

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

## MANAGEMENT PLAN

# “THE ASSUMPTION CATHEDRAL OF THE TOWN-ISLAND OF SVIYAZHSK”



2016



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## Introduction

<b>Name of the property:</b>	the Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk
<b>Country:</b>	Russian Federation
<b>Region:</b>	Republic of Tatarstan, Zelenodolsk municipal district, Sviyazhsk village
<b>Geographic coordinates:</b>	Latitude N 45 06 '05' ' Longitude E 150 37 '56' '
<b>Area:</b>	3.2 hectares
<b>The area of the buffer zone:</b>	11,563.9 ha

### 1. Main characteristics of the property

The Assumption Cathedral is located on the territory of the Assumption Monastery of the ancient town of Sviyazhsk (now the village). It is located on the island of elliptical shape with steep slopes area of 64.37 hectares at the confluence of the Volga, Sviyaga and Shchuka rivers, 30 km from the city of Kazan, the capital of the Republic of Tatarstan. The location of the Assumption Cathedral at the top of the town-island of Sviyazhsk with its architectural and urban ensemble, towering over the water at 82.54 m, allows perceiving at different scales its artistic image in a radius of 25 km from waterways, roads and railways. The confluence of the rivers Sviyaga, Volga and Shchuka creates watery waste which underlines the elegance of the ensemble beautifully reflecting its image. The trading quarter of the settlement is close to the territory of the Volga flood plain on the east and north-east side of the island. The surface of the territory lies at around 58-66 m, at a height of 5-9 meters above the Volga River. The unique location of the island on the Great Silk and Great Volga routes, the position at the geometric center of the Volga River demonstrates the special role and importance of the Assumption Cathedral and the monastery as a major cultural, economic, missionary and administrative center of the conquered region.

Foundation of Sviyazhsk in 1551, as a starting point for the conquest of the Kazan Khanate, chosen by Tsar Ivan IV (the Terrible) is associated with large-scale historical events in the history of the Russian state in the middle of the XVI century. The Assumption Cathedral was constructed in 1556-1560. It was consecrated in 1560. The architect of the Cathedral is an outstanding Russian architect Postnik Yakovlev. The Assumption Cathedral is at the center of the Assumption Monastery. Its south facade is oriented at the main entrance to the monastery. 10 meters to the west of the temple is St. Nicholas Church with a bell tower, a refectory and services. To the East the territory is not developed. The building of the Cathedral is the main forming element in the architectural ensemble of the Assumption Monastery and the south-west complex of the development of Sviyazhsk. The archival and field research, historical and architectural genetic analysis suggests that the Assumption Cathedral is a monument with the architectural and artistic attributes that characterize the historical, cultural and spiritual life of the Russian state in the XVI-XIX centuries.

At present, the Cathedral is a four-pillar, single-domed, thriapsal cross-in-square domed church with the altar (XVI century)



and a refectory (XVII century). The temple with the altar is built of white cut stone, the refectory – of brick. The temple plan represents a bushel (15 x 18 m, 31 m in height). A four-pillar structural system divides it into three parts. From the East it is adjoined with three altar apses: the central and the northern ones are semicircular, the southern apse is rectangular. To the west, it is attached with a rectangular church refectory (15 x 12 m), the north wall of which preserved an ancient inscription indicating the date of the refectory construction - 1661. The main entrance to the Cathedral is from the west and through a covered porch. Along the southern and northern sides, the Cathedral has an open porch.

Under the temple, there is a lower tier (basement). The overhead covers in the Cathedral are vaulted. The cylindrical drum rests on the stepped towering arches. The Cathedral is lighted through rectangular and arched windows in the walls and the dome drum (the ancient arch windows are at the center of the north wall, on the western wall, in the northern apse (altar) and in the dome drum; opened anew or squared in the XVIII century in the rectangular in the central apse, on the south wall behind the iconostasis, in the center and in the western part of the southern wall, in the center of the west wall). The asymmetric three-dimensional composition of the Cathedral is based on the balance of proportional elements of the temple, the apses, the refectory and the completions.

Art critics and architects studying the monument (M.K. Karger, S.S. Aydarov, V.V. Sedov, V.P. Ostroumov, V.V. Chumakov) came to the same conclusion that the Assumption Cathedral in Sviyazhsk has elements inherent in the Pskov architecture. This is evidenced by the three dimensional planning treatment of the temple and its decoration. The facades of the quarterly temple are separated in three-parts with blades, tied at the top by two and

three-bladed arches. In the center of each facade atop there are niches for icons. The apses and the dome drum preserve typical Pskov patterns: triple ribbon curb (brick on the edge), triangular niche (beguntsy), arcade of stone rollers.

The construction of the fortresses and churches on the conquered territory of the former Kazan Khanate was under the direct supervision of the imperial power. The establishment of the new diocese led to the need for craftsmen to build, along with the fortifications of the Kazan Kremlin, the Cathedral and the temples of the main monasteries of Sviyazhsk and Kazan. In December, 1555 the government of Ivan the Terrible sent a charter to Novgorod which obliged the Novgorod authorities to cooperate fully with Pskov craftsmen called forth to Kazan for the construction of a stone fortress and the temples. A team of builders was sent from Pskov headed by the "the church and the city craftsman" Postnik Yakovlev and mason Ivan Shiryaev.

The construction of stone temples is due to the military-political, cultural and spiritual significance of Sviyazhsk in those years. The researchers point out that the forms and decoration applied in the construction of the monastery Cathedral and performed under the direction of Pskov craftsman Postnik Yakovlev in Sviyazhsk by the size are typical for the Moscow architecture of Ivan the Terrible. This combination creates a unique and uncharacteristic for the Pskov building school of the medieval period monumental constructions, which express the ambitions of the Moscow authorities. However, apparently, the Pskov elements certainly prevail over the Moscow ones. As a result, the craftsmen created an interior where traditional forms with a minimal addition of the borrowed features were formed in a single structure, monumental and edifying. In Pskov, this architectural and aesthetic experience,



allowing transfer power and greatness in the “style of Ivan the Terrible”, as well as creating the impression of hierarchical subordination and geometric order was not present.

Thus, the involvement of the Pskov craftsmen for the construction of the temple was a bright and new manifestation of the Moscow government policy on the use of the Russian north-west resources to strengthen Orthodoxy in the newly annexed Kazan region. The work of Pskov craftsmen in Sviyazhsk should be regarded as an outstanding example of the interaction of the late medieval Russian town architectural style with the cultural policy of the Moscow state.

It is a unique example of the Russian architectural tradition spread from the North to the East in a completely new environment where mostly the Turk and Tatar population had the sixcentenary experience of state organization, its own cultural traditions, created and developed within the Islamic civilization fold; the population who continued to respect the canons of Islam afterwards. Another aspect of the cultural identity of Kazan region was associated with the Finno-Ugric peoples, the majority of whom were pagans. Thus from the middle of the XVI century the mission of Sviyazhsk was to spread Christianity in the region. Sviyazhsk along with Kazan became the center of the Orthodox culture in the Islamic and pagan enclave in the East of the Russian state.

