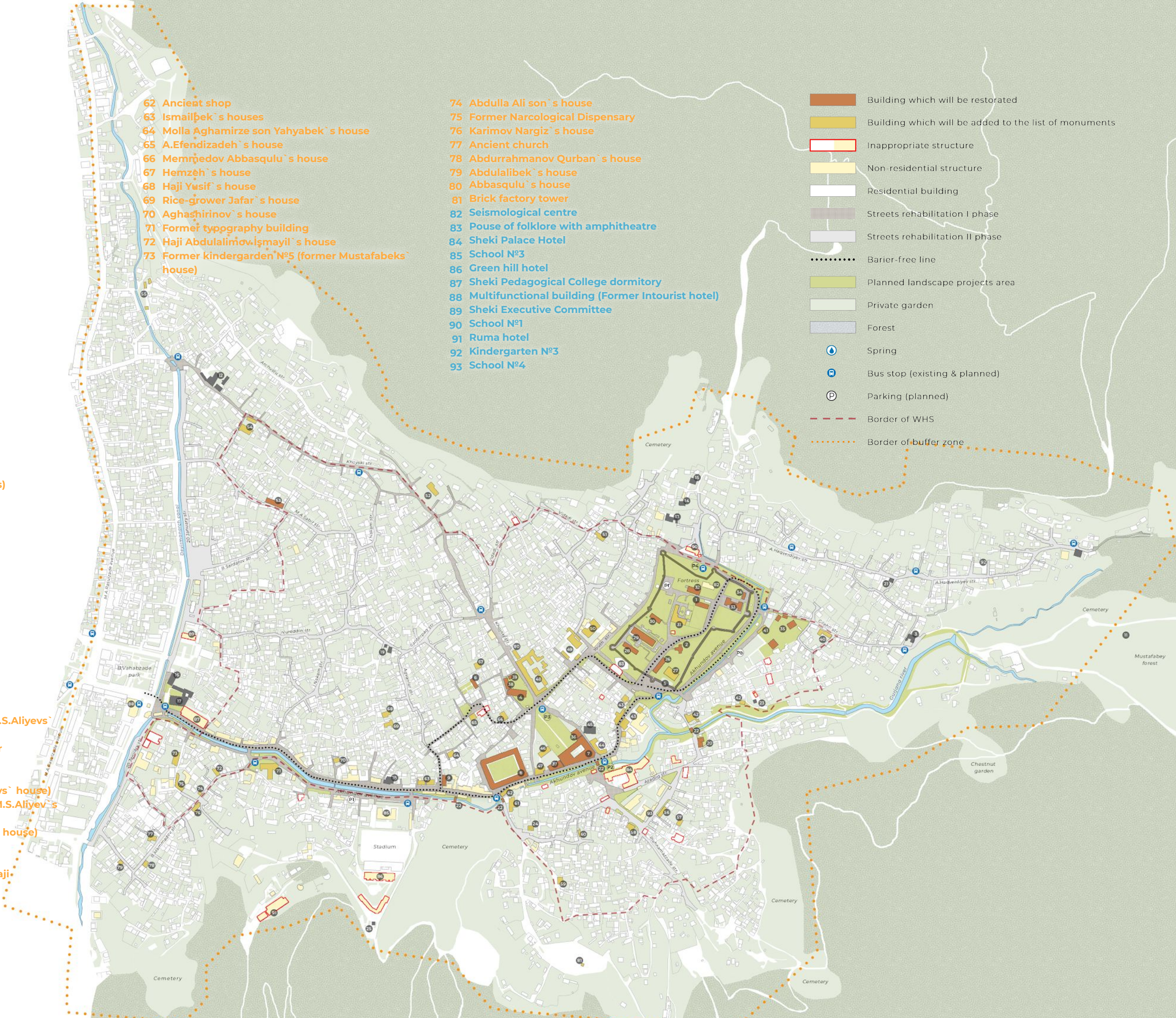
Spring

Bus stop (existing & planned)

Parking (planned)

Border of WHS

Border of buffer zone



DESIGN STRATEGIES FOR URBAN



RE-ORGANISATION OF MOBILITY PATTERNS

RE-ORGANISATION

Many urban dynamic interventions are designed and set in place separately from each other and therefore have no communication between one another. As a result, the urban fabric becomes chaotic and messy, creating a need to recover this lost balance. The traffic system is the one of them. Cause the planning in the seperately time periods there are an undefined situation of direction of the traffic, their time regulations and their stops.

IMPLICATION

One of the most important components of the fabric is the traffic system, because while other components are an integral part, the traffic system is the moving and routing organs of the fabric. This dynamic element affects many processes, events, urban flows. For this reason we would like to undertake new regulations for the existing traffic system and thereby impair the distribution of the traffic balance in the city and create a harmonious and environmentally conscious balance. The current state of the traffic system in the city requires intervention to create more car-free traffic areas and pedestrian zones. Because by pedestlizing the streets we gain zones for free movement and it creates valuable places for citizens, which play an outstanding role in urban regeneration.



RE-ORGANISATION OF MOBILITY PATTERNS (PROPOSAL)

REGULATION ON AKHUNDOV

The historical importance and the geographical location of Akhundov Avenue makes it the special main distribution element in the transport system. It is currently a two-lane road that can be used on both sides. The goal is to partially pedestrianise Akhundov Street and shift traffic flow to the left side of the Gurjana river. The existing road there provides us with all the conditions (width of the road, carrying weight, etc.) and serves the same purpose as its predecessors. As a result, the visitors and residents get a calm street situation, which also means healing, regeneration and gaining historical integrity of the Akhundov.

CIRCUMAMBULATION AROUND THE FORTRESS WALLS

The historical fortress in Sheki is the navel in historical context. The road around this fortress also plays a similar role on a large scale, because all of the major roads that is referred to as the main arteries flow into this ring road. This is where traffic is distributed or switched to other streets. For this reason, the maintenance of the current cycle and a pleasant flow of the traffic flow is included to the Plan. Traffic lights at the points must be regulated as there may be bottlenecks due to the historical streets.

REGULATION KHOYSKY & 20 YANVAR STREETS

Currently, the main traffic flow is from Rasoolzadeh and January 20th Streets, and as Akhundov is the first street leading to Khan Palace, visitors prefer this street, which leads to heavy traffic at the intersection of January 20th and Akhundov Avenue and along Akhundov Streets can. The goal is replace traffic dynamics from Akhundov Avenue to the Khosky street, By breaking this strong current, the aim is to create an even distribution by directing the traffic towards Upper Khoysky Street through signs. In this way we bring the upper part of the city to life and we accelerate the slowing dynamic.



