



საქართველოს კულტურული მემკვიდრეობის დაცვის ეროვნული სააგენტო
Georgian National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation (already sent)

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To: Mr. Kishore Rao,
Director
World Heritage Centre

7, Place de Fontenoy
75352, Paris 07 SP

Dear Mr. Rao,

In conformity with the decisions of the 38th session of the World Heritage Committee, held in Doha, Qatar in 2014, I would like to present for your consideration the State of Conservation report of the Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery World Heritage Site as well as the State of Conservation and Progress Reports of the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta World Heritage Site.

On behalf of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia, I would like to reiterate the deep commitment to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Please, accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

Nikoloz Antidze
Director General

- Annex 1: SoC report Historical Monuments of Mtskheta
- Annex 2: Progress Report Historical Monuments of Mtskheta
- Annex 3: SoC report Bagrati cathedral and Gelati Monastery

Historical Monuments of Mtskheta, C 708

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The present folder contains:

1. State of Conservation Report of the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta WHS, C708, Georgia, 2015

Annex 1: Report of the TWINNING project

Annex2: Report about the Ground Works Related to Archaeological Study-Research on Samtavro Valley

2. Progress Report, Historical Monuments of Mtskheta WHS, C708, Georgia, 2015

Prepared by:

The National Agency for Cultural Heritage

Preservation of Georgia

5, Tabukashvili str, Tbilisi, 0105, Georgia

www.heritagesites.ge



Date inscribed: 1994

Date of report: 30/01/2015

Criteria: (iii) (iv)

City of Mtskheta, Region of Mtskheta-Mtianeti

N 41 50 38 E 44 42 59

Progress Report on the State of Conservation

1. Response from the State Party to the World Heritage Committee's Decision(s)

- a. Corrective measures taken by the State Party in reply to the World Heritage Committee's Decision(s):

Decision: 38 COM 7A.33	State Party response
<p><u>Acknowledges</u> the detailed information provided by the State Party on the progress made to implement the corrective measures and <u>urges</u> the State Party to finalise its work on all the corrective measures adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) by the end of 2014, including to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2015, the Urban Land-Use Master Plan, including zoning regulations with particular emphasis on the establishment of no-construction zones, strict limits to development rights and a conservation master plan and which should take into consideration the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, its specific landscape setting, as well as important views and connection lines;</p>	<p>The urban Land Use Master Plan is still in progress and is envisaged to be finalized by June 2015. The government of Georgia has allocated 160 000 to the city administration for the implementation of the project. The ToR was communicated with the National Heritage Agency and the Ministry of Economy and sustainable Development as well as the World Bank. Is it expected that the WHC will also get closely involved in the process in scopes of the co-operation agreement on this subject between the State Part, UNESCO and World Bank.</p> <p>The special WHC missions were invited by the State Party two times in autumn 2014, first in scopes of the conference "World Heritage and sustainable Development", and the second - together with the reactive Monitoring Mission for the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta. The final draft proposal for co-operation is expected from the WHC in the nearest future. It is expected that the Agreement will form the guarantee for implementation of further corrective measures sustainably over the next years.</p>
<p><u>Requests</u> the State Party to invite a joint ICOMOS/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission to the property to assess the progress achieved in</p>	<p>The joint RMM was invited and implemented together with the WHC/WB ad hoc mission in</p>

implementing all corrective measures in order to reach the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;	November 2014.
Also requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to provide advice to the State Party in finalising the Management Plan and the World Heritage State Programme;	It is expected that the Co-operation Agreement between the SP/WHC/WB will form the guarantee for implementation of further corrective measures sustainably over the next years and will create solid basis for seeking upstream advice on different issues including the Management Plan, revision of Tentative List, Urban Master Plan, visitor infrastructure, and other issues related to the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta WHS.

b. Progress towards the removal of the property from the list of the World Heritage in Danger

a. The major step forward in 2014 were:

- The elaboration of the draft national law on World Heritage properties in the scope of the EU funded project TWINNING Support to the institutional development of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia” (to be submitted to the WHC for comments in April 2015)
- Self-governing status to Mtskheta assured (under the self-government reform in 2014).
- Status of Spiritual Capital to Mtskheta (by the Patriarch of Georgia in 2014).
- Urban Master Plan in progress and the funding secured for its finalization in 2015.
- Cultural Landscape Survey and the Heritage Impact Assessment implemented by the National Agency for Heritage (2014).
- The tripartite co-operation agreement preparation in progress between the State Party the World Bank and the World Heritage Centre on assistance to the SP on the issues related to Historical Monuments of Mtskheta and general world heritage capacity building issues (expected to be concluded as early as possible in 2015).

c. The success factors and difficulties in implementing the corrective measures

The close co-operation established with the internationally recognized conservation experts mark successful efforts of the State Party towards improving the conditions of the site.

The elaboration of the Urban Land-Use Master Plan for the city of Mtskheta and its approval by the national government together with the Management Plan for Mtskheta WHS will be the most important factors in 2014 to facilitate the removal of the property from the list of the World Heritage in Danger.

The communication and dialogue between different stakeholders of the property is notably improved and will be further strengthened in the process of management of the Mtskheta WHS, based on the Management Plan and the Land-Use Master Plan.

The awareness of the high-level officials about the needs and challenges facing the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta is significantly raised.

d. The timeframe for corrective measures

The corrective measures indicated in this report were implemented in 2014 and/or are planned for 2015 as confirmed by the annual budget of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia.

2. Other current conservation issues

No urgent conservation issues at stake.

3. Potential interventions

The third Regional Development Project by the Government of Georgia with the WB funding includes important activities in Mtskheta, such as:

- a) Design and implementation of adaptation of the former cinema building into a Museum and visitor centre (3 mln GEL allocated),
- b) Design and implementation of “archaeological circuit for visitors” including design and implementation of key visitor infrastructure at archaeological sites (GEL),
- c) The design and implementation of Mtskheta city landscape park, in accordance with the recommendations of the Heritage and Tourism Master Plan of 2003,
- d) Detailed design and construction of visitor centre at Jvari church, according to the project concept provided and agreed with the WHC and ICOMOS.

All the project designs developed in scopes of the project will be submitted to the WHC and AB for further comments.

For more information see the State of Conservation Report 2014.

Signature on behalf of the State Party:

Nikoloz Antidze

Director General

National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation

Historical Monuments of Mtskheta World Heritage Site
State of Conservation Report

National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia

January 2015

This Report on the State of Conservation of the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (C708, Georgia) has been prepared following the request of the World Heritage Committee (38 COM 7A.17) so that the World Heritage Committee may examine the state of conservation of the property at its 39th session in Berlin, Germani in 2015.