After its construction, the Assumption Cathedral was painted inside and outside. The paintings on the façade were not preserved but their fragments can be found on the western side of the main cube (quadrangle), under the roof of the refectory and on the lower part of the cylinder. The interior of the Cathedral is represented by the unique highly artistic wall monumental mural painting of the second half of the XVI century of the total area of 1,080 square meters. The walls, the dome, the arches, the columns and the pillars

are decorated with paintings. The colorful paintings harmonize with the architectural forms of the interior.

The exact date of these murals is unknown. Some written sources allow us to suggest that the cathedral was painted in a period from 1567 till 1613. Most researches dated the paintings of the Assumption Cathedral belonging to the 1560s.

The painting of the Assumption Cathedral is divided into several zones. The murals of the main area (naos) are dedicated to four main themes: the Genesis cycle (The creation of the World and the story of Adam and Eve) on the surface of domes and arches, the Protoevangelic cycle and the Assumption of the Mother of God cycle (Life of the Mother of God) on the top tiers of the northern and southern walls, the Evangelic cycle on the lower part of walls, as well as some independent paintings, such as the Cathedral of the Mother of God, which occupies the entire western wall of the Cathedral. The individual figures of holy warriors are placed on pillars, some figures of traditional (Daniel, Simeon, Alypius) and Russian (Nikita Pereyaslavskiy) saints and stylites are placed in window flarings.

The cycles of “The creation of the World” and “The story of Adam and Eve” as the paintings of the Assumption Cathedral of Sviyazhsk Monastery are the first examples of any reference to this theme among the surviving monuments of the Russian monumental painting; they have nothing in common with the Byzantine painting tradition, adopted in Russia, which was focused on the theme of paintings, arranging the plots of the Old Testament in order. The system of the Byzantine painting was adopted in the end of the X century and its variations existed throughout the history of the Russian medieval art.

One of the details is the image (in the central apse) of not only the priests who were massing a liturgy but also the human kind. The images



of secular people as a tsar and his retinue, a bishop and a group of monks without nimbi are identified with the contemporaries of the painting – the Tsar Ivan IV (the Terrible) and the Metropolitan Macarius.

The murals of the Assumption Cathedral are the new system of temple painting, which in the middle of the XVI century changed the canonical system, developed by the Byzantine divinity. The plots of colorful paintings are represented not only by the themes of the canonical sources (books) but also by the Apocalypse and apocryphal legends. The paintings were influenced by ancient Byzantine and later Western samples. The unsurpassed mural of the XVI century is the image of Sabaoth on the dome where the image of Christ had to be placed according to the Orthodox tradition. Another mural,

located over the south-west pillar, was created under the Western influence: it depicts Sabaoth sitting on the throne dressed in white with a crown on his head, holding the cross with crucified naked Christ protected with the cherub wings on it. The mural of the Mother of God, embracing the naked body of Christ, which is a widespread plot in Italian, French and German painting, is located above the southern gate of the cathedral.

The ancient painting harmonizes with the richly decorated inner space of the cathedral; jointly they create the majestic image of the cathedral. The Russian painting of that period was one of the major ways to strengthen the idea that Russia had been chosen by God so the image of tsar as the head of the state acquired additional theological and ideological meaning.

## ***2. Management plan terms of reference and fundamental principals***

Development of the Management Plan of the site “The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk” comes, first of all, from the necessity of preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the object. Sviyazhsk occurrence became a turning point in the history of Russia and even Eurasia, because since then Russia started to move eastwards and the Grand Prince of Moscow becomes Russian Empire.

This dramatically changed the history of many European and Asian nations, finished the passage from the Middle Ages to Modern History. That is the reason why the XVI–XVII centuries hold a specific place in the history of Russian statehood and in the history of the whole Eurasia. At that time, Russia made a resolute step on the way of becoming Eurasia dominion, with traditions of a powerful middle-age empire of the Golden Horde. From here come the sources of centuries-long experience of multiethnic and multi-religious state establishment and administration. The location of the Assumption Cathedral and

Priory in many ways connected with the fact that even nowadays the monument serves as an evidence of important and enormous geopolitical changes of the XVI–XVIII centuries, when with the conquest of Kazan, Astrakhan and Siberia the Grand Prince of Moscow became a multinational and multi-religious state of Russia.

The Assumption Cathedral can be viewed as a site of exceptional value not only from the geopolitical point of view, but also from historical, architectural, artistic study, spiritual and theological points of view due to the unique undamaged condition of the mural painting dated back to the second half of the XVI – early XVII centuries. The concept of this monumental iconic fresco reflects the complicated state of philosophy and politics of Ancient Russia. History of Sviyazhsk priory and town has been going around the Cathedral, as if it was “a Holy axis”.

The potential and value of historical and cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk and the Assumption Cathedral, as a historical center



in a crossroad of orthodox and Muslim cultures, western and eastern civilizations and also as one of the eldest cities of the Volga-region with fascinating set of archeological, historical and architectural property of the area, is comparable to the top sites of the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Therefore, a management plan intends discovery and conservation of cultural and natural heritage on the whole area of the site and its buffer zone, as well as a proper territory organization supply, based on cultural, landscape and functional features of the object.

Not only the immediate surroundings of the Assumption Cathedral, but the territory of the whole island is to be considered as a cultural and landscape complex in future consideration.

Former district town Sviyazhsk during the XX century had been suffering from measurable changes: it lost the status of the town, lost significant amount of population, became an island after Volga reservoir construction; moreover, GULAG prisons were set inside the monasteries. However, dozens of cultural heritage sites were preserved, as well as archeological layer, cultural and natural landscapes, all of which are tightly bound with the Assumption Cathedral and build up a unique historical and natural complex on the isle. Among scheduled also the historic traditional buildings of architecture and arts location regeneration and historical and cultural landscapes revaluation.

By vision of management plan, it is supposed that the site conservation and presentation will become the main factor for territory's stable development and dynamic social and economic functions derivation. As for administration, Sviyazhsk is treated, first of all, as a modern religious and spiritual complex, so-called museum without any walls with the sky above. Religious life rebirth on the territory of Assumption and St. John the

Baptist monasteries plays vital role for making Sviyazhsk a significant place of religious pilgrimage. In addition to that, local society continues to work and function, for whom World heritage site service becomes a basic employment and opportunity for worthy life.

Management plan points to further works on scientific research and conservation of the Assumption Cathedral monument painting. The important issue was to find out an acceptable level of its usage, following which will help not to harm fresco painting and temple interior as well as will not threat those monuments' existence.

Management plan offers to set up new museum functions of Sviyazhsk (in 2015 it has gained a title of the Museum-Reserve – the highest museum title in Russia). Implementation of new events program will contribute to highlighting unique museum features of Sviyazhsk and create museums unlike the other ones in Russia, categorizing museum specialization and attractiveness of the town-island. Among such projects are Orthodox culture Museum, Volga museum, Civil War museum and many others. System of different museums establishment will also lower the danger of human pressure, ratably split visitors on the island territory and evade excessive load on the key sites, thus, providing effective tourist service management, fostering not the number of tourists, but improving the quality of tourism.

From the point of view of the Outstanding Universal Value support, the most important issue is Orthodox Museum creation in St. Nicholas Refectory Church of Assumption Monastery, which allows disclosing the significance of the Assumption Cathedral for Christian culture and Russian history, as well as its World universal value.