RE-ORGANISATION OF MOBILITY PATTERNS

PARKING ALLOCATION

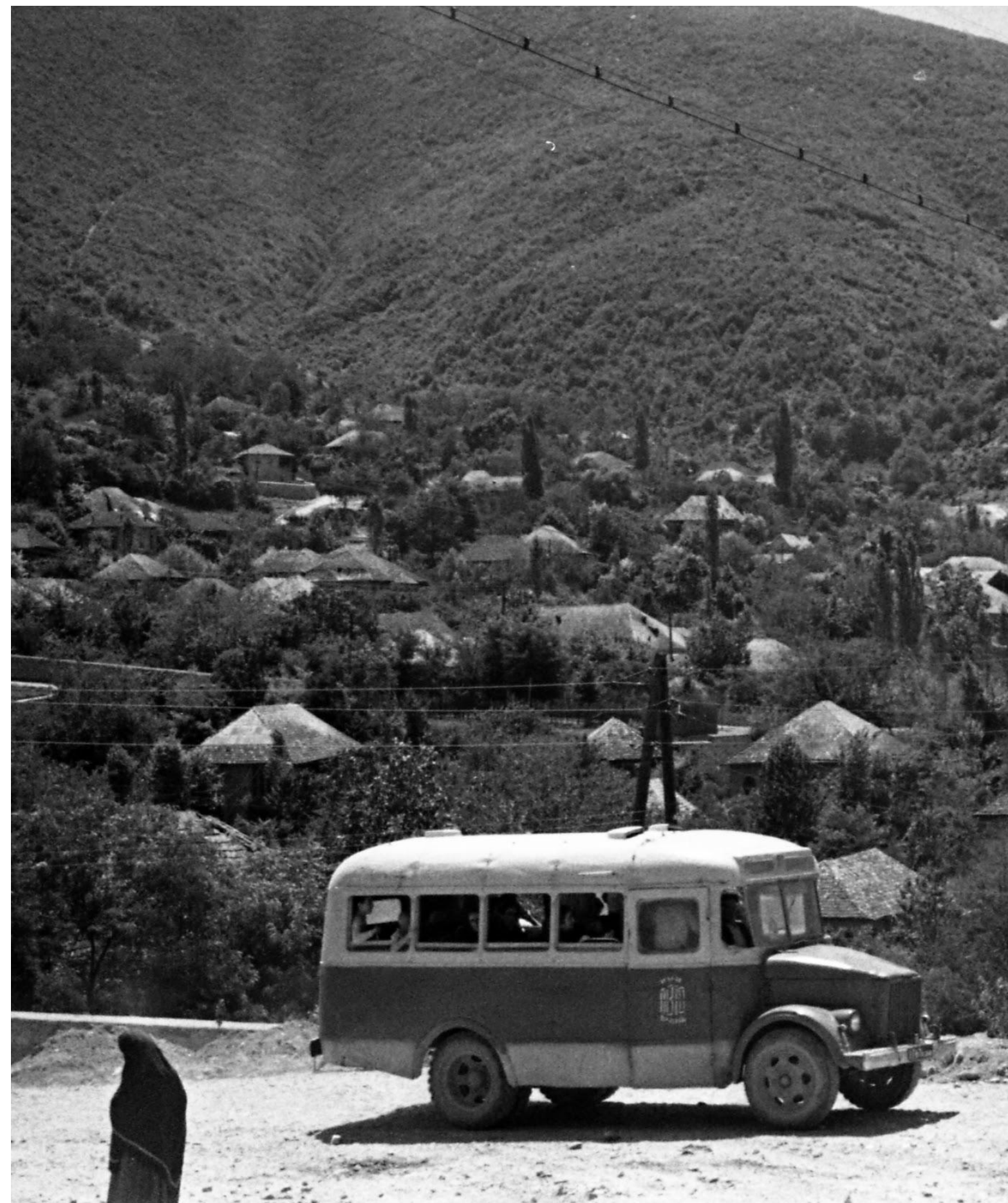
By rebalancing the traffic weight, the parking situation in the city will be regulated. The aim is to distribute the parking lot in the city and reduce the chaotic parking situation. In order to achieve this goal, the current situation has to be thinned out before it lands on the umbilical street and disrupts or clogs the circulation there. In addition, the strong definition and marking of the parking and non-parking zones creates clarity for residents and visitors. The newly planned parking spaces P1, P2, P3 take on the dilution function. The suburb of the gate entrance remains for the short entry and exit for the Kleinüagen and buses. The last end of Akhundov avenue is parallel and double. One of these streets is the potential side parking lot for buses. By allocating the new parking lot at the Shamakhi Gate of the Fortress, visitors' tour to the Fortress downhill becomes available. This is also one of the balancing and distribution strategies.

The deliberate choice of the location of the parking lot P2 and P3 at the intersection of the two main arteries Khoyski and Akhundov ensures that there should not be any congestion at this intersection. Furthermore, the visitors from parking illegally in the historical and pedestrian zones, which is too visual will be prevented. It could cause disruption and prevent the accessibility of commercial activities.

P4 is located at the Shamakhi gate of the Fortress walls. In this way, the parking areas are distributed to the two ends of the Fortress Walls, reducing the traffic inside.

The parking opportunities for employees and visitors of the buildings inside the Fortress Walls must be created. After making individual observations according to the number of employees and needs of each building, how the parking will be in this area, the measures regarding new parking areas will be evaluated individually. The sum of the parking area solutions inside the Fortress Walls is named Pf.

Pb enables parking for busses. The forecourt in front of the Ganja Gate offers short time parking for passengers to get on and off.



REGENERATION OF AKHUNDOV STREET AND THE GURJANA RIVER VALLEY

ABSTRACT URBAN FABRIC

The Akhundov avenue and the Gurjana river are the lifeline of the city. Their historical and ecological role in the Urban Factory calls for developing sustainable concepts. Akhundov avenue regulates the main flow of movement in the city, satisfies the needs of residents and visitors. The Gurjana river provides the necessary natural environment which is important in this garden city. Besides, the Gurjana river regulates the water flow in the rainy season reduces the flow risk.

PEDESTRIANIZATION OF AKHUNDOV

One of the projects planned for Akhundov Street is the conversion of a car street into a pedestrian street. The reason for pedestrianization of this street has the following advantages in the overall city concept. With the increase of the population density and the sinking of the streaming cars in these places, we give the place the potential to create an undisturbed environment for its users, which can drive social and economic development.