1. INTRODUCTION

State Party	Name of the Property	Date of Inscription	Criteria	Organization responsible for the preparation of the report	Date of Report
Georgia	Historical Monuments of Mtskheta	1994	C (iii, iv)	National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia	2015

2. SIGNATURE ON BEHALF OF STATE PARTY

Nikoloz Antidze
Director General
National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

AS PROVIDED BY STATE PARTY IN THE NOMINATION DOSSIER

“City-museum, architectural reserve, Mtskheta is a multi-layered monument, testifying to the great scope of building activity and high culture of the country. Preserved architectural monuments and unearthed archaeological material testify to the high artistic value of building and minor arts in various epochs, beginning from the 2nd mill. B.C. to today. The architectural monuments of Mtskheta, being stage-making in the development of Georgian architecture are at the same time extremely significant for the study of the medieval architecture of the whole Christendom. Besides they are striking examples of the unity of architecture with the surrounding landscape. Of special value from the artistic and historical points of view are the monuments of monumental painting (mosaic floor in “Dionysius Maison” in Dzalisa, 2nd c. A.D.) and metalwork (goldsmithery) discovered in Mtskheta. Special place in Semitic epigraphic is occupied by Armazi inscriptions, giving vast valuable data for the study of the written language in general and making it possible to deal with the origin of Georgian written language anew”.

AS PROVIDED IN ICOMOS EVALUATION

Mtskheta is a multi-layered monument, its surviving architectural monuments and the excavated archaeological material testifying to the wide range of building activity and the high level of culture of the country from the 2nd millennium BC to the present era.

The architectural monuments are significant in the development of the architecture of Georgia and at the same time for the development of medieval architecture over the whole Christian area. They are also striking examples of the unity of architecture with its surrounding landscape.

Of special interest from an artistic and historical point of view are the early mosaics and metalwork discovered by excavation, along with the Armazi inscriptions, which provide a large database for the study of the origins of the Georgian language.

The archaeological remains and buildings in the ancient capital of Georgia are of high quality in terms of the light that they throw upon the social, political, and economic evolution of this mountain kingdom over more than four millennia. Whilst their individual value may not be high, their group value make this a site of outstanding value.

Recommendation

That this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria iii and iv:

- *Criterion iii* The group of churches at Mtskheta bear testimony to the high level and art and culture of the vanished Kingdom of Georgia, which played an outstanding role in the medieval history of its region.
- *Criterion iv* The historic churches of Mtskheta are outstanding examples of medieval ecclesiastical architecture in the Caucasus region.

4. STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY/INTEGRITY

EVALUATION OF THE AUTHENTICITY AT THE TIME OF INSCRIPTION

The archaeological sites are entirely authentic. So far as the architectural monuments are concerned, restoration and reconstruction work carried out in the 19th century was typical of its time, though it does not conform with modern conservation standards. In terms of materials and techniques, the ensemble retains a relatively high level of authenticity, whilst the authenticity of setting is total.

PRESENT EVALUATION OF THE AUTHENTICITY/INTEGRITY

There have not been significant changes in the authenticity of the site since inscription. The architectural and archeological monuments of Mtskheta can be considered entirely authentic.

The statement of outstanding universal value of the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta was prepared by the State Party in close collaboration with the international experts and submitted to the World Heritage Centre in 2012 SOC Report and approved by the World Heritage Committee in 2014 (38 COM 8 E).

5. MANAGEMENT

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- a. The legal framework for management remains framed by the key national laws, such as the law on Cultural Heritage and other laws as provided in the updated table below. Major change in legislation was the new Self-Government Code. **Local Self-Government Code** adopted in 2014 envisages the protection, maintenance and the reconstruction of cultural heritage as the authorities of the self-government. As protection, maintenance and the reconstruction of cultural heritage fall within the authorities of the self-government, it is expected that the involvement and commitment to protection of cultural heritage will increase;
- b. Another key instrument remains the Constitutional agreement concluded by the State and the Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia that defines the ownership of the religious sites, among them of the Historical Churches of Mtskheta. On 17 July 2014 on the basis of the initiative of the National agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia (NACHPG) the **Memorandum of Cooperation** was signed by the **Minister of Culture and Monuments Protection of Georgia** and the **Representative of the Patriarchate of Georgia**. The memorandum envisages further improvement of cooperation between the state and the church, *inter alia*, through joining the Councils in decision making over the intervention on Listed Properties. The memorandum was conducted with the assistance of EU funded TWINNING program that has been ongoing since 2013 by the NACHPG in co-operation with the Italian-Danish consortium (the key partners are the Italian Ministry of Culture and the Danish National Agency for Cultural Heritage).
- c. In 2014 the Patriarch of Georgia declared Mtskheta a **Spiritual Capital** of the country. This status, although rather unofficial marked increased interest of the Patriarchate of Georgia to get involved in management of the site.
- d. The **system of cultural heritage protection zones** adopted by the decree #3/471/1-1/1243 of the Minister of Culture, Monuments Protection and Sport and the Minister of Economic Development in 24/10/2006 had provided site specific legal framework for protection of monuments and cultural heritage objects and regulation of construction activities in the town of Mtskheta and its environs. The map of the cultural heritage protection zones and detailed description of the boundaries and regulations within each type of zone were provided by the State Party for information to the World Heritage Centre in the State of Conservation Report for the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta in 2007. On 17 September 2012 the abovementioned zones were amended by the decree #1750 of the Prime Minister of Georgia. The document was submitted to the World Heritage Centre together with the State of Conservation Report in 2013. The adequacy of the amendment, that led to eventual decrease of the landscape protection and archaeological zones was assessed in scopes of the project, implemented by the NACHPG in 2013-2014 "Cultural Landscape Survey and the Heritage Impact Assessment". The recommendations regarding further modification of the boundaries of the cultural heritage protection zones, as well as the **boundaries of the World Heritage Buffer Zone** were submitted to the administration of the town of Mtskheta to be incorporated in the ongoing process of elaboration of the Urban Master Plan of the town.
- e. In 2013, The National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia became the beneficiary of the EU funded TWINNING project "Support to the institutional development

of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia” with Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities of Italy as the Member State Partner and the Heritage Agency of Denmark as the Junior Member State Partner. The key purpose of the Project is to improve governance in the field of Cultural Heritage Protection through strengthening the capacities of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation (NACHPG), improve the skills and competences of NACHPG staff in the protection and conservation of the cultural heritage and create the sustainable capacity through dedicated training courses, practical on-site experiences and study trips, enhance the legal framework regulating the sector, with the special emphasis on the issues of the Georgian World Heritage. The NACHPG experts together with the TWINNIG international experts have prepared draft **national Law on World Heritage**. The project works further for its finalization before April 2015 to be submitted to the Cabinet of Minister afterwards. The work continues to prepare the further recommendations and outline for the national Cultural Heritage Code.