In midterm, Sviyazhsk takes a central place in whole-nation and international cultural and touristic “Volga river heritage” project. This program intends Volga cultural links



presentation, as if it was a historical road, which existed during several epochs; existing and dead civilizations and settlements role revealing, exposure to culture of different nations, living on the coast of Volga (“Great Silk Route” may be called as an analog of that program). The Great Volga River Route was a part of Great Silk Road. Location of Sviyazhsk as a key point of Russian eastern expansion and as a historic spot, located almost amid the Great River, is extremely profitable from historic, cultural, economic and geographic points of view.

Management plan contains also the following strategic aim: a complex of historic and cultural heritage is a specific and vital social and economic resource; it may and must become the basis for special branch of local administrative formation and stable development of the territory.

Multifarious activity of the Museum-Reserve and connected to that tourism development, especially pilgrimage to the Christian relics, and different service constitutions and social infrastructure branches are able to bring significant beneficial effect. Evaluation of the outlined events proves to have high social output. It is connected mainly with culture and tourism development, preservation and rebirth of spirituality, ecological situation improvement, historic and culture landscape preservation, knowledge expanse, education enhancement etc. Employment also plays dramatic role. All these factors contribute to the establishment of social consensus on the territory of municipality.

As a result, management plan defines the following goals as major:

- preserving the Outstanding Universal Value of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List;
- creation of proper conditions for territory’s stable development;
- reaching a social harmony on decision to save, use and develop the property

nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List.

Management plan sections present:

- existing site condition based on legislative, administrative and other methods of state and social protection;
- analysis of stakeholders on usage and stable development of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List;
- the Assumption Cathedral administration system involving social elements and tools for social consensus;
- administration management scheme, monitoring and resource supplement for needs of management plan;
- General events plan within the frames of management plan.

Events and projects of the plan are focused on Outstanding Universal Value of the Property and its historic, cultural and natural environment. Systematic complex approach to discovery, study and preservation of cultural and natural heritage of Sviyazhsk and its buffer zone is the foundation for property preservation.

Management plan sets requirements for the Assumption Cathedral and its landscape surroundings constant monitoring, as well as for incessant complex preventive tests and maintenance of the monuments. The management plan defines landscape’s target state; also, main criteria of the safety and principles of landscape management, basing on the role in sustaining the Outstanding Universal Value of the site. As tools for the Assumption Cathedral study, historic and cultural monuments maintenance and landscape management, non-destructive technologies are chosen. The site conservation is supposed as a measure directed on saving and discovering historic, architecture, and art values of the monument.



The management plan offers mechanisms directed on stable development of the area, not damaging the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. The plan provides stable tourism development strategy, based on marketing researches and acceptable per site or historic landscape human-pressure calculations. Proportional human-pressure arrangement on the whole territory and during the seasons was pointed as major target.

Positive social and economic processes taking place on the island are necessary conditions not only for the development, but even for the safety of the World heritage site. However, any new project directed to infrastructure development in buffer zone and surrounding grounds should be examined for its possible influence on the Outstanding Universal Value of the site and surrounding grounds according to the UNESCO recommendations, so not to harm the site.

The administration plan of the Assumption Cathedral of Sviyazhsk is a complex-planning document, which reconciles the interests of all parties concerned and defines goals, targets and actions for joint work on protection, preservation and stable development of the World heritage site. Decisions made during

the working process, are to be discussed with all the concerned parties on Coordination Committee of the World heritage site management, which is created to serve as a tool for public consent on safety, usage and stable development of the site.

Clarity principal is vital for all of the concerned parties for management plan development and executing. The document offers mechanisms for monitoring the managing plan execution and its quality control. These procedures should be repeated annually to control correctness of chosen tools for effective site maintenance. According to the results of the monitoring and discussion among the concerned parties, improprieties should be corrected annually.

The plan is performed in the format allowing all the concerned parties to get a clear opinion about the site condition and planned stable development tools for the near-term prospect. Used terminology is maximum parsimony to international (UNESCO World Heritage Convention and attendant documents) and corresponds to terminology of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tatarstan legal systems.

### **3. Management plan development**

“The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk” property’s management plan development started in 2014 by order of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan in accordance with UNESCO administration on World Heritage Convention and World Heritage Committee recommendations.

Management plan’s main developers are:

- Regional Foundation of Revival of Historical and Cultural Monuments of the Republic of Tatarstan;
- Kazan (Volga region) Federal University;
- «Higher School of Economics» National Research University (Moscow);

- Kazan State University of Culture and Arts;
- Archeology Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan;
- Volga Region Department of the UNESCO Chair;
- State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk”.

During the process of work, careful analysis of the situation, as well as holding a big number of events with concerned parties and gathering a significant volume of materials was executed. The dates of the management plan implementation are 2015-2035, with



focus on 2015-2020, which corresponds with World Heritage sites report dates.

Within the Management Plan development, the following events were held:

- Regional Foundation of Revival of Historical and Cultural Monuments of the Republic of Tatarstan and International, scientific and methodology experts council session;
- Academic workshop;
- “Sviyazhsk: the past, the present, the future” all-Russia research and practice conference;
- “Historic, cultural and spiritual heritage of Sviyazhsk” international conference;
- Seminars, workshops, alignment meetings with concerned parties, institute structures representatives and international cultural heritage conservation organizations.

The results of work on management plan received practical approval on international and regional research and practice conferences and events. Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, as well as Russian and international specialists in cultural heritage conservation stayed informed regularly about the plan preparation. ICOMOS experts consulting visits in August 2014, by recommendation of UNESCO World Heritage Center were extremely productive.

The plan development is conducted with incessant discussions among all of the concerned parties. One of the most significant principles was different groups of people involvement, e.g. the locals and monastic community. Problems connected with the threat revealing and opportunities definition were discussed with their participation. The documents development was performed in correspondence with requirements of international and Russian legal system in cultural and natural heritage sites conservation in order to save the Outstanding Universal Value of the object.

Management plan is oriented, first of all, to protect and maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral in complex of Sviyazhsk Assumption Monastery; to protection, conservation and management of archeological and architecture monuments; touristic-pilgrimage potential usage of the area, as a unique site of cultural heritage; negative influence, risks and nature disasters prevention. The basis of management is supplement of effective protection, study, conservation, management, presentation of the site chosen as a nominee to the World heritage list and its rational usage in aims of spiritual and cultural rebirth.

Management plan intends not only general cultural and religious value of the objects, but also the changes taking place at immediate vicinity of the Assumption Cathedral, and other facts able to influence it. The plan also intends all-around complex approach, stressing links with other federal, republican and local plans.

The Assumption Cathedral is included in the “town-island of Sviyazhsk” site. Cathedral itself is a property of Russian Orthodox Church. Administration of the cultural heritage site is done by Tatarstan Archdiocese together with Sviyazhsk museum (Museum-Reserve starting from 2015). Except these establishments, the following ones also take active part in administration: Sviyazhsk Executive Committee, Zelenodolsky district administration, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Tatarstan Republic Cultural Heritage Center, the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan.