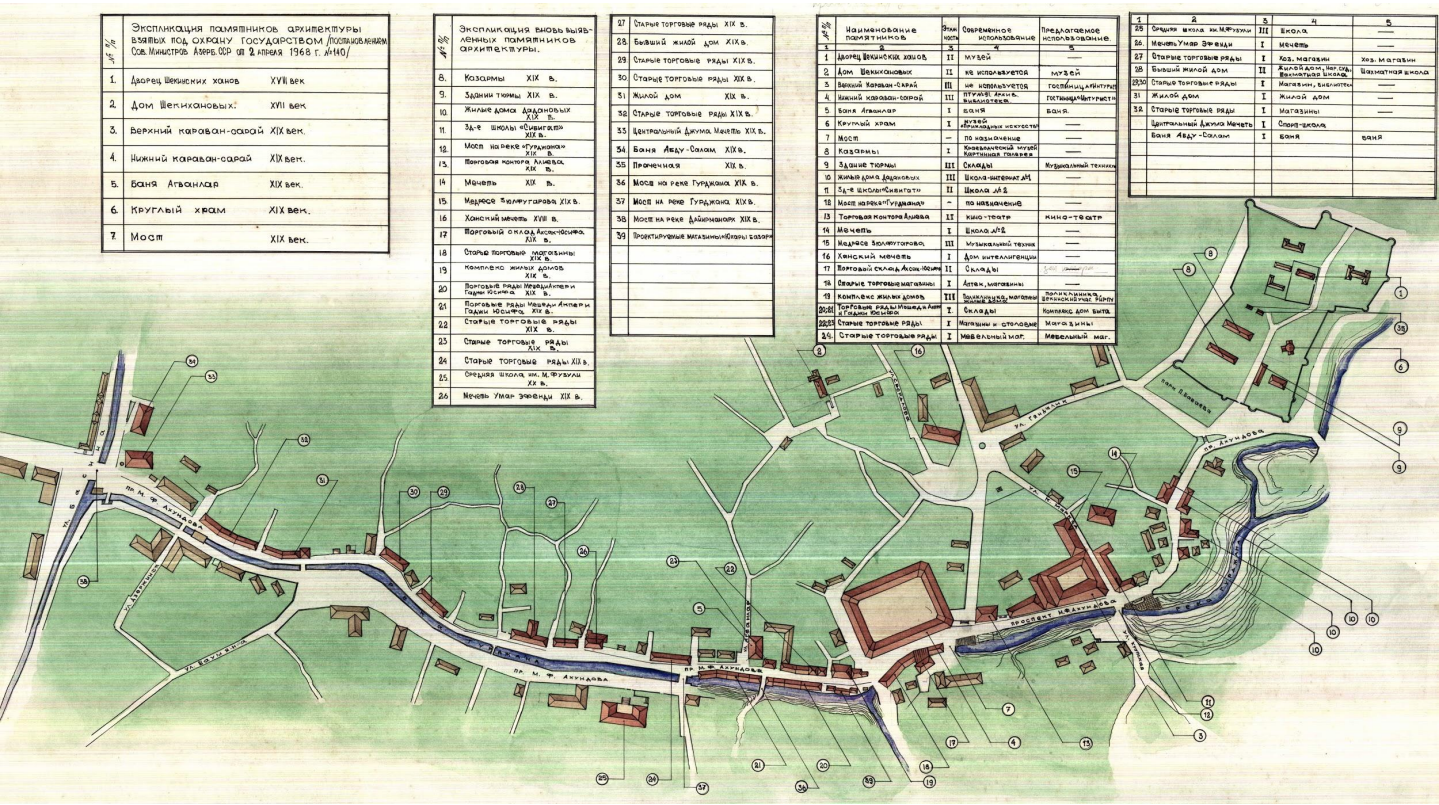
Because on a car road the many places fronts remain untouched, uncontacted and ignored, which leads to a loss of value. Akundov, with its historical and commercial significance, will be the new forerunner and pathfinder in the implementation strategy. This also gives the secondary roads on the right-hand side of the river an additional meaning. The rearrangement of the dynamic elements of the city (people and car traffic) balances the weights. The status of the roads over Akhundov, such as Nuraddin, Sari Torpaq, is changing and the current is strengthened by this encroachment

DIVERSITY (AKHUNDOV AVENUE)

It means to design the existing environment so that it is easily recognizable by the citizens, providing in those environments a clear, defined use and function of its places. Doing so requires that each open space be defined in terms of treatment, hierarchy, and readability.



Intersection of Akhundov avenue with Khoysky street



Regeneration project of Akhundov street. 1986

REGENERATION OF AKHUNDOV STREET AND GURJANA RIVER VALLEY

GURJANA RIVERSIDE

Gurjana, the main artery of the city, and its coastal Akhundov street contain a special request for planning and regulation due to their importance at the urban level. The vacant places that could be used was evaluated and envisaged that these areas should be improved and used as areas that would explain the language of the city and meet the technical needs of public social areas or social areas.

Gurjana, the green backbone of the city, was used by its inhabitants for historical irrigation, but Gurjana lost this function in its day. The bed of the river deserves to give it importance in the city. Current spatial planning, spatial passages and connections cannot be perceived correctly by visitors or locals. This potential, which is very valuable in urban terms, should be adapted to the historical texture in the best way. In order to change the perception of visitors and locals and to evaluate the river as the open area of the city, spatial arrangements are needed in the riverbed and on the banks of the river. The ecological situation of the river should be improved and made part of the green space concept of the city. In addition, the access of disabled people to the green areas around Gurjana should be facilitated.

RE-FER (GURJANA)

Refer to the Context Every place has its vocation, dictated mostly by the landscape surrounding it. It is wrong to think that every space can adapt to everything. Reading the landscape properly and grasping its peculiarities helps to integrate every project in the context where it's built (it could be a seaside, riverside, countryside, etc.).



REGENERATION OF AKHUNDOV STREET AND GURJANA RIVER VALLEY

In general, the street situation on Akhundov Street should be improved. Historical content and harmony must always be taken into account in the restoration of buildings, landscaping and material selection of these works. The streets leading to Akhundov from the upper quarters have the same function as the roads leading to the sea in big cities.

In general, the street situation on Akhundov Street should be improved. Historical content and harmony must always be taken into account in the restoration of buildings, landscaping and material selection of these works. The streets leading to Akhundov from the upper quarters have the same function as the roads leading to the sea in big cities.

IMPROVEMENT OF SPACE

- ❖ safety devices along the riverside (railing, retaining wall)
- ❖ covering the drainage gaps
- ❖ improvement of inappropriate facads
- ❖ renewal of the street surface materials
- ❖ planning of car road at the left side of Gurjana
- ❖ restoration of historical bridges on Gurjana
- ❖ illumination
- ❖ addition of public space facilities
- ❖ unified signs and advertisements

SOCIALIZING OF SPACE

- ❖ barrier-free at along Akhundov
- ❖ facilitating of accessibility to the Gurjana riverside

UTILIZATION OF SPACE

- ❖ bags
- ❖ gaps
- ❖ riverside
- ❖ street



RECONNECTING OF KHAN'S ROUTE | URBAN EYE

RE-CONNECTING & HISTORICAL MEANING

A space means to mend the connection between parts of a city previously disconnected by structures and/or infrastructure that have made a real cut into the urban fabric. Looking at this from the urban regeneration point of view can make these obstacles a connecting bridge for the city.

Speaking about KHAN route, both a physical and an imaginary way that has remained in the historical region of SHEKI since the feudal era and which Khan used actively in his administrative and daily life.

Since this road is one of the first roads to exist in the city and it is used actively, it is highly likely that the first houses of the city were split around this circle. We know from the historical information that the buildings burned down and disappeared due to the fires in the early 19th century. But today, a row of monuments on this road have survived and preserved their existence. For this reason, the historical and imaginary link between them must be protected and renovated. In addition, the part of this road going to the south was connected to the Khan's Cafarabad vineyards and the part to the north was connected to the Khan's plateaus. This road symbolizes the feudal order and the circulation of its assets and administration.

IMPORTANCE IN THE URBAN FABRIC

Khan route and its circle occupy a very important place in the urban fabric. This area, which we define as the eye of the urban, should speak the same language as Akhundov street and the fortress. Because Akhundov street, Khan route and its surroundings and the fortress, these three together form an ensemble in the urban fabric. The following should be applied in every intervention in order to protect this ensemble and to protect the urban language.