- f. In 2013 the NACHPG launched two projects for improving the legal framework for the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta according to the requirements of the World Heritage Centre (36 COM.7A.31). One of these was the **elaboration of the Historical Cultural Base Plan and the Urban Land-Use Master Plan regulations**, another – the **Mtskheta Cultural Landscape Survey and Heritage Impact Assessment**. It is important that the draft ToR for these projects had been communicated with WHC and ICOMOS in summer 2013 and improved according to their recommendations. Both project went on with the close involvement of the Patriarchate of Georgia and experts, inter alia, those which had taken part in elaboration of Heritage and Urban Master Plan of Mtskheta in 2013 together with UNESCO experts. The NACHPG ensured the close monitoring and coordination of the work in progress through the inspection team established for monitoring of quality of works. The team was set up by NACHPG staff and professionals of the field where representatives of ICOMOS Georgia were also included.
- g. “The Cultural Landscape Survey and Heritage Impact Assessment” was finalized with a delay by the end of April 2014. The document was submitted to WHC for review in May 2014.
- h. Unfortunately the project team was unable to meet all the requirements under the contract for “The elaboration of Historical Cultural Base Plan and Urban Land Use Master Plan Regulations”. Despite additional time given to finalize works, the NACHPG Inspection Team considered the outputs of the project insufficient to the terms of the Contract. Due to these circumstances the contract was cancelled. The NACHPG administration, taking into account the ultimate importance of elaboration of the Urban Master Plan for the adequate management of Mtskheta heritage sensitive zones, addressed the Mayor of the town (June, 2014) to consider all the possibilities for funding such project.
- i. Based on the request from the city administration, the **funding for the Urban Master Plan of Mtskheta (160 000 GEL)** was provided by the Government of Georgia in November 2014. The contract was signed with the local company to carry out the works in co-operation with all interested stakeholders. The ToR of the Master Plan was communicated to the NACHPG as well as the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development (MoESD) following these consultations, the following were considered as the basis for elaboration of the Master Plan:
 - The joint decree of the Minister of Culture and Monuments Protection and the Minister of the Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia on the establishment of the Cultural Heritage Protection Zones for the town of Mtskheta (3/471/1-1/1243, 24.10.

2006) and its updated version of 2012 (taking into account that the latter contradicts with UNESCO recommendations and should be improved)

- The results of the "Mtskheta Cultural Landscape Survey, Heritage Impact Assessment and Guidelines for rehabilitation and development (NACHPG, 2014)
- The results of the archaeological survey of the Samtavro valley and adjacent territories (NACHPG, 2014)
- The resolutions of the WH Committee, and the recommendations of the ICOMOS and the WHC (34 COM 7A.27, 35 COM 7A.30, 36 COM 7A.31, 37 COM 7A.33, 38 COM 7A.17)
- The Heritage and Tourism Master Plan of Mtskheta (UNESCO, UNDP, 2003)
- The Site Management Plan (NACHPG, 2012)

It is ultimately important that there is an ongoing process of setting up a tripartite co-operation agreement between the State Party, UNESCO and the World Bank for assisting the development of the Urban Master Plan for Mtskheta and other issues related to capacity buildings for world heritage as well as the revision of the national tentative list for World Heritage.

On 23-26 September 2014 the Conference on "World Heritage and Sustainable Development" was organized by the NACHPG in Mestia, Upper Svaneti, with the participation of ICOMOS, ICCROM, WHC and IUCN as well as national stakeholders (Ministries, regional and local authorities, national parliament representatives, Patriarchate), professionals and local community representatives. In scopes of the conference, on 23 September the meeting was held between the NACHPG, the Ministry of Culture and Monuments Protection, ICCROM, WHC and the World Bank regional office in South Caucasus to formally agree on the possibilities of the mentioned tripartite co-operation. Based on the decision, taken at this high level meeting the joint WB-WHC mission was implemented to Mtskheta Historical Monuments on 12-16 November 2014. The NACHPG covered the costs of the working visit of the WHC representative Ms. Marie Noel Tournoux. The meeting was coincided with the Reactive Monitoring Mission with the participation of ICCROM (Mr. Joseph King) and ICOMOS (Mr. Alkiviades Prepis).

During the four days of the mission diverse meetings were held with the high officials of different stakeholder ministries including the Deputy Ministers of Culture and Monuments Protection; Regional Development and Infrastructure; Economy and Sustainable Development; Justice and that of the Finances, as well as the Patriarchate of Georgia, Regional and Local authorities of Mtskheta and the professionals working on Mtskheta issues.

The draft proposal was to be provided by the WHC to the NACHPG and the WB. It is expected to receive the document in the nearest future that will form the basis of the contract between the SP and the WHC on the implementation of the assistance activities as described above. It is expected that these tripartite co-operation will form the solid basis and the guarantee for implementation of remaining corrective measures and ensuring the full compliance of all interventions with the UNESCO standards. Therefore this agreement is considered one of the major steps forward towards withdrawal of the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta from the list of the World Heritage in Danger.

Table 1: Georgia's national laws related to/having a major impact on cultural heritage protection.

Source: the Parliament of Georgia online data base.

Field of Regulation	Title of the Law
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Law on Cultural Heritage, 2007 (last amendments 2013) • The Law on the Import and Export of Cultural Goods, 2001 (last amendment 2014) • The Law on Museums, 2001 (last amendment 2014) • The Law on Culture, 1997 (last amendment 2013) • The Law on the World Cultural Heritage (draft prepared in 2014, work in progress) • The law on Intangible Heritage (draft prepared in 2013, the work in progress)
Relationship of the State and the Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Concordat – Constitutional Agreement between the State and the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Georgia, 2002
Penalties for violation of cultural heritage legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Administrative Infringement Code, 1994 (amendment related to cultural heritage, 2007 introducing stricter fines for violation of monuments protection regimes and regulations in protected zones, last amendments 2014) • The Criminal Code, 1999 (amendment related to cultural heritage, 2007, introducing new chapter on the crime against cultural heritage with respective provisions) • The Code on Production Safety and Free Circulation
Financial policy for cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tax Code, 2004 (amendment related to cultural heritage, 2008, VAT exemption for the World Heritage, national and religious monuments) • The Law on Local Tariffs, 1998 (amendment related to cultural heritage, 2007, introducing temporary local rehabilitation tax for specially designated areas max 1.5 GEL per sq/m of the building and respective provisions) • The Law on State Excise Duty, 1998 (amendment related to cultural heritage, 2007) • The Budgetary Code of Georgia, 2009 (last amendment 2014)
Privatization and land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Law on State Property, 2010 (last amendment 2014)

management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Law on Recognition of Title to the Land Plots Possessed (Used) by Individuals and Public Entities under the Public Law, 2007 (last amendment 2008) • The Law on Ownership of Agricultural Land, 1996,(last amendment 2014)
Licensing and permissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Law on Licenses and Permits, 2005 (amendment related to cultural heritage, 2007) • The Code on Production Safety and Free Circulation, 2013 (incorporating the the Law on Control of Technical Threat of 2010)
Competencies of Self Government bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Organic Law on Self Government, 2005 (last amendment of 2014)
Natural heritage and environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Code on the Safety of Victuals/Animals Food, Veterinary and Plant Protection, 2012 (incorporating the law on Protection of Soil of 1994 last amended in 2002) • The law on the System of Protected Areas, 1996 • The law on the protection of Soil, 1994 (last amendment 2002) • The law on the Protection of Environment, 1996 (last amendment of 2013) • The law on the status of Protected Areas, 2007 (last amendment of 2014) • The law on Environmental Impact Permission, 2007 (last amendment of 2014)\ • The law on Ecological Expertise, 2007 (last amendment of 2013) • The law on Environmental Protection Service, 2007 (last amendment of 2008) • The law on the Social-Economic and Cultural Development of the Mountainous Regions, 1999 (last amendment 2009, further amendments in progress) • The law on Creation and Protection of the Natural Heritage, 2013

MANAGEMENT

- a. The most important step forward in the management of the site was the **new status of Mtskheta as a self-governing town** since 2014 self-government reform. This means the local Mayor to be elected together with the Chair of the City Council and the city having own administration and funding. It is expected that this will further motivate the town administration to get involved in protection and management of the cultural heritage of the town. In 2014, based on the appeal from the NACHPG, the Mtskheta Mayor addressed the

national government for assistance and received the 160000 Gel for finalization of the Urban Land Use Master Plan of Mtskheta. The works are envisaged to finish by June 2015.