The function of methodical guidance on key moments of site administration and coordination, and also the plan execution control is accomplished by Regional Foundation of Revival of Historical and Cultural Monuments of Republic of Tatarstan set in 2010 under administration of the first president of the Republic of Tatarstan Mintimer Shaymiev.



According to the regulation Fund's corporate objects are actions, targeted to "Town-Island of Sviyazhsk" state historic, architecture and arts Museum-Reserve conservation and development assistance, as well as other historic and cultural monuments of the Republic of Tatarstan conservation and improvement of historic, cultural and spiritual development of multinational people of the Republic of Tatarstan, national and cultural identity and traditions of the Tatar, Russians, other nations living in the Republic of Tatarstan.

International methodological experts council, including respected foreign and national specialists in research, conservation, conservation and management, headed by I. Gafurov, Rector of Kazan Federal University, is accomplishing the main function in experts supply.

"The Assumption Cathedral of Sviyazhsk: historic, cultural and art complex" management plan is to be augmented in 2016, after all-round detailed examination by experts and discussing with the local community.

## 1. Proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value of the property "The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk", nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List

### 1.1. Brief synthesis

The Assumption Cathedral is located at the confluence of the Volga, the Sviyaga and the Shchuka rivers, in the town-island of Sviyazhsk is 30 kilometers away from Kazan, the capital of the Republic of Tatarstan. It is a part of the Assumption Monastery, which consists of seven stone constructions built in different time during the XVI-XIX centuries. It is surrounded by a wall, which gives it the appearance of a real white-stone Kremlin and has some loopholes and merlons. It was established by metropolitan Makarius in 1555 by the decree of Ivan the Terrible and headed by archimandrite German who had Tatar origin.

Construction of the cathedral was carried from 1556 till 1560 out by Pskov builders under the supervision of the architect Postnik Yakovlev. Novelties characteristic of the state architecture of the Moscow tsardom and local traditions formed in the boundaries of the Volga Bulgaria, the Golden Horde and the Kazan Khanate were introduced into the Pskov monumental architectural tradition. In the XVIII century, the cathedral appearance was supplemented by decorations in Baroque style, which harmonized with its Old Russian style.

The complete cycle of the frescos from the second half of the XVI – early XVII centuries with the total area of 1,080 sq. m. has survived in the cathedral interior as well as the iconostasis with the icons of the XVI-XVII centuries and the only portrait of Ivan the Terrible. The frescos and architectural ensemble is the reflection of new a trend in Russian art and a remarkable reflection of the ambitious cultural and civilizational ideology initiated by the Russian state in the XVI-XVII centuries. The ideological program, hierarchy, monumentality, superb artistic skills of performance and style of wall paintings are characteristic traits of uniqueness and an example of a special trend of development of Christian art of Russian and Europe.

The frescos are unique as they are the graphic reflection of the Stoglav Council of 1551, of council 1553-1555, which is historically important not only for Russia but for the whole of the Eastern Orthodox Church and history of icon painting. The unique choice of saint warriors and preference of certain iconographic versions are related with the broad enlightening character of the cathedral



painting program and testifies about the contacts with the Orthodox East, where these saints were especially worshipped.

The Assumption Cathedral is an exceptional evidence of historical succession and cultural diversity. The property not only possesses brightly expressed esthetic peculiarities, but also illustrates the new stage of development of Russian culture, the trend of Russian art, which embodied achievements of the Byzantine classical heritage, the Greek Orthodox art, Novgorod and Moscow schools of monumental painting and architecture, the influence of West European Christian tradition and methods and principles of European art.

At the same time, one should take into consideration the location and geo-political conditions of the Assumption Cathedral emergence in an alien Turki-Tatar and Finnish-Ugric environment. So, the idea of the cathedral is the unique evidence of interaction of the Christian-Orthodox and Muslim cultures. On the one hand, the idea of the cathedral is developed in architectural, picturesque and spiritual images of the topic of the Assumption of the Virgin, especially worshipped in Russia, and the cycle of scenes in paintings of the Assumption Cathedral for the first time appears in historical context as a link between the Old and New Testaments narration. Placing illustrations of "The Genesis" on the vaults of the cathedral interior as the main topic of paintings was an absolutely new phenomenon, which did not have visual traditions in Russia. On the other hand, the Assumption cathedral, which has the image of the Virgin as the main idea of its construction, is an outstanding evidence of connection with the Muslim tradition of worshipping Mariam ana (Mary). The location of the cathedral is simultaneously the north-west point of Islam spreading and the south-east spreading point of the architectural and artistic style of Pskov, Novgorod and Moscow.

The Assumption Cathedral is an outstanding evidence of the strategic development of Sviyazhsk as an outpost for successful conquering of the Kazan Khanate by Ivan the Terrible and for the following ambitious program of expanding lands, which was initiated by Moscow ruling circles in the middle of the XVI century for strengthening relations between the Christian Orthodoxy and the imperial expansion. The Assumption Cathedral had an officially approved mission of spreading Christianity in the region. Fulfilling it, both the cathedral and the monastery together with Kazan became the important centers of Christian culture in the Islamic and pagan enclave in the middle of the XVI century.

The Assumption Cathedral is real evidence of cardinal historical and geo-political changes in Eurasia which played a key role in the formation of the multinational Russian state and radically influenced the historical destiny of peoples in the Volga-Ural region, in Siberia and Central Asia, as well as in spreading Russian Orthodoxy to the east and the disappearance of the post-Golden Horde Islamic states – Kazan, Astrakhan, Siberian, Nogay, and Crimean khanates.

A unique synthesis of the cultures of the West and East, different architectural and artistic styles as well as mutual influence of values and enrichment of cultures have been brightly manifested in the Assumption Cathedral. Its architectural history, wall and icon painting are unique attributes characterizing historical, cultural, spiritual and religious life, demonstration of feelings of believers in different epochs, the succession of religious life as well as of development of architectural and artistic thought and its material embodiment. The evolution of the cathedral and the town island of Sviyazhsk from the object of confrontation and war into the island of peace, cultural diversity, poly-ethnicity and poly-cultures and revival of spirituality has become their most important symbolic characteristic.



## 1.2. Justification for Criteria

### Criterion II

The Assumption Cathedral is a remarkable example of spiritual and cultural space, with the ultimate concentration of diversity of original cultures and civilizations. It is a unique evidence of common historical, ethnic, cultural, spiritual and confessional evolution of peoples of Eurasia over a long period of time. Active synthesis of cultural Christian and Muslim traditions, substantial mutual influence of human values and mutual enrichment of cultures were taking place during the process of erection and evolution (development) of the Assumption Cathedral.

### Criterion IV

The Assumption Cathedral in the town island of Sviyazhsk is a unique sample of

historical, cultural and artistic complex. It appeared as a result of architectural traditions synthesis of North and Central Russia with local traditions of the Volga and Urals region, the latter going back to the culture of the Volga Bulgaria. The frescos of the cathedral vividly demonstrate the phenomenon of cultural evolution of Moscow stardom, showing the direct connection between the events of the second half of the XVI – beginning of the XVII centuries and cultural life of the epoch and occupy one of the most important places in the history of Christian art of that time. Architectural and frescoes ensembles of the cathedral here the new trend in Russian art, reflected ambitious cultural and civilizational ideology of the Russian state in the XVI – XVII centuries and illustrated an important period of the world history of humankind.