RECONNECTING OF KHAN'S ROUTE | URBAN EYE

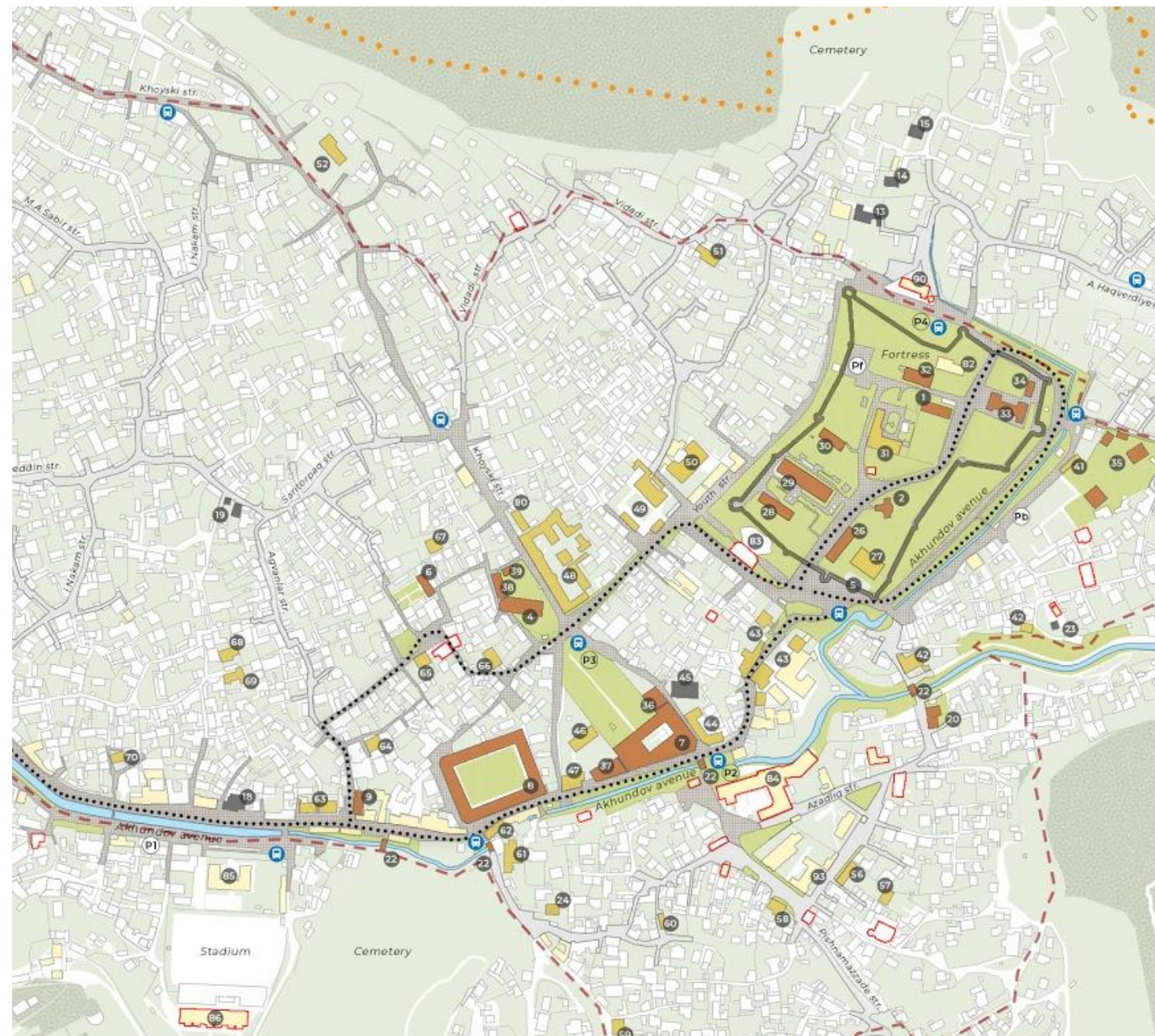
EASTERN CONFIGURATION

In addition to the Khan Mosque on the Khan Road, the symbol of the Mosque-Square-Spring-Plane Tree, an ensemble of Islamic architecture, named eastern configuration, and urban planning, must also be preserved. It will also be the motto to lead the way in renovating other squares and public places in the urban. These 4 ensembles explain why people come together and gather in public places. The mosque is a reference point for the people and has a strong architectural identity, the square provides meeting space for the people, the trees provide shade, the springs supplies them with water, the elixir of life.

- ❖ Preservation of historical texture
- ❖ Equality of materials used for restoration on roads, walls and walls
- ❖ Preservation of the historical street order and architectural features
- ❖ The same lighting, signage and sign systems
- ❖ Same public space facilities
- ❖ Pedestrian friendly
- ❖ Suitable for disabled access
- ❖ Reorganizing the accessibility of shops, restaurants and other businesses in the most suitable way for pedestrians, preserving the historical texture
- ❖ Preserving the greenery, which is the most important element of the city.

MAIN ELEMENTS ON THIS ROUTE

- **Sheki Khan Palace**
- **Shekikhanovs house**
- **Khan Mosque with Khan square and his family's cemetery**
- **Old Bazaar Caravanserai**
- **Khan's Plane Trees.**
- **Khan's Spring (not survived to the present day)**



REGENERATION OF INSIDE OF THE FORTRESS WALLS AND ITS SURROUNDING

RE-USE

Urban regeneration requires to reinvent a space because its form and use are no longer suitable. The landscape project can give shape to a new meaning for an old place; it has no connection with the past, but marks the launch of a brighter future.

THE LAST PART OF ENSEMBLE THE URBAN CORE

The fortress and the buildings inside of form the last part of the urban ensemble. With its historical and architectural importance, it is the urban heart in the urban ensemble. The strategies outlined in Khan Route should apply here and follow a common vision express the the same spatial language. Since the influx of visitors and activities in the area is intense, there is an active and variable urban situation. As the visitor profile, number and interval change, the dynamics and balances in this area also change. Therefore, this area should be kept under constant surveillance and spatial problems should be evaluated periodically. After analyzing the current situation, it is aimed to solve the identified problems with the following strategic interventions, divided in following categories.

AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

The perimeter of the Fortress Walls should also be seen as a part of its interior space, and from time to time these areas should be evaluated in context with the interior of the Fortress and the wall itself. The area in front of the Ganja gate of the Fortress is planned to be reorganized. It is our priority to protect the greenery in the II, III, IVa and IVb areas around the Fortress.

GENERAL POLICY

- ❖ Increasing accessibility
- ❖ Ensuring comfortable circulation
- ❖ Responding adequately to changing events at the urban
- ❖ Protecting existing green areas
- ❖ Creating a parking space according to the needs
- ❖ Planning the parking areas in accordance with the visual in the historical texture
- ❖ Preserving the infrastructure
- ❖ Permanent maintenance and maintenance of the water drainage system

INSIDE OF THE FORTRESS

- ❖ Protection of the green area; A1, A2, A3
- ❖ Landscape design in accordance with nature and historical concept
- ❖ Plans related to Khan Palace and its garden are resolved in Conservation Master Plan
- ❖ Designing movement areas suitable for pedestrians
- ❖ Designing movement areas suitable for disabled people as much as possible
- ❖ Issues related to buildings at the inside of fortress are resolved at Conservation Master Plan



The Fortress. The Round Temple and Prisons buildings

REGENERATION OF INSIDE OF THE FORTRESS AND ITS SURROUNDING

DAY-NIGHT BALANCE

Social vitality in the Fortress is active only during the daytime. In the evening, the heart of the city closes its doors and the activity here stops. The elimination of this pause will not only increase the variety of activities in the city, but also cause changes in the city's day-night life equation. The fact that the buildings inside the Fortress and the public spaces inside the fortress are only used during the day and closed in the evening cause a huge dead area to be created right in the middle of the city. The fact that the area is closed causes dynamics to pause around it and circulation to watch. The flowing circulation causes the balance of vitality and activity in the city to deteriorate. It is anticipated that the interior of the fortress will also be open to the public in the evening and be kept alive with changing day and night activities.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL VESSEL

Another activity that can cause this vitality is the archaeological work to be carried out in the Fortress in the coming years. Archaeological works are welcomed with great interest both by local people and tourists. These activities will revive the Fortress in future works in Ar1, Ar2 and A3. It is aimed to create temporary viewing areas in landscape architecture for visitors to watch these works, which are generally welcomed with great interest, and make them a part of these works carried out in their cities and become a watchdog.