- b. In 2012 the State Party elaborated the Management Plan for Mtskheta WHS in the framework of the project “Improving management of the Historic Monuments of Mtskheta” implemented with the financial support of the World Heritage Fund. The document was submitted to the World Heritage Centre together with the project report in 2012.
- c. The national Law on World Heritage properties will serve as a basis for the official approval of the Management Plan and for its effective implementation with the involvement of all the stakeholders.
- d. The National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia is the beneficiary of the EU funded TWINNING project “Support to the Institutional Development of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia” with Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities of Italy as the Member State Partner and the Heritage Agency of Denmark as the Junior Member State Partner. The key purpose of the Project is to improve governance in the field of Cultural Heritage Protection through strengthening the capacities of the NACHPG, improve the skills and competences of the NACHPG staff in the protection and conservation of the cultural heritage and create the sustainable capacity through dedicated training courses, practical on-site experiences and study trips, enhance the legal framework regulating the sector, with the special emphasis on the issues of the World Heritage of Georgia (see the presentation attached).
- e. Other important issues see above in *Legal Framework*.

NATIONAL INSTITUTION

The National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation was established in 2008 as an entity of public law under the umbrella of the Ministry of Culture and Monuments Protection. The Agency is responsible for management and monitoring of national monuments and World Heritage Sites in the country and for granting permits for conservation and rehabilitation project for these monuments. The Agency is also responsible for inventory and promotion of cultural heritage objects, research, consulting and expertise in the field of cultural heritage.

Since 2009 the UNESCO and International Relations Unit has been established within the Agency. Among other duties the unit oversees the implementation of the recommendations of the WH committee, advises the Directorate of the Agency on the UNESCO and World Heritage issues, ensures preparation of the reports and documents requested by the WHC and provides advice to other units of the Agency on the WH regulations.

Address of the institution:

National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation
N27a Atoneli str, 0105, Tbilisi, Georgia
Director General: Dr. Nikoloz Antidze

MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The local management agency is the Great Mtskheta Archaeological Museum Reserve. Following the institutional reform in the field of cultural heritage in 2008, the Great Mtskheta Archaeological Museum-Reserve along with other museum-reserves in the country has become a structural division of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation.

The National Agency provides for building the capacity the Mtskheta museum-reserve and upgrade of its infrastructure. In 2011 the staff was re-structured to allow more focus towards educational and social and visitor management programs.

Address of the institution:

Great Mtskheta Archaeological Museum-Reserve

Director: Mr. Nikoloz Maisuradze

34, Agmashenebeli ave., Mtskheta, Georgia

6. NATIONAL INVENTORY

The Historical Monuments of Mtskheta are registered as Listed Properties of national importance according to the Law on Cultural Heritage of Georgia. As required by the law, the Registration Cards and Certificates were developed for the components of the site during the update of the inventory of Mtskheta monuments in 2005 and in 2008. The documentation is stored in the archives of the NACHPG and is available for public.

7. RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

Educational program “Archaeology for kids” at Samtavro Valley has been carried out for last 5 years, aiming at raising children’s interest in history and cultural heritage of the country, archaeology and developing skills of creativity, discussion, investigation and analysis. In 2014 over 2000 children took part in the program and received special certificates. The initiative has proved to be so much successful that a similar program was established by the NACHPG in 2014 at another of its museum reserve – Archaeological site of Nokalakevi.

The **Guide to UNESCO World Heritage Convention** was prepared and published by the NACHPG by the end of 2014. The brochure includes the basic information about UNESCO and its key culture conventions and more extensive information about the World Heritage Convention, Operational Guidelines, main bodies of the convention and the main procedures related to the World Heritage and tentative list sites.

8. FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROPERTY

The main factor affecting the property still remains the lack of formally adopted management instruments. The State Party makes its every effort to improve the situation. It is expected that in 2015 the adoption of the law on World Heritage of Georgia, will create the necessary legal basis for adoption of the Management Plan for Mtskheta WHS.

The same factor concerns the Urban Land Use Master Plan of the town. The document will be finalized by June 2015 and will finally enable the long awaited legal framework for developments within the buffer zone of the site.

A positive factor affecting the property is the launching of the third **Regional Development Project** by the Government of Georgia with the World Bank funding. The project also includes important activities in Mtskheta, such as:

- a) Design and implementation of adaptation of the former cinema building into a Museum and visitor centre (2 mln USD allocated),
- b) Design and implementation of “archaeological circuit for visitors” including basic visitor infrastructure at archaeological sites (500 000 USD),
- c) The design and implementation of Mtskheta city landscape park, in accordance with the recommendations of the Heritage and Tourism Master Plan of 2003 (500 000 USD),
- d) Detailed design and construction of visitor centre at Jvari church, according to the project concept provided and agreed with the WHC and ICOMOS (1 mln USD).

See above in *Legal Framework* about the UNESCO/WB/SP tripartite co-operation agreement to manage these activities.

9. MONITORING

The National Agency provides regular monitoring of all World Heritage properties in Georgia. The monitoring missions visit the properties annually and in case of emergency to evaluate the state of conservation of the sites. The regular reports on state of conservation of the property are submitted from the monitoring expert of the Great Mtskheta Archaeological Museum-Reserve. Based on the monitoring reports the necessary preventive, conservation or rehabilitation measures and respective budgets are estimated by the Agency staff and considered within the Action Plan of the National Agency.

The Unified National GIS Database for Cultural Heritage has been under elaboration with the assistance of the Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage and the Norwegian Ministry of foreign Affairs since 2013. The online tools of the database will facilitate more intensive and effective exchange of information from Museum-Reserves to the head office of the NACHPG, and, thus more efficient management and monitoring of the sites. The project is envisaged to be finalised in 2016. For the time being the concept and the software is already designed and the testing phase is to be launched with participation of one of the museum reserves.

10. PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

As the key immediate conservation needs have been resolved at the site, the main attention in 2014 was directed towards developing the design of the **Mtskheta Archaeological Museum** – the former cinema building that was transferred to the management of the NACHPG and which is to be re-designed to accommodate the museum and visitor centre and the **archaeological observations in Samtavro burial ground** and adjacent territories. The archaeological excavations and conservation works at **Armaztsikhe-Bagineti archaeological site** were continued through 2014. Some adobe walls that were excavated were conserved under the temporary roof. The design of the more permanent conservation program and design is under way in scopes of the Regional Development Program, funded by the World Bank.