## 1.3. Statement of Integrity

The integrity of the property is provided with the approved boundaries, including all its attributes and the buffer zone, which make more than 11,000 hectares. It represents an integral architectural and artistic complex with history which finds its evidence in documents, archeological study and scientific research as well as with historical, cultural and architectural structure, natural landscape and century-

long succession of functional use for cultural and spiritual purposes. The unique integrity of the Assumption Cathedral is also confirmed by the fact that within its boundaries there is a set of elements, which make it possible to picture and course the results of its evolution. The fact that the cathedral is located on the territory of the state Museum-Reserve promotes preservation of its integrity.

## 1.4. Statement of Authenticity

The authenticity of the cathedral is confirmed by a number of historical documents, seizures, archeological materials, maps, plans, and archives. Interiors and the artistic complex of wall paintings of the second half of the XVI – early XVII centuries and all attributes of Pskov and Baroque architecture have survived as well as the monuments creating its historical and cultural environment and being part of the monastery complex. The authentic cultural layer, which keeps artifacts of the XVI-XIX

centuries, has been preserved on the territory of the property and around it. The constituent attributes of the Assumption Cathedral have been preserved since the end of the XIX century by using methods of conservation and preservation. All kinds of work have always been preceded by scientific research, which gave exhausting material for conservation of the monument by using substances identical to the original ones. All this is the grounds for developing projects and choice of preservation



methods as well as monitoring by specialized organizations that guarantee preservation of authenticity for the Assumption Cathedral. Taking into consideration the scientifically

calculated level of anthropogenic load, the public liturgy is planned to be resumed in the cathedral.

### ***1.5. Requirements for protection and management***

Legislative and institutional framework for efficient protection and management of the property have been set up by legal and regulatory enactments of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tatarstan. The status of the monument of the national importance made it possible to preserve the Assumption Cathedral and archeological cultural layers in good condition. With the aim of preservation of the cathedral attributes and its historical-cultural environment, the town island of Sviyazhsk has been announced to be the remarkable place, and a historical and architectural and fine arts museum reserve have been established here.

The property is managed on the basis of the system of interaction of the parties concerned stated in the management plan in line with the concept of preservation, conservation and management of the Museum-Reserve till 2035.

Within the management process the key questions of management are directed on study, preservation and scientific conservation of the Assumption Cathedral, organization of the museum work and establishment of new museums, combination of historical religious function of the cathedral, tourism development, effective risk management, interaction with local communities aimed at preservation of all attributes of the property, its integrity and authenticity.

The detailed analysis and assessment of possible influence of any new projects in the buffer zone of the property on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is carried out in order to prevent any possible threats to its preservation and perception.



## 2. Review of the current condition of the property “The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk”

### 2.1. Legal and administrative means for the property protection and management

#### 2.1.1. Current legislative basis and adopted administrative measures that promote the preservation of the authenticity and integrity of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List

The Assumption Cathedral in Sviyazhsk is nominated to the UNESCO World Heritage List under the Convention concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage adopted on 16 November 1972, that was ratified by the USSR in 1988 (Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR from 09.03.1988, No. 8595-XI) and that, in accordance with paragraph 4 of article 15 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, is constituent part of the Russian legal system.

The system of World Heritage Sites' administration in the Russian Federation includes both Federal laws and laws of regions of the Russian Federation. Laws of regions of the Russian Federation (in this case, the laws of the Republic of Tatarstan) specify the provisions of the Federal laws taking into account regional and national peculiarities of the Republic within the Russian Federation.

The Assumption Cathedral is a site of cultural heritage (monument of history and culture) of federal significance. It is to be protected on the basis of Russian legislation, in particular the Federal law “On objects of Cultural Heritage (monuments of history and culture) of the peoples of the Russian Federation” (adopted on 25.07.2002 № 73-FL). As a site of cultural heritage located on the territory of the Russian Federation's region – the Republic of Tatarstan – it is to be protected on the basis of regional (Republican) legislation, in particular, the Law of the Republic of Tatarstan “On objects of Cultural Heritage in the Republic of Tatarstan” (adopted on 1.04.2005, No. 60-LRT).

In 2008-2010 the program for research and conservation works of the monument (“Comprehensive plan for interdisciplinary research of the Assumption Cathedral and Trinity Church for 2014-2020”) was created. This program operates at the present time; it is financed from Federal and regional budgets.

The entire island of Sviyazhsk, which is in the buffer zone of the Assumption Cathedral, is announced the remarkable site – a specific type of Cultural Heritage provided by the legislation of the Russian Federation. On the territory announced the remarkable site not only the monuments of history and culture, but also the natural and cultural landscape, historic buildings and planning, historical visual dominants and visual communication, various traditional features and characteristics are preserved. The decision to classify the historic site of the “Town-Island of Sviyazhsk” as the sites of Cultural Heritage of regional (Republican) significance was adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan 16.07.2009. A remarkable site “Town-island of Sviyazhsk” is protected under Federal and regional laws by Federal and Regional governments.

A remarkable site “Town – Island of Sviyazhsk” has its zones of protection that are approved by resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan “On approval of the borders of zones of protection of site of a cultural heritage of regional (Republican) significance “Remarkable site “Town-Island of Sviyazhsk” (adopted on 02.07.2015, № 481). The territory of these zones of protection is the territory of the



buffer zone of the site nominated in the World Heritage List “The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk”.

The part of the buffer zone of the Site, which has exceptional natural value for perception of this monument, and includes aquatic and subaquatic landscapes, belongs to the natural reserve “Sviyazhskiy”. It also falls under the protection of the laws on the nature protection of the Russian Federation, in particular, of the Federal law “On specially protected natural territories” (adopted on 14.03.1995, № 33-FL). The decree on the formation of the State natural reserve of regional importance of complex profile “Sviyazhskiy” was adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan on 04.02.1998, №. 49.

The “Concept of development of the state budget institution of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan the “State historical-architectural and art Museum “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk” was developed and approved . It was approved by order of Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan from 14.06.2011 № 453 for the period up to 2020. There was also created “Comprehensive plan for interdisciplinary research of the Assumption Cathedral and Trinity Church for 2014-2020” approved by the order of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan in 2014. At the end of 2014 the “Strategy for the conservation and use of historical, cultural and natural heritage of Sviyazhsk and development of the State historical, architectural and art Museum “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk” (under the supervision of the National Research University “Higher school of Economics”) was developed.

The preparation of these documents was a part of numerous consultations with various governmental and non-governmental

agencies, discussions with deputies, local community, scientists, and specialists. It was held under the supervision of the International Scientific-Expert Council of the Fund of Revival of Monuments of History and Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan.

As a result of preparation of these documents it was decided to convert the Sviyazhsk Museum to the Museum-Reserve (decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan from 24.08.2015 №. 618). Russian Museums-reserves are a special type of cultural institution. Museum-Reserve is defined as the cultural institution, created to ensure the preservation, conservation, study and public presentation of integral territorial complexes of Cultural and Natural Heritage, material and spiritual values in their traditional historical (cultural and natural) environment.