1

CONTEXTUAL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN
OF THE FORTRESS
AND SURROUNDING
AREA

3

PARKING AREA & ITS
REGULATION

2

CONTENT OF THE
FORTRESS AND
INCLUDED STRUCTURES

4

RESTORATION AND
ADAPTATION OF
HISTORICAL
STRUCTURES

There are structures in the Site that are opposite to the values and architectural features of the site. The reason why these structures are unsuitable for the environment is changing. The volume, proportion of the building, used materials and architectural style of them are irrelevant for the heritage site. It is necessary to determine in which way these nonconformities hurt the attributes and to make separate plans for each of them. Deconstructing of these structures at the heritage site does not seem like a sustainable solution. If these structures are dismantled, studies should be made to adapt them to the environment. At this point, Infill-Design comes into play. This detailed study, which investigates how these structures will keep up with the historical fabric of Sheki, from a scientific and architectural perspective, guides on how to realize this plan.

AREAS TO BE INCENTIVIZED FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

KIMGAS

Kimgas has a very important place in the urban structure of Sheki. These Kimgas, which are usually at the intersection of 3-4 roads and the borders of the mehelles, are almost like a gratuity at the urban level. This is because these empty gathering areas not only create a social space for people in their daily lives, but also create a meeting place in emergency situation. These areas, which are an obvious indicator of the vitality of the city, are an ideal place to inform and raise awareness of people. These areas, which cause the rapid spread of news and announcements in the city, form the basis of urban psychology, reveal the strong social ties in the urban, and the locals who gather during the day and especially in the evening and spend their free time with chat and play, also show a nice profile to the city's visitors. This social bond can be used to improve the physical condition of these areas. By improving the physical condition of the Kimgas, the social bond in places can be strengthened where socialization is reduced. The awareness raising is itself a regenerative action. The fact that these actions themselves cause a spatial regeneration again.

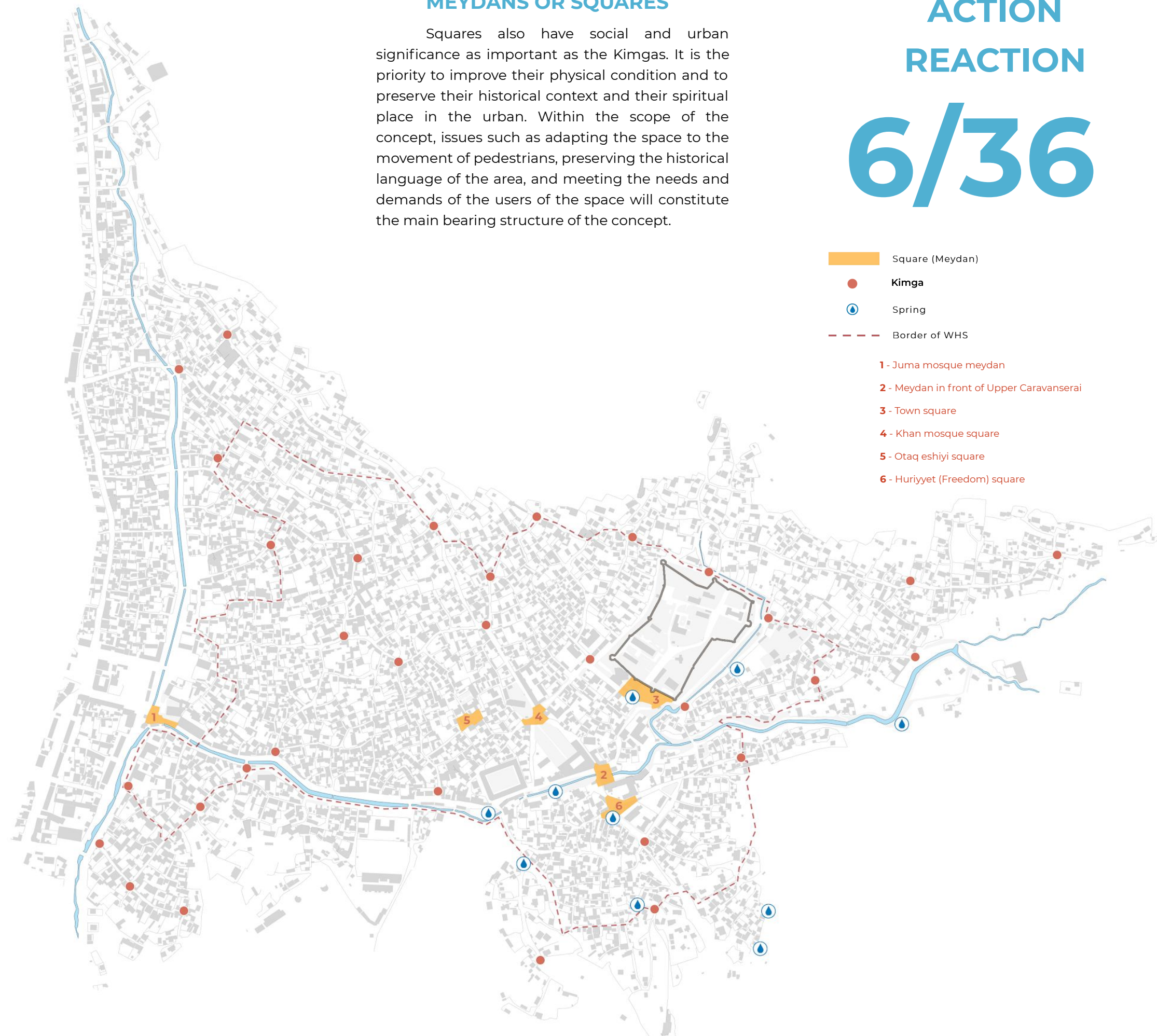
The neglect of the squares reduces the desire of people to come together there. At the same time, fewer people gather here cause the places to become increasingly neglected. If we assume that one cannot be considered separately from the other, the positive change we will make to one of these two factors also has a positive effect on the other. It is planned to implement this strategy, which is described as action-reaction. Kimgas are the areas where sharing and interaction with the locals, which is the fourth step of the road map in the Urban Regeneration Plan and which is the most important principle, will take place.

MEYDANS OR SQUARES

Squares also have social and urban significance as important as the Kimgas. It is the priority to improve their physical condition and to preserve their historical context and their spiritual place in the urban. Within the scope of the concept, issues such as adapting the space to the movement of pedestrians, preserving the historical language of the area, and meeting the needs and demands of the users of the space will constitute the main bearing structure of the concept.