A positive factor affecting the property is the launching of the third Regional Development Project by the Government of Georgia with the WB funding. The project also includes important activities in Mtskheta, such as:

- a) Design and implementation of adaptation of the former cinema building into a Museum and visitor centre (3 mln GEL allocated),
- b) Design and implementation of “archaeological circuit for visitors” including design and implementation of key visitor infrastructure at archaeological sites (GEL),

- c) The design and implementation of Mtskheta city landscape park, in accordance with the recommendations of the Heritage and Tourism Master Plan of 2003,
- d) Detailed design and construction of visitor centre at Jvari church, according to the project concept provided and agreed with the WHC and ICOMOS.

All the project designs developed in scopes of the project will be submitted to the WHC and AB for further comments.

11. PREVIOUS WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decisions 34 COM 7A.27, 35 COM 7A.30, 36 COM 7A.31 and 37 COM 7A.33 adopted at its 34th (Brasilia, 2010), 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012) and 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) sessions respectively,
3. Acknowledges the detailed information provided by the State Party on the progress made to implement the corrective measures and urges the State Party to finalise its work on all the corrective measures adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) by the end of 2014, including to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2015, the Urban Land-Use Master Plan, including zoning regulations with particular emphasis on the establishment of no-construction zones, strict limits to development rights and a conservation master plan and which should take into consideration the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, its specific landscape setting, as well as important views and connection lines;
4. Requests the State Party to invite a joint ICOMOS/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission to the property to assess the progress achieved in implementing all corrective measures in order to reach the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
5. Also requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to provide advice to the State Party in finalising the Management Plan and the World Heritage State Programme;
6. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2015, an updated report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the implementation of all corrective measures, as well as a minor boundary modification proposal for a unified buffer zone of the property, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015;
7. Decides to retain the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Georgia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

12. IMPLEMENTATION BY STATE PARTY

See the progress report on the implementation of the Committee's decisions.

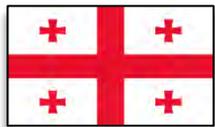
13. CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions presented below are aimed at contributing to the analysis which will facilitate to the Advisory Body and the Secretariat the preparation of the Committee draft decision.

Strengths

- Mtskheta became the self-governing town after the 2014 self-government reform that enabled more focus administratively as well as financially on the needs of the town proper and its surrounding areas;
- Awareness of elected officials and decision makers at local, regional and national levels on the World Heritage issue is high (the Majoritarian MP of Mtskheta attended the WH Committee meeting in Doha in 2014, the regular contact is in place between the NACHPG and the city administration, the NACHPG and the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development were consulted in the process of preparation of the ToR for the Urban Master Plan of Mtskheta, the Deputy Ministers of Regional Development and Infrastructure, Economy and Sustainable Development, Culture and Monuments Protection and Finances were present at the roundtable during the reactive monitoring mission and confirmed their commitment for co-operation, etc.)
- Preparation of the Urban Land-Use Master Plan is underway and will be completed by the 30 June of 2015
- The draft national law on World Heritage was prepared in 2014 with the involvement of Italian experts (TWINNING program), the draft will be finalized by April 2014 and submitted to the WH Committee;
- The consultation is under way to establish the tripartite co-operation between the State Party, UNESCO and World Bank for the monitoring and quality assurance of the processes, also the upstream advice on the revision of the national tentative list as well as training on World Heritage management issues for local administration of Mtskheta.
- The State Party halted the inappropriate developments within the property and its setting. The issue of the new location and design of the House of Justice (construction halted in 2012 following the committee's resolution) is discussed closely with the WHC and ICOMOS by the Ministry of Justice of Georgia. The Deputy Ministers of Justice presented the concept to the reactive monitoring mission in November 2014 and accompanies the mission to the site to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the new location. The WHC and ICOMOS were also consulted regarding the development of housing project nearby the Samtavro monastery. The NACHPG has implemented the archaeological survey of the proposed territory the final decision will be made with the WHC consultations in scopes of the development of the Urban Master Plan of the city.

Weaknesses



The Project is funded
by the European Union

Twinning Project GE11/ENP-PCA/OT/13
*“Support to the Institutional Development of the National Agency for
Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia”*

Component 3

Support for strengthening of skills and knowledge of NACHPG staff and related stakeholders



EU Twinning Project

Overall Objectives

To introduce internationally recognized best practices in the heritage sector in Georgia with the aim of improving heritage conservation and management, thereby contributing to economic and social development

Project Purpose

To improve governance in the field of cultural heritage protection through strengthened capacities of the National Agency of Cultural Heritage Preservation (NACHPG), and an enhanced legal framework regulating the sector



Three Components

Component 1: Assistance to elaborate an effective model of national cultural heritage administration and management

Component 2 - Support to improved governance and regulatory framework of the cultural heritage sector, with particular attention to the NACHPG's delegated functions

Component 3 - Support for strengthening of skills and knowledge of NACHPG staff and related stakeholders

Implementation Period: June 11, 2013 – December 11, 2014



Training Needs Analysis

November 2013

Document based on:

- Organizational Analysis
- Strategic Indications
- NACHPG staff interviews at central and local level

Training needs grouped in three categories:

➤ Trainings to Support Strategic Change

Strategic change in the NACHPG Role and the mission to better respond to the changeable environment

➤ Trainings to improve existing work processes

Improve performance and the quality of NACHPG performance

➤ Basic Training Needs

Necessity to create common cultural understanding, internal cohesion and common knowledge and perception of the NACHPG activities both among staff and stakeholders

Trainings to Support Strategic Change – Needs Identified

Decentralization of structure and better coordination of actions between different organizational units:

Mostly on local level:

- Increased capacity to boost local development paths/projects
- Increased capacity to elaborate and manage development projects;
- Increased capacity of those in charge to plan and manage activities of communication and awareness-raising
- Increased knowledge on planning and increased capacity of supervision on local planning processes, in order to protect the cultural heritage and the landscape;
- Improved capacities and attitudes of those in charge of museum-reserves to assist, in a cooperative manner, the architects and engineers in the realisation of the restoration and conservation projects

Both on local and central level:

- capacity of delegation and control
- capacity of organisation and management of meetings and public speaking
- capacity of working in a team

Trainings to Improve Agency Work Processes

Cataloguing the cultural heritage

- Increase knowledge on international systems of cataloguing, registration, evaluation, certification
- Increase the capacity of using the tools for monument assessment

Evaluation and monitoring of restoration and conservation works on cultural goods

- Improve restoration and conservation skills
- raise awareness on the importance of identification of the need of restoration of moveable goods
- raise awareness of the Georgian experts responsible for restoration work planning (engineers, architects) on respecting the cultural heritage.

Involvement in more international projects

- better knowledge of English
- raised awareness on the role that international projects play in protection of Georgia's cultural heritage
- improved knowledge of the available funds and international programmes for Georgia's cultural heritage
- improved capacities of elaborating project proposals, thus diffusing knowledge of European planning
- improved knowledge of the mechanisms of European project management

Public relations

- to learn about international experiences of programming and management of the cultural communications by means of the media.
- to raise awareness of the agency experts on the importance of having a PR strategy for each project.
- to raise awareness about the need to establish a communication network among the units of the agency, to build the networking capacity.