The difference of museums-reserves from other cultural institutions is that they manage not only museum objects and collections, but also the immovable cultural heritage and the territory surrounding them. The state museums-reserves are complex institutions in their functions. They are intended to save the integrity of not only architectural, archaeological or memorial monuments, but also the historical territory, including the unique cultural and natural landscapes. Almost all objects of cultural heritage included in the UNESCO World Heritage List are managed by the museums-reserves. This decision contributes to a united museum, cultural and socio-cultural policy on the territory of Sviyazhsk.

The federal and regional legal acts and administrative decisions, which are important in order to manage the site, nominated to the World Heritage List are presented in Annex to the Management Plan.



### 2.1.2. Property issues

The Assumption Cathedral being recognized as the site of cultural heritage of federal importance, belongs to the property of the state. It is located on the territory of the Assumption monastery, which was transferred to perpetual and free use of the Russian Orthodox Church by the government. Special value and cultural importance of the Assumption Cathedral and the necessity of a long period of conservation work raise a question about its joint use of the nominated property. It is governed by the agreement between the Ministry of Culture of Tatarstan, the Tatarstan Archdiocese of Russian Orthodox Church and Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve.

The part of historical buildings of Sviyazhsk, which are the objects of Cultural Heritage, and the land where they are placed are transferred to the ownership of the Museum-

Reserve. The management plan is expected to further increase in the proportion of the Museum's property in the buffer zone, which will facilitate the coordination of preservation and use of historical building in Sviyazhsk and cultural landscape. A significant part of private residential buildings is owned by individuals and belongs to various organizations.

For the purpose of preserving the historical environment and discourage of undesirable development there was specifically adopted Order of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan about the establishing of statement about the type of use of the sight place, restrictions on the use of its territory and the requirements to economic activity, design and construction on the remarkable site "Town-Island of Sviyazhsk" (adopted on 07.08.2009).

### 2.1.3. Legal map of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List and its buffer zones

The territory of Assumption Cathedral and the buffer zone have the following regimes:

- regime of land within the boundaries of territories of Cultural Heritage sites;
- regime of preservation of the remarkable site of the "Town-Island of Sviyazhsk";
- regime of state nature reserve of the regional significance of the integrated profile "Sviyazhsk";
- mode of water protection zone.

#### 2.1.3.1. Regime of lands within the boundaries of territories of Cultural Heritage sites

Land plots on the territories of objects of Cultural Heritage included in the unified state register of sites of Cultural Heritage (monuments of history and culture) of peoples of the Russian Federation, pertain to the lands of historical and cultural significance. The legal regime in the territories

of sites of Cultural Heritage is very strict and is regulated by the Federal law "On sites of Cultural Heritage (monuments of history and culture) of peoples of the Russian Federation" (№ 73-FL d/d 25.06.2002) and land legislation of the Russian Federation.

#### 2.1.3.2. The regime of protection zones

The protection zones borders of the remarkable site of the "Town-Island of Sviyazhsk" were adopted in 2015. The project is designed in accordance with current legislation of the Russian Federation. The protection zones coincide with the borders of the buffer zone of the nominated site "The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk". Information on the boundaries of the protection zones will be included in the State cadastre of real estate subject to the restrictions and encumbrances.



The regulation of urban development and economic activity within the given limits is a precondition for the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the site nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List “The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk”. Urban development and economic activity should be carried out taking into account the fact that this area is on the territory of historical, cultural, visual and emotional impact of unique historical and architectural site “Town-Island of Sviyazhsk”.

In order to ensure the preservation and most complete disclosure of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral it is also decided to adjust plans of territorial development of Zelenodolsk, Verkhneuslonsky districts of the Republic of Tatarstan and the city of Innopolis after the inscription of the Assumption Cathedral on the World Heritage List (see activities, Paragraph 9 of the Management Plan).

#### *2.1.3.3. State natural reserve of regional significance of the integrated profile (State Public Nature Reserve) “Sviyazhsk”*

State natural reserve of regional significance of the integrated profile (state public nature reserve) “Sviyazhsk” is located in Zelenodolsk and Verkhneuslonsky districts of the Republic of Tatarstan on the area of 12.4 thousand hectares. It is a protected natural area of national significance, formed for the purpose of preservation and conservation of natural and artificial ecosystems of the river Sviyaga, Sviyazhsk Bay of the Kuibyshev reservoir and adjacent floodplain areas, stocks of

commercial and rare species of fish, unique natural landscape and biological diversity. In September 2007, this area received the status of biosphere reserve of UNESCO.

In order to carry out the functions of the nature reserve the administration of the state public nature reserve “Sviyazhsk” was established. Administration of the reserve implements the state policy in the field of specially protected natural areas of regional significance and is administered by the Ministry of Forestry of the Republic of Tatarstan.

The legal regime of the reserve is established in the area, in accordance with the specifics of specially protected natural territories. It is not in contradiction with the regime of the buffer zone of the object, nominated in the World Heritage List, and increases the sustainability of its development.

#### *2.1.3.4. The regime of water protection zones*

Water protection areas are areas adjacent to the shoreline of lakes or rivers. In these zones, there is a special mode of implementation of economic and other activities to prevent pollution, contamination, silting of the water bodies and conservation of habitats of aquatic biological resources and other flora and fauna. The width of water protection zone of the river is 200 m. Within the boundaries of water protection zones coastal protective belts are established, where the additional limitations are imposed on economic and other activities. The width of the coastal protective belt is set depending on the slope of the shore of the water body and lasts from 30 m to 50 m depending on the slope.



## 2.2. The territory of the property and its surroundings

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### 2.2.1. The borders of the property nominated for the inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List, “The Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk”

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The borders of the nominated property are limited by the polygonal perimeter of the walls of the Assumption Monastery within the boundaries of the XIX century:

- in the north – from point 1 to point 4 along the wall of the monastery;
- in the north-east – from point 4 to point 5 in accordance with the limits of the cadastral parcel in Monostyrsky Lane to Uspenskaya Street;
- from the south-east – from point 5 to point 9 along Uspenskaya Street to the Gateway (Nadvratnaya) Church and the Church of Ascension, from point 9 to point 12 from Nadvratnaya Church along Uspenskaya Street;
- in the south-west – from point 12 to point 14 along the façade of Arkhimandritky building to its southwestern corner, from point 14 to point 16 of the southern corner of the Monastery school;
- in the west – from point 16 along the northwestern corner of the Monastery school to point 18,
- in the north-west – from point 18 to point 24 of the northwestern corner of the Assumption Monastery;
- further the boarder goes along the northern wall of the Monastery to point 25-1.

### 2.2.2. The limits of the buffer zone of the property nominated for the inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List, “The Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk”

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The buffer zone of the world heritage site “The Assumption Cathedral of Sviyazhsk – a monument of Orthodox architecture and spiritual culture” coincides with the boundaries of the protected zone of the cultural heritage site “Town-island of Sviyazhsk”. They were approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan “On Approval of the Boundaries of the Protected Zone of the Cultural heritage Site of Regional (republic) Significance “The Site of the town-island of Sviyazhsk” (of July 02, 2015, no. 481).