ACTION REACTION

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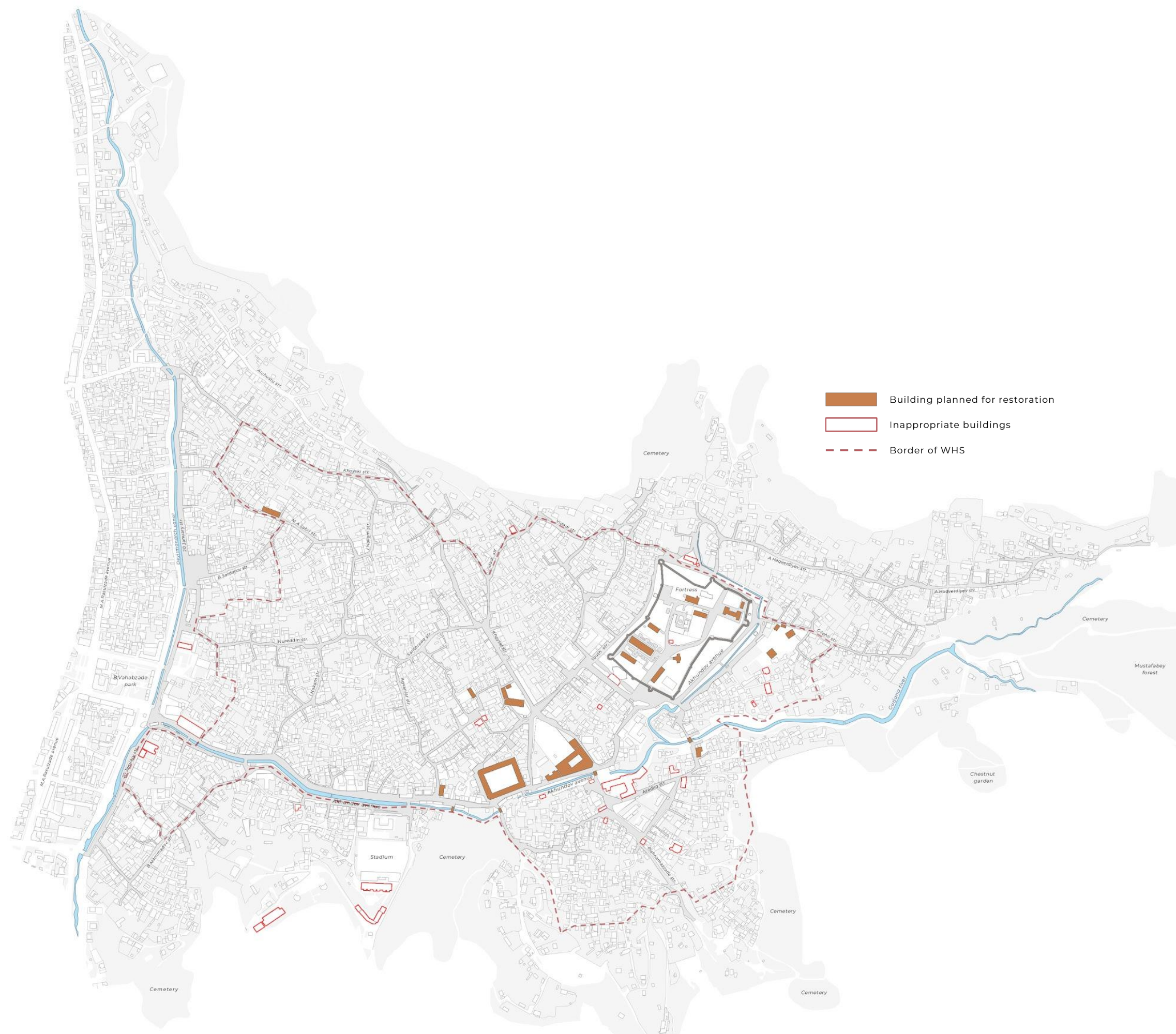
RESTORATION & ADAPTATION OF HISTORICAL BUILDINGS AND STREETS AS A REGENERATION STRATEGY

Sheki retains most of the significant historical buildings. For the development and regeneration of the historical part of Sheki, it is planned to restore and adapt old abandoned buildings for new functions. As a result, new points of activity concentration will be determined depending on the location and characteristics of currently unused buildings.

Mutual cooperation with stakeholders is a priority for the State Party. Due to that meetings with stakeholders periodically will be organised.

INJECTION STRATEGY

In the urban context, there are urban locations where the overall condition is not satisfactory. This unsatisfactory condition is often related to the appearance of the facade, streets, lighting, open spaces and similar urban elements. Today, many of these open spaces can be found in areas that have been abandoned or are incomplete, degraded, or unsafe. Regardless of their situations, if one takes a proactive view, they are definitely convertible and can become an opportunity to start anew. A complete refurbishment or renovation of such parts of the city is very expensive and not profitable. It is planned to use local initiatives for this. Instead of radically changing the entire city, the small parts of the city will be changed. The principle behind it is called the injection principle. Through small injection operations in the city, the residents of the city will be aware of what it would look like if they themselves became part of this restoration. After this injection it has to be waited to see how the effect is. This pilot project will help to change the entire unkempt condition of the Sheki.



REUSING OF HALF-RUINED, UNDERUSED AND UNUSED BUILDINGS

IMPROVEMENT OF THE BIG PICTURE

There are some historical buildings, which have been periodically abandoned. They cause the feeling of abandonment by the visitors and locals. Their being unused is also a great loss for the urban fabric. It is considered these currently empty spaces as potential. It is important that these structures at the heritage site, because the historical reasons of the emergence and abandonment of this structures have also affected the urban morphology. The restoration of this structures will transform them to the integral part of the urban and will improve the big picture. Work should be done with locals and administrative institutions on the direction of its use.

Since such a large building mass is in question, it is possible for them to host issues such as the protection, education and exhibition of their intangible heritage, as well as commercial-educational-public at the time. The changing needs of the cultural heritage area's spatial needs can be fitted into these spaces. In addition, these cultural heritage objects can be made available to the public as social facilities. World experience shows that these buildings are opened to the use of the public, both catching a large audience of visitors, and keeping the image of the city fresh by intensifying the restoration of these buildings with the income obtained.



The Upper Caravanserai



The Lower Caravanserai

REUSING OF HALF-RUINED, UNDERUSED AND UNUSED BUILDINGS

MECHANISM OF IMPLEMENTATION

1. Registration of these buildings as monuments
2. The beginning of the initial stage of protection of monuments with the preparation of passports
3. Due to the establishment of the legal regime, the institution has the opportunity to interfere in the fate of these buildings
4. Prevention of illegal and irregular interference and use by locals and entrepreneurs
5. Preparation of initial project designs
6. Discuss and determine the use of projects with the community
7. Development of projects for restoration and use
8. Preparation of appropriate management in the last stage