Basic Training Needs

- Create common knowledge on the mission, organisation and the challenges the Agency faces, emphasizing the contribution that each single expert
- Increase the knowledge and raise awareness on the value of the cultural heritage and the need to promote its conservation, so that every expert from the agency can become an “Ambassador for cultural heritage” in Georgia;
- raise the awareness about the need to proactively perform at the benefit of cultural heritage enhancement, in order to foster local development;
- disseminate UNESCO guidelines;
- diffuse the Georgian legal frame for the protection of cultural heritage.

Strengthening Museum Reserve Activities (September, 2014)

- Duration: 8 Days
- Trainers: Michael Lauenborg & Caspar Jorgensen – Danish Agency for Culture
- Number of Attendees: 20 (NACHPG central staff and museum reserve representatives)

Topics Addressed:

- The expanded concept of cultural heritage
- administrative challenges
- SWOT analysis
- Action plan and ownership
- Public speaking and Project Cycle Management

Outcomes :

- Better understanding of the concept of cultural heritage
- Better understanding of the means for protection
- Better understanding of the opportunities cultural heritage provides
- Better understanding of the importance of public speaking
- Improvement of public speaking skills
- Better understanding of project circle management

✓ Training on Inter-Organizational Coordination – to be performed

Seminars for Common Understanding

Seminar on Fundraising and the Role of Heritage for Socio Economic Development (May, 2014)

Experts: Filippo Tiburtini & Claudia Salvi (FORMEZ PA)
Number of Attendees 45 : (NACHPG staff , Stakeholders)

Topics Addressed:

- Capacity building in the use of EU funding open to the participation of ENPI countries
- Different Funding Opportunities for Heritage Sector

Outcomes:

- General reference framework about the key funding sources under European programmes provided
- an overall overview of different international players involved in fundraising activities in Georgia their intervention policies, implemented strategies, adopted tools and operational indications about the different and specific phases of their implementation pointed out



Seminars for Common Understanding

Seiminar on International Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (May, 2014)

Presenters: Adele Cesi (MiBACT) & Rusudan Mirzikashvili (NACHPG)

Number of Attendees: 40 (NACHPG staff , Stakeholders)

Topics Addressed:

- UNESCO values
- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage: values , process for inscription, measures for conservation and protection and management system
- The implementation of the Convention
- The state of the implementation of the Convention in Georgia

Outcomes:

- Increased knowledge and better understanding of the topic concerned

Seminars for Common Understanding

Seminar on Media and Communication September, 2014

Presenter: Michael Lauenborg (Danish Agency for Culture)

Number of attendees : 20 ((NACHPG staff , Stakeholders)

Topics Addressed:

- Role of media and communication for cultural heritage protection
- target groups responsible for cultural heritage preservation and the means for better communication with them
- Possibilities provided by different types of media, importance of the social media
- An example from Denmark - A social media program made in the Danish Agency for Culture

Outcomes:

- Increased awareness on the importance of communication
- Increased awareness on different target groups
- Increased awareness on the possibility in using different kinds of media
- Increased awareness on the importance of using social media

Seminars for Common Understanding

Seminar on Georgian Legal Frame (November, 2014)

Presenter: Alessandro Bianchi (Twinning RTA)

Attendees: NACHPG Top and Middle Management

Topics Addressed:

European Best Practices: Examples of French and Italian Codes for Cultural Properties
Twinning Project Component 2 (legal component)results

Outcomes :

In depth discussions and reflections on the Georgian Legal frame and decisions on future steps

Training on Exhibition Design and Site Presentation (June , 2014)

Duration: 4 Days

Trainer: Gianni Bulian (MiBACT)

Number of Attendees: 23 (NACHPG , Stakeholders (National Museum, Academy of Fine Arts, NGO's)

Topics Addressed:

- Intedisciplinarity of Exhibition Design and Site Presentation
- Public and Museum
- Methodology of Artefacts Exhibition
- Didactic, Museum Communication

Outcomes:

- Increased awareness of necessity of synergic collaboration between different professionals
- Increase knowledge on organization of fruition and the use of exhibition by the public
- Increase knowledge on the variety of exhibition practices
- diversification of approaches in didactic and communication

Training on Monitoring and Evaluation of Restoration and Conservation (June , 2014)

Duration: 15 Days

Trainer: Marie Jose' Mano (MiBACT) , Alessandro Bianchi (Twinning RTA)

Number of Attendees: 23 (NACHPG , Stakeholders (State Academy of Fine Arts, Tbilisi Theological Academy and Seminary – restoration specialists, restoration faculty students)

Topics:

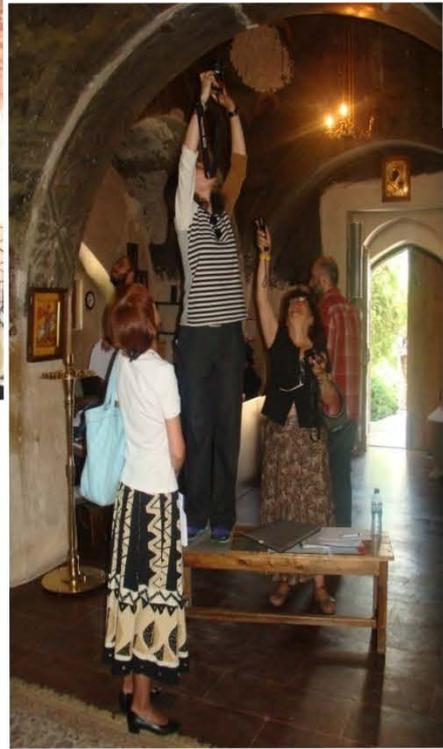
Module 1: Theoretical course on the project preliminary phase

Module 2: Morphology of decay and intervention techniques

Module 3: Worksite-project elaboration

Outcomes:

- Increase of theoretical and technical knowledge and practical skills in the subject concerned
- Opportunity to reflect on different approaches
- familiarization with international practices and latest methodologies
- experiences shared



Training of Trainers (June , 2014)

Duration: 5 Days

Trainers: Teta Capua(Formez PA) , Michela Diodato (Formez PA)

Number of Attendees: 8 (NACHPG staff)

Topics:

- Introduction to training process
- Training needs assessment (TNA)
- Training design and evaluation
- Training delivery & methodologies of communication

Outcomes:

Selected staff trained as trainers

Knowledge on Training planning , organization , delivery and evaluation obtained



Marketing of Heritage Resources (October, 2014)

Duration: 5 Days

Trainers: Michale Lauenborg , Bolette Lehn Petersen (Danish Agency for Culture)

Number of Attendees: 20 (NACHPG , relevant stakeholders – NTA, Ministry of Culture etc.)

Topics:

- heritage as a public good, assessment of value and realization of value
- Cultural heritage – a valuable resource for municipal development
- Tourism and Cultural Heritage

Outcomes:

NACHPG staff from central level and museum reserves and relevant stakeholders increased their knowledge on different techniques for cultural heritage valorization attraction of tourists, familiarized themselves with international best practices

Trainings for improvement on Agency Performance

Site and Museum Collection Management (October, 2014)

Duration: 5 Days

Trainers: Lisbeth Pepke & Jorgen Westphal (Danish Agency for Culture)

Number of Attendees: 20 (NACHPG , relevant stakeholders - Ministry of Culture , Adjarian Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation, NGO's etc.)