The extensive buffer zone of 11,563.9 ha consists of land (29%) and water (71%) area. The size of the buffer zone provides necessary conditions for visual perception of the nominated site, as its Outstanding Universal Value lies in its integrity with the surrounding cultural and natural landscape. The field of vision of church buildings is 25 km. The

boundaries and limits of building allow control the urban pressure and preserve the unique view from Sviyazhsk to surrounding territories and water areas, open river banks, fields and forests considering visual perception of the World Heritage site and its surrounding area. The water area is limited at the level of 53 m of Kuybyshev Reservoir.

The buffer zone consists of three main functional parts:

- the territory of Sviyazhsk, including the Assumption Cathedral;
- the protected area of the historic landscape of the World Heritage site (the bank to the east and to the south of the island with historical rural settlements and cultural heritage sites on it);
- the protected area of natural landscape of the World Heritage site to the north and to the west of the island (aqueous and subaqueous landscapes that define the



visual perception of the river and distant areas).

The buffer zone is a system of protected areas of the cultural heritage site “The island city of Sviyazhsk” and includes the following zones:

Zones of building regulation:

- **Zone 3 I** – the territory of islands and lands of Zelenodolsky district (parcels 1 and 2) and Verkhneuslonsky district (parcels 3 and 4).

Zones of protected natural landscape:

- **Zone 3 III** – the water area (territory) which is not included in the State natural reserve of regional significance “Sviyazhsky” within the boundaries of Zelenodolsky district (parcel no.1, excluding the territory of a cultural heritage site – the complex of Makarievsky monastery),

the water area of Zelenodolsky and Verkhneuslonsky districts (parcel no.2).

- **Zone 3 A** – the water area (territory) of the State natural reserve of regional significance “Sviyazhsky” (parcels 1 and 2).
- **Zone 3 IV** – the undeveloped riverside of Verkhneuslonsky and Zelenodolsky districts (parcels 3 and 4).

The points of panoramic perception have been identified, mapped and included in protected area – sites, which have the status of a cultural heritage site of regional significance.

The set of these zones form a single buffer zone. The borders of the buffer zone have been established on the basis of visual and landscape analysis; the borders of separate protected areas have been identified on the basis of morphological, landscape, historic and urban analysis.

### 2.2.3 The surroundings of the property

#### The Assumption monastery

The Assumption Monastery is a part of the ensemble of the Assumption Monastery in Sviyazhsk. The Monastery was founded along with the establishment of the Kazan eparchy in 1555. It was closed in 1923 and reopened in 1996.

The foundation of the monastery and the cathedral, devoted to the Assumption of the Mother of God, in Sviyazhsk linked the new abode of the eparchy with a number of traditional Orthodox images of land defenders. The image of the Assumption of the Mother of God was symbolically related to worship of chasuble of Our Lady as the palladium that protected the orthodox city from invasions. This fact determines the wide spreading of cathedrals of Assumption on the territory of Russia. In addition, the image of the Mother of God was used in baptizing ceremonies of Muslims, because they esteemed the Mother of God as “Maryam-ana” (Muslims considered Jesus to be the Prophet Isu ibn Maryam), so this image was very close to them.

The Assumption Monastery stands on the south-western part of the upper plateau of Kruglaya (Round) mountain at around 76 m. It is located 23 meters above the level of Kuybyshev Reservoir. When heading to Sviyazhsk from Moscow the monastery served as the main compositional element of the city, and its bell tower 43 meters in height as the main landmark. As we approach Sviyazhsk the ensemble of the monastery makes an indelible impression. Depending on the time of the day and the year and the ration of light and shade, the ensemble has different influence on its visitors, appearing in either the form of a fabulous island with monasteries and churches or a harsh white-stone fortress contouring the changing sky.

The total area of the monastery is 3.2 ha. Its perimeter is fenced about with walls (XVII–XIX centuries) of 650 m long. The main entrance through the Holy gates is located in the southern wall, in the lower tier of the



Church of Assumption (Nadvratnaya) (late XVII – early XVIII centuries) and leads to the cathedral square. The Assumption cathedral (1556–1560) is situated on the north side of the square. The Nikolskaya Refectory Church (1555–1556) with the bell tower is situated in 10 m from the cathedral. Heading to the south-west you will see the two-storey ed stone Arkhimandritsky building (the end of the XVII – the beginning of the XVIII). In alignment with it to the north, there is the stone building of the monastery school (the end of the XVII – the beginning of the XVIII). The three-storey ed brotherhood building (XVII–XVIII centuries) with the church named after Saints Herman Kazansky and Mitrofan Voronezhsky is situated in the south-east moving from the Holy gates alongside with the monastery fence, which was rebuilt in late XVIII – early XIX centuries. The undeveloped territory of the monastery, which is the area of the memorial cemetery where the monks of the Assumption Monastery were buried as well as a meadow and a garden, are located in the east moving from the Assumption cathedral.

The complex of the Assumption Monastery surrounded by a brick wall is similar to a fortress-town, in symbolical interpretation - to a heavenly town. Such likening reflects medieval concepts of the Russian town planning in which a monastery was perceived as an image of the Kingdom of Heaven shown on the earth, and monks were called «angelic hosts» which was substantially reflected in the composition and planning of the complex. The walls, closing the composition and being its borders, give the ensemble architectural integrity and conceptual importance. The fencing separating the Monastery from the world makes the complex of the Monastery similar to a town inside a fortress.

In the plan the Assumption Monastery represents an irregular polygon. The configuration of the plan of the Monastery

is determined by its location and natural environment. Following a steep slope crest from the West and the North, the monastic fencing smoothly passes around the territory from the North-East and the East. The Southern side of the fencing goes along a straight line, along Uspenskaya Street, connecting the western and eastern corners. The architectural composition of the Assumption Monastery is distinguished by harmonious completeness: horizontals of the stack-stands of the walls, verticals of the temples and the roofs accents, counterbalancing each other, develop into self-sufficient pictures from each separate point of view.

The main panorama reinforced with extended monastic constructions – connected with stack-stands the Archimandrite's building, the monastic school, is spreading along the steep bank to which a dam with a bridge lead (in the past – the Moscow path, the main entry into Sviyazhsk from the direction of Moscow). On the panorama stands out a dominating shape of the Assumption Cathedral and a high Nikolsky bell tower to which the silhouettes and the overall dimensions of the churches, the refectory, monastic buildings are subordinated.

The planning of the monastic ensemble is determined by certain regularities that can be clearly seen. It is possible to refer to them concentricity and functionality of the internal building composite structure zones and the existence of a certain hierarchy of the constructions. The central position in the ensemble is held by the Assumption Cathedral with the refectory complex including the bell tower. Initially the central complex buildings were connected with each other with a gallery-passage, which gave it additional sense: especially significant sacral unity within the monastic walls. The architectural complex of the Assumption Monastery – enclosed, compact and compositionally complete – expressed an idea of the religious, cultural,



military and political center, a spiritual stronghold of the vast newly annexed lands.

The Sacred Gates with the gate Ascension Church are located in the southern wall: the main entrance is oriented towards the bell tower. It acts as a composition accent of the main structural element of the complex – the Assumption Cathedral Square – the conceptual center of the Monastery. Thanks to its dynamic silhouette the bell tower actively counterbalances a large cubic volume of the Cathedral and a massive St. Nicholas Church with the refectory. The residential and cultic buildings, which are grouped around form complex picturesque compositions, calculated for numerous points of perception.