"Dere" bath

BUILDINGS FOR INCLUSION TO THE LIST OF PROTECTED BUILDINGS

- 1

Sheki Khan Palace
- 2

The Round Temple
- 3

Gilahli mosque Minaret
- 4

Khan mosque
- 5

Sheki Fortress
- 6

Shekikhanovs` House
- 7

Upper Caravanserai
- 8

Lower Caravanserai
- 9

Aghvans` bath
- 10

Imam Ali mosque
- 11

Tajliq ancient water pipeline
- 12

Fabric №1
- 13

Alijanbekovs` house
- 14

Farkhadbekovs` house
- 15

Z.Efendiyev`s house
- 16

Abdu Salam bath
- 17

Juma mosque
- 18

Omar Efendi mosque
- 19

The short minaret mosque
- 20

Dere bath
- 21

The Minaret
- 22

Ancient bridges (4)
- 23

M.F.Akhundov`s house
- 24

R.Efendiyev house
- 25

Monument to the World War II
- 26

Prison building 2
- 27

Prison building 1
- 28

Art Gallery (former barracks)
- 29

Local History Museum (former barracks)
- 30

Shabaka workshop (former barracks)
- 31

ABAD (former barracks)
- 32

Former ophthalmology hospital
- 33

Former diabetes hospital
- 34

Former soldiers pray house
- 35

Former Huseynbekovs` houses
- 36

M.Aliyevs` Mollakhana
- 37

Upper Caravanserai` kitchen
- 38

Former youth club
- 39

Former kindergarden №1
- 40

Samadovs` house
- 41

Library №1
- 42

Haji Rzaqulu`s house
- 43

Dadanovs` houses
- 44

School №2
- 45

Haji Zeynalabdin`s house
- 46

Pedagogical school building (former M.S.Aliyevs` shop)
- 47

Club named after C.Mustafayev (former M.S.Aliyevs` warehouse)
- 48

Fabric №3
- 49

Children orphanage (former Zulfuqarovs` house)
- 50

Pedagogical college building (former M.S.Aliyev`s house)
- 51

Kindergarden №6 (former Haji Ismail`s house)
- 52

Haji Musa Agha`s house
- 53

Memmed Kerim`s sock artel
- 54

Kindergarden №18 (Haji Qedir`s and Haji Mamed`s house)
- 55

Watermills (3)
- 56

Shirinov`s house
- 57

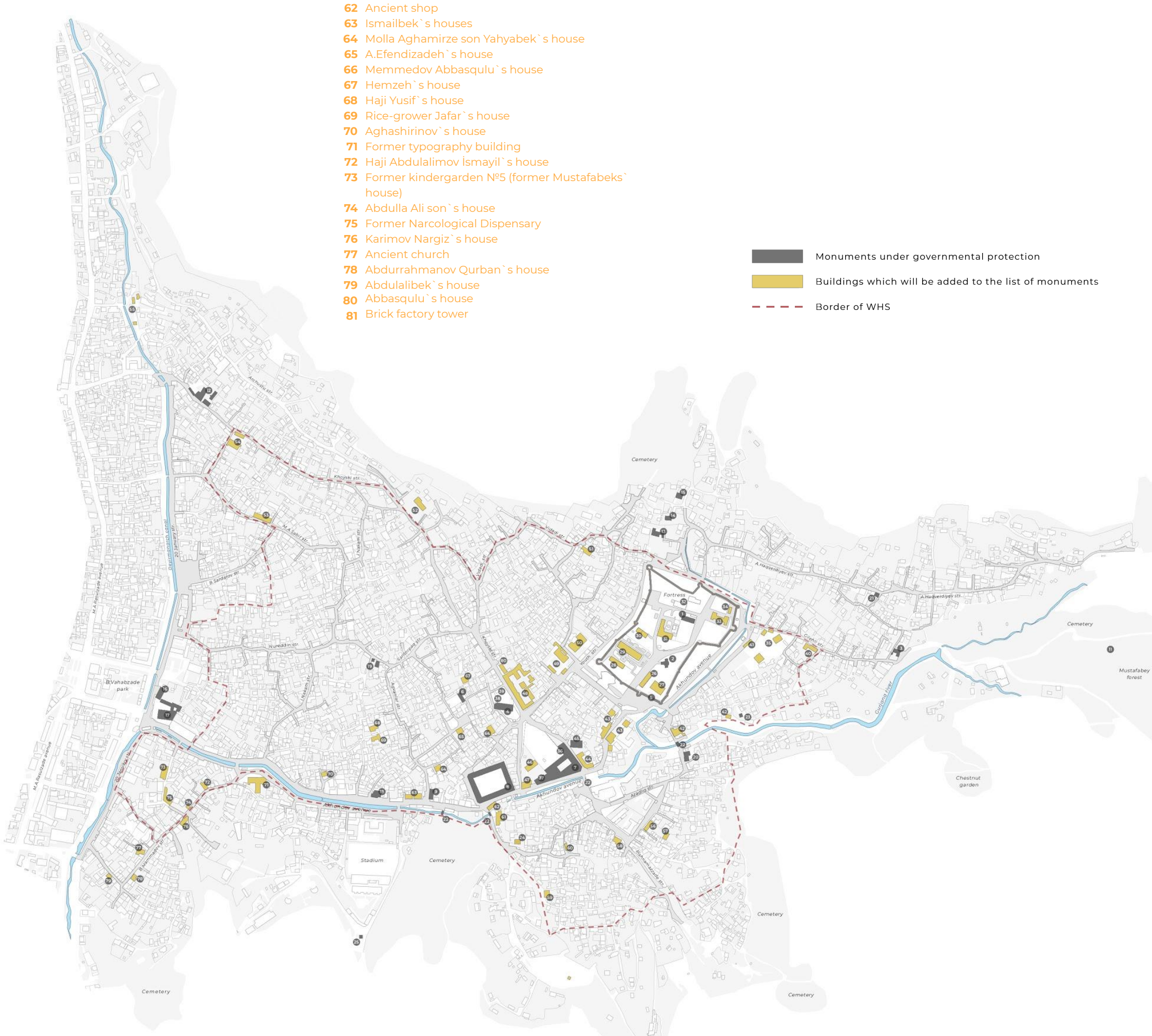
Gulnar Nasirov`s house
- 58

Qemze daughter Mulayim`s house
- 59

Chopurlars` house
- 60

Gullu qari mosque
- 61

Hemid Agha`s house



- 62

Ancient shop
- 63

Ismailbek`s houses
- 64

Molla Aghamirze son Yahyabek`s house
- 65

A.Efendizadeh`s house
- 66

Memmedov Abbasqulu`s house
- 67

Hemzeh`s house
- 68

Haji Yusif`s house
- 69

Rice-grower Jafar`s house
- 70

Aghashirinov`s house
- 71

Former typography building
- 72

Haji Abdulalimov İsmayil`s house
- 73

Former kindergarden №5 (former Mustafabeks` house)
- 74

Abdulla Ali son`s house
- 75

Former Narcological Dispensary
- 76

Karimov Nargiz`s house
- 77

Ancient church
- 78

Abdurrahmanov Qurban`s house
- 79

Abdulalibek`s house
- 80

Abbasqulu`s house
- 81

Brick factory tower

REVITALIZATION OF THE TRADITIONAL NATURE-HUMAN INTERACTION

PROTECTION OF FOREST

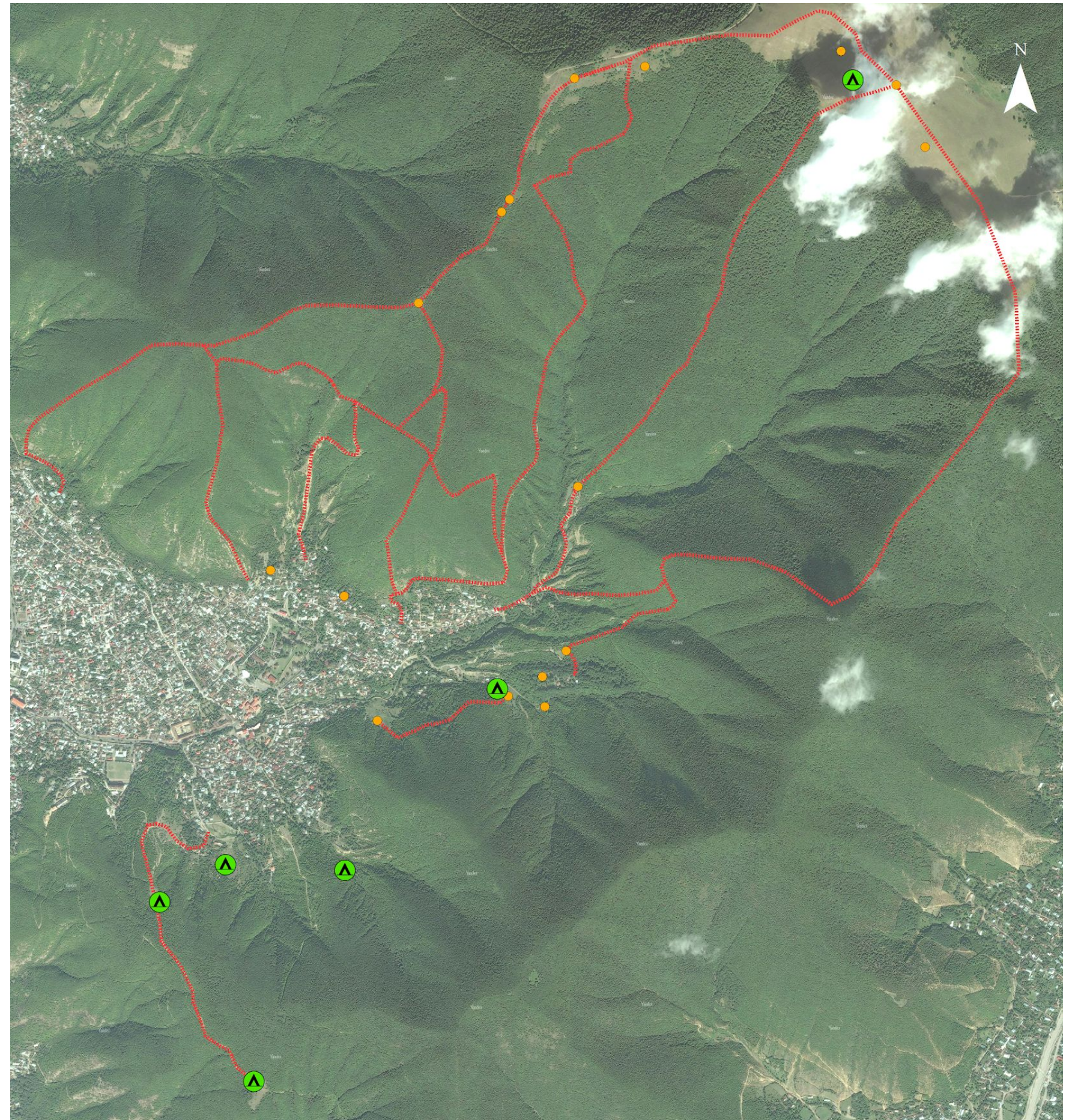
People are interested in the development of tourism, but in many cases do not know how to organize it. Locals also believe that comprehensive efforts should be made to develop tourism in the city of Sheki and its environs, and better conditions should be created for tourists.