- Module 1: Valuation and description tool to all types of cultural heritage
- Module 2 Administration of public territories, site management plans
- Module 3 Archaeological artefact collection management and cataloging

Each module followed by group work , onsite practices and presentations

Outcomes:

- Better understanding of technical and legal aspects of tools for evaluation, monitoring and inspection of sites and monuments.
- Better understanding of necessity of site management plans and the basic methodology of the planning procedure.
- Better understanding of legal and technical aspects and benefits from archaeological artefact collection management and cataloging





Thank you for your attention



Municipality of Mtskheta, report about the ground works related to archaeological study-
research on Samtavro Valley and its neighboring territory

Leader of the works: Professor Guram Kipiani

Permission for the performance of archaeological works N.09/12/170 has been issued on
September 01, 2014.

Holder of the permission: “Unity of Archaeologists” LTD.



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Mtskheta

2014.

Annotation of the report:

The report reflects the results and the conclusions of the archaeological trial-investigation works performed on Samtavro Valley in Mtskheta and on territories neighboring the “Pikris Gora”.

Summary

Introduction

Technical Information

Report

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Introduction

The Samtavro Valley represents an archaeological monument (chronologically: from earlier Bronze Era developed until Feudal Era), the scientific study of which has started in the end of the 60ies of the XIX century. Regular archaeological works began in 1938, as a result of which, tombs dated of II century B.C.-VIII century A.C. and habitats dated of VIII-VII centuries B.C. and earlier mid-centuries.

Tomb ruins are represented as barrows, hole-tombs, tiled-tomb, clay sarcophagus and stone sarcophagus. The inventory discovered in the tombs includes ceramic material, ritual items, jewelry, fighting and agricultural tools, which represent a significant part of the Georgian history and culture.

The ruins of habitats discovered on Samtavro Valley and dated of later Bronze-earlier Iron eras, is represented as terraces and is composed by pieced stones and habitats with roofs constructed with clay (each habitat had its own hearth, bread-baking oven and altar).

As to the ruins of habitats dated of earlier mid-centuries, they are represented as walls constructed with pieced stone, roofed with tiles.

The results of the archaeological study of Samtavro Valley were reflected in the works published through years: 1. Mtskheta. Results of the archaeological study-research. Volumes II-XI, Tbilisi, 1978-1996; 2. G. Lomtadze, archaeological excavations in the ancient capital of Georgia, Tbilisi, 1945; 3. G. Lomtadze, bronze swords in the most ancient tombs of Samtavro, Tbilisi, 1974; 4. N. Ugrelidze, for the history of glass manufacture in the earlier mid-centuries in Georgia, Tbilisi, 1967; 5. T. Chubinashvili, the most ancient archaeological monuments of Mtskheta, Tbilisi, 1957; etc.

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Technical Information

The investigation territory includes the area located in the south-west part of Samtavro Valley (the so-called “Pikris Gora”), a plot of 8 hectares, space between N41°50’57.49” E44°43’07.28”; N41°51’01.80” E44°43’06.02”; N41°51’01.43” E44°42’54.60”; N41°50’56.33” E44°42’55.88” (pictures 1-2).

In accordance with the Georgian law “on cultural heritage” and the order N.1750 of September 17 2012 of the Georgian Government “about the definition of cultural heritage protection zones of the city of Mtskheta”, the territory to be investigated is within the area of Samtavro Convent, being in the UNESCO list of monuments protection, in the development regulation zone and a space of 1 hectare is in the area of archaeological protection (picture 3). It should be mentioned that the ruins of tombs and habitats (that are part of the archeological protection zone and directly bounded with the above-mentioned territory of 1 hectare) situated on the Samtavro archaeological Valley were granted the national importance category of cultural immovable monuments in April 2014, on the basis of the Georgian Government’s Decree N.295.

The above-mentioned territory of 8 hectares has been privatized by the population in recent years. Nowadays, due to the organic development of the city, it is necessary to develop this territory by private owners (pictures 4-5).

The above-mentioned processes encouraged us to carry out trial-investigation archaeological works on the given territory (the relevant authorities of the city are simultaneously working on the development regulation plan, the general plan for city development etc).

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Report

Trial-investigation archaeological works have been carried out on the above-mentioned territory of 8 hectares. Within such works, we performed 44 ditches and 26 grooves. Due to the relief complexity and the abundance of the green cover, the ditches were of two different sizes: a) length-2 m; width-1m; depth-1 m (pictures 6-7) and b) length-5m; width-1m; depth-1m (pictures 8-9). The grooves (pictures 10-11) were made in the plots, where the territory owners had performed ground works (in earlier years) (cutting roads, cutting foundation, territory leveling etc). The trial-investigation works were carried out in plots owned in total by 70 private owners (picture 12). Archaeological sites were found only in 14 plots:

- 1) Ditch N.50 (pictures 13-14);

Ditch sizes: 2X1X1 m;

A flat tile, characteristic for earlier mid-centuries has been found in this ditch in the depth of 0.6 m from the contemporary ground surface and a stone tomb was found in the depth of 0.8 m from the contemporary ground surface.

- 2) Ditch N.51 (picture 15);

Ditch sizes: 2X1X1 m;

In the south-east part of the ditch, in the depth of 0.6 m from the contemporary ground surface, a stone tomb has been found.

- 3) Ditch N.52 (picture 16).

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m.

Along the whole length of the ditch, in the depth of 0.6-0.7 m from the contemporary ground surface, three stone tombs have been confirmed.

- 4) Ditch N.53 (picture 17);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

Along the whole length of the ditch, in the depth of 0.5-0.6 m from the contemporary ground surface, five stone tombs have been confirmed.

- 5) Ditch N.54 (picture 18);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

Along the whole length of the ditch, in the depth of 0.5-0.6 m from the contemporary ground surface, five stone tombs have been confirmed.

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6) Ditch N.56 (picture 19);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

Along the whole length of the ditch, in the depth of 0.3 m from the contemporary ground surface, two stone tombs have been confirmed.

7) Groove N.57 (picture 20).

The groove contains two stone tombs in the depth of 0.4 m from the contemporary ground surface.

8) Ditch N.58 (picture 21);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

This ditch contains a stone tomb, opened in earlier years.

9) Ditch N.60 (pictures 22-23);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

The ditch contained a fragment of jug throat dated of later roman era in the depth of 0.5 m from the contemporary ground surface. In the north corner of the ditch, a side wall of stone tomb has been found in the depth of 0.35 m from the contemporary ground surface.

10) Ditch N.61 (pictures 24-25);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

Flat tiles fragments, characteristic to earlier mid-centuries were confirmed in this ditch, in the depth of 0.2 m from the contemporary ground surface and in the depth of 0.6 m, a hole tom was found out. Osteological material was also confirmed.

11) Ditch N.61 (pictures 26-27);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

The ditch did not contain any archaeological object but the plot in which the ditch was cut, the ground plot has been cut by the plot owner at the length of 5 m, at the width of 2 m and at the depth of 2 m. A cultural layer having the power of 1 meter is quite visible in the groove, in the depth of 0.6 m from the contemporary ground surface. It is quite obvious that the cultural layer contains fragments of tiles of Qvevri wall characteristic to earlier mid-centuries, ash-burnt layers and a stone tomb.

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12) Ditch N.63 (pictures 28-29);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

Flat tiles fragments, characteristic to earlier mid-centuries and a stone tomb were confirmed in this ditch, in the depth of 0.5 m from the contemporary ground surface.

13) Ditch N.64 (picture 30);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

A stone tomb has been confirmed in this ditch, in the depth of 0.1 from the contemporary ground surface.

14) Ditch N.67 (pictures 31-33);

Ditch sizes: 5X1X1 m;

Fragments of milling stone, ceramic items and a stone tomb were found out in different depths of this ditch.

As the performed works show, the archaeological sites are found in the boundaries of the current archaeological protection zones and in plots directly neighboring it.

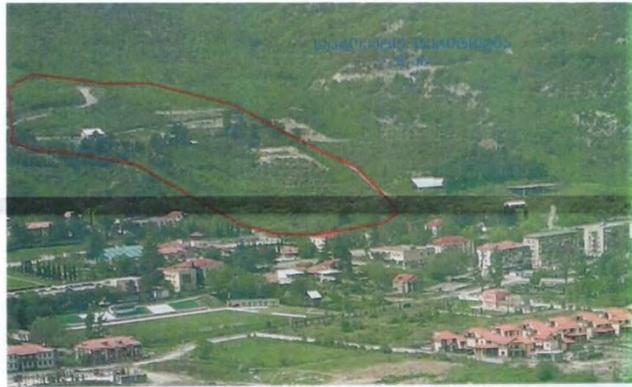
All the archaeological sites investigated by us date (as it was expected) of the late antique period and earlier mid-centuries.

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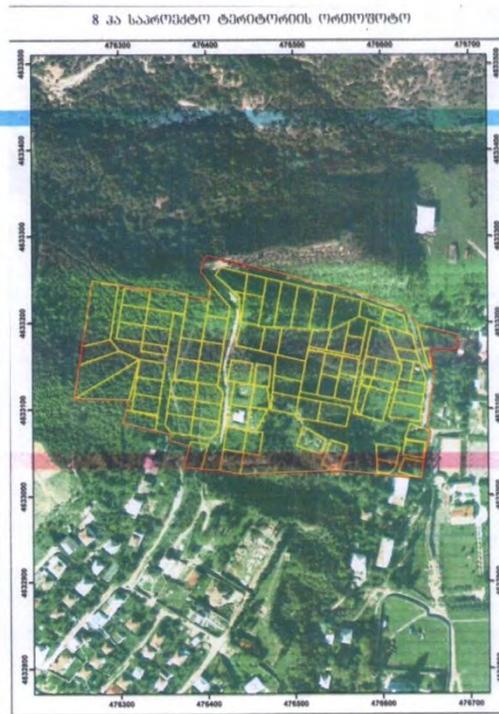
Picture 1.

Photo of the project territory of 8 hectares.

Picture 2.



სურ. 1



სურ. 2



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Picture 3.



სურ. 3

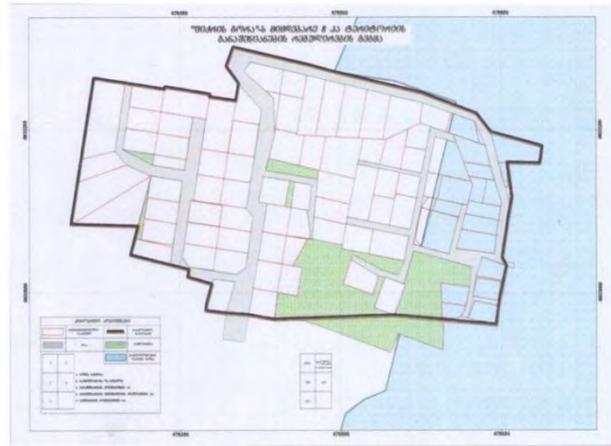


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Picture 4.

Situational drawing of the project territory of 8 hectares.

Picture 5.



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Picture 6.

Picture 7.



სურ. 6



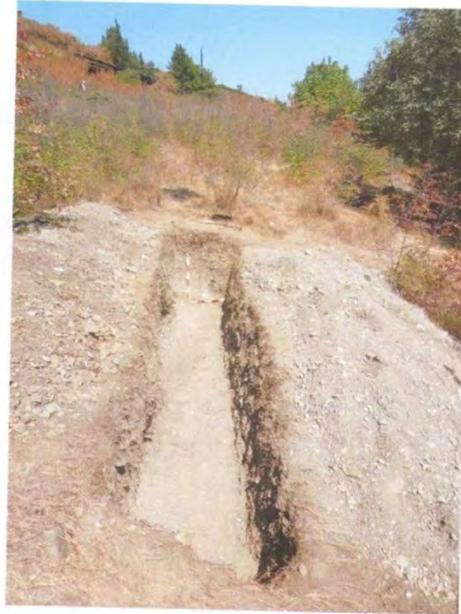
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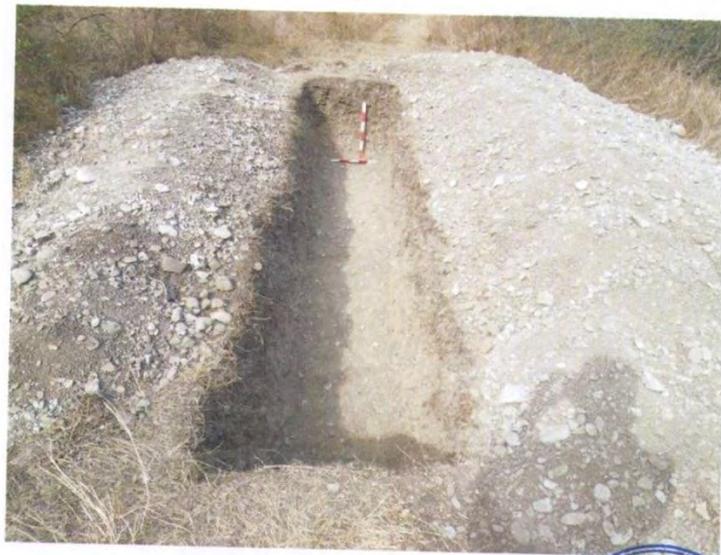
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Picture 8.

Picture 9.



სურ. 8



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Picture 10.

Picture 11.



სურ. 10



სურ. 11



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Picture 12.



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Picture 13.

Picture 14.



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Picture 15.

Picture 16.



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Picture 17.

Picture 18.



სურ. 17



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Picture 19.

Picture 20.



სურ. 19



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Picture 21.

Picture 22.



სურ. 21



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Picture 23.

Picture 24.



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Picture 25.

Picture 26.



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სურ. 26



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Picture 27.

Picture 28.



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Picture 29.

Picture 30.



სურ. 29



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Picture 31.

Picture 32.

Picture 33.

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(Signed).



სურ. 31



სურ. 32



სურ. 33



Handwritten signature in blue ink.