The central place, from the architectural and the ideological points of view, occupies the Assumption Cathedral. Playing the role of conceptual focus, the main monastic temple with architectural composition reflects the predominating position in the general

structure of the monastery and the whole town. The construction of a monumental, emphatically representative grandiose cathedral placed new accents in the formation of architectural appearance of Sviyazhsk – «the great monarchic fortress» in the territory of the former Kazan khanate.

The buildings of the monastery are united in a highly artistic architectural complex with a unique silhouette, which organically fits into the architecture and the panorama of Sviyazhsk, defining unique architectural appearance of the western tip of the island. The panorama of the Assumption Monastery is a business card not only of Sviyazhsk, but of Tatarstan as well. Its silhouette is represented in many pictures and engravings. It marked the newly annexed lands of Central Volga area, symbolized the power of Orthodox religion and the tsar Ivan the Terrible in this subdued region, and was an immediate part of the defensive system of the fortress.

### ***2.3. Natural heritage and the characteristic of a cultural landscape***

During the analysis of the natural and anthropogenic complexes of Sviyazhsk and its vicinities aquatic (water) and semi-aquatic character of the landscapes of the territory can be clearly seen. This is connected not only with the creation of the Kuibyshev reservoir, but also with an initially important role of the landscapes of the valleys of the Volga and Sviyaga rivers in the formation of the image of this territory.

The aquatic complexes not only dominate in terms of the area, but form extensive open space around the town-island, emphasizing visual dominants of Sviyazhsk. Thus, the nature itself «presents» the island for the best consideration and contemplation. Many researchers note that Sviyazhsk is visible at a 20 kilometers' distance: in many respects, it is connected with sarsen character of the island

and its central location in the valley of the Volga.

The hydromorphic (sub-aquatic) complexes are mainly the semi-flooded residual islands of the flood plain and the first terrace above the flood plain of the Volga and the Sviyaga rivers. As fluctuations of the reservoir level within a year make up to 3 meters, the low part of the island is occupied by hygrophilous meadow vegetation with osiers and elms.

Around Sviyazhsk considerable territories in the South and the West are occupied by wavy ancient alluvial plains (the second terrace of the above the flood plain of the Volga and the Sviyaga). These sites are used mainly agriculturally. However, coppices consisting of oak and pine and birch woods can be found everywhere. The combination of fields and coppices increase the esthetic and



landscape variety of the territory surveyed from the island.

The territory of the town-island of Sviyazhsk is affected by dangerous and adverse natural processes. It is necessary to emphasize that the situation with natural processes became more complicated after the creation of the Kuibyshev reservoir: along with erosive processes, traditional for this area, arose new adverse and natural hazards: first of all, the abrasion processes connected with the wave impact on the banks, and also processes of flooding of the territories adjoining the reservoir.

In the territory of the island erosive processes, despite a big steepness of its slopes (25–40 degrees) are expressed poorly now. At the same time in some natural and technogenic situations (downpours, catastrophic storm drain, etc.) there are considerable risks from activization. The same is true concerning possible activization of landslide processes on the island slopes (nowadays landslide formations especially well noticeable on the eastern slopes of the island, are in a passive condition).

The negative impact of flooding processes is shown in strengthening of bogging and inundation of flood plain and terrace territories. In the territory of Sviyazhsk seasonal flooding (when raising waters of the reservoir) suffers, first of all, the Posadsky cultural and landscape complex located on rather low hypsometric marks.

The area of action of the abrasion processes connected with the wave impact on the banks covers generally the territories of the western and southern banks of the reservoir. In Sviyazhsk the Posadsky part, and also the bank of the pile dike connecting the island to the continent is prone to abrasion influence more.

In the territory of Sviyazhsk, 5 cultural and landscape complexes are allocated:

- cultural and landscape complex of the Assumption Monastery,

- cultural and landscape complex of St. John the Baptist Monastery,
- Western town cultural and landscape complex (historical town building),
- Eastern town cultural and landscape complex (town center),
- Posadsky cultural and landscape complex.

The complex of the Assumption Monastery is located in the southwest tip of the island. From the West and from the South, it is washed by the waters of the Kuibyshev reservoir. The part of the complex are: The Assumption Bogoroditsky Monastery, the horse farm, the fragments of the traditional building preserved, and also the steep slopes of the Sviyazhsky island facing the flooded river Shchuka, and a two-level embankment, of the high (Naberezhnaya Reki Schuki Street) and the low levels. An important spatial element of the Assumption cultural and landscape complex is the Assumption descent, nowadays it contains a staircase by which visitors from the parking lot get to Assumption Square.

In front of the monastery, there is Assumption Square which expands the space of perception of the monastery picturesque temples and therefore constantly attracts visitors. One more important attractive place is the part of the embankment in front of the monastery walls on which there is an observation deck from which opens a view of the Sviyazhsky gulf, the Tatar ridge, and the islands of the Kuibyshev reservoir for many kilometers.

Both from a historical, architectural, and landscape point of view the considered territory takes an extremely important place in the Sviyazhsky cultural landscape. Undoubtedly, the Assumption Monastery represents the face of Sviyazhsk.

The cultural and landscape complex of St. John the Baptist Monastery is located on the southeast tip of the island. The part of the complex are: St. John the Baptist Monastery, the fragments of the traditional building



preserved, and also the steep slopes of the Sviyazhsky island facing the flooded Sviyaga River, and the two-level embankment, high (Naberezhnaya Reki Sviyagi Street) and low levels. The slanting Sergiyevsky descent intended both for cars and for pedestrians is a part of the cultural and landscape complex.

In the spatial organization and perception of the island cultural landscape St. John the Baptist Monastery also takes an important place. In its territory a wooden temple, unique for the entire Volga region – the Trinity Church constructed in 1551 was preserved. As well as the Assumption Cathedral of the Assumption Monastery, the Trinity temple of St. John the Baptist Monastery belongs to the most valuable historical and cultural monuments, attracting visitors.

The western town cultural and landscape complex includes sites of the remaining historical town building and planning. The complex is located in the central and highest part of the island with the prevailing heights of 20-25 m over the water level. The central place in the Western town cultural and landscape complex occupies the complex of public constructions in which the Museum of history of Sviyazhsk is located nowadays.

The eastern town cultural and landscape complex is located in the northeast part

of the island. From the southwest along Aleksandrovsкая Street it borders on the Western town cultural and landscape complex, from the northeast – on the Posadsky complex. From the northwest and the southeast the territory is washed by the waters of the Kuibyshev reservoir.

Since the foundation of the town, its town center has existed in this territory. Rozhdestvenskaya Square represents (and before the revolutions also represented) the main public center of the town- island. This moment is accurately expressed in the plan: the central Uspenskaya Street, Moskovskaya Street, Troitskaya Street, Rozhdestvenskaya Street and Rozhdestvensky Lane all lead to the Square. Due to the preserved numerous historical buildings down Moscovskaya Street, it is perceived as a complete fragment of a historical town landscape.

The Posadsky cultural and landscape complex occupies