Everyday life and crafts developed in Sheki were closely connected with the environment. Valuable plant products, water, clay, etc. taken from the area had a significant impact on the formation of crafts in the city of Sheki and seriously entered the life of the local population.

Besides, traditional meals cooked in Sheki restaurants are still prepared with special organic foods from the surrounding forests. The locals of this city are well aware of how important it is to protect the surrounding forest. After the interviews and conversations with the locals, it was determined that the only way to protect the surrounding forests is to ensure their controlled use and to add value to them, taking into account their wishes and proposals. Therefore, controlled walking routes have been prepared by DMO, the institution of the State Tourism Agency. To support camping and nature tourism in forests, controlled and supervised areas have been determined for the camp. In this way, unauthorized camping and mountaineering in the forest from harming the plant kingdom and natural resources of forests must be avoided. Forests is an integral part of tourism. Continuous collaboration with locals in the forestry work will lead to the right strategic goals.

Legend

- Hiking trails
- Picnic areas
- ▲ Camping





REVITALIZATION OF THE TRADITIONAL NATURE-HUMAN INTERACTION

REVITALIZATION OF GARDENS

One of the main reasons for the inclusion of Sheki in the UNESCO World Heritage List is the gardens in private yards. What measures would you suggest to maintain gardens in private yards? The answers to the question were unequivocally supportive. The majority of respondents (78) consider it is important to register these gardens as a special object and to encourage the garden owner to protect the garden by various means. The idea is to register the gardens as a special urban part and after this process to use it as main tourist destination.

It is proposed that these gardens can also offer local products to tourists. The remaining respondents also believe that the protection of gardens is very important, and it is important to impose strict restrictions on this protection. The basis of these restriction is the suspension of construction of new buildings in the garden areas. Only 12 respondents believe that most of the gardens are privately owned and can be used by the owner as s/he wishes. The way to preserve the cultivated fields and ensure that they are actively used traditionally is to add superior value to the garden products.

The surveys and studies that have been done show that the locals also have a interest for this business. Therefore, they need mentoring from the government for them to be well trained and supported. With the innovative approach of ABAD (Support for Family Business), it will be an institution that can be their guideline in this regard. ABAD is a public legal entity run by the State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan since 2016. "ABAD" centres implement assistance projects for family businesses engaged in applied arts and agriculture.



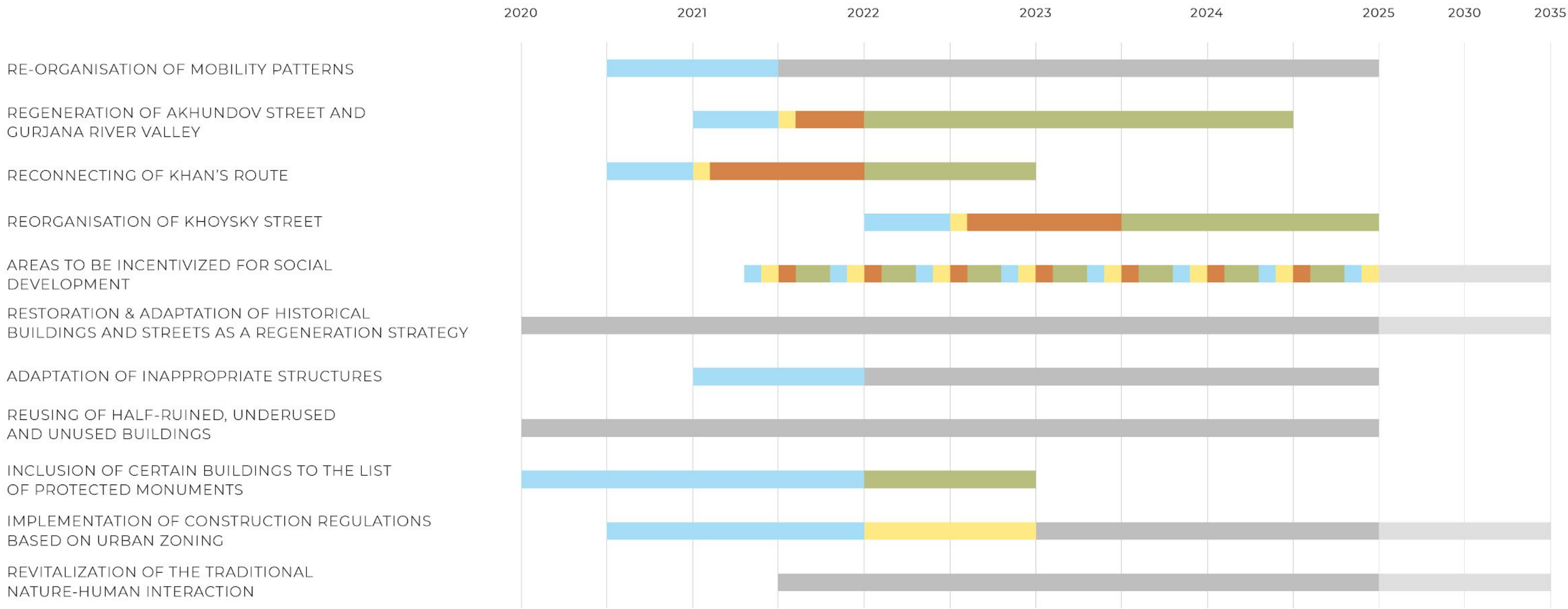
Locals in the field

ACTION PLAN



The Upper Caravanserai

ACTION PLAN



- Research
- Public discussion
- Design
- Realisation
- Recurring actions

BIBLIOGRAPHY



The courtyard of the Upper Caravanserai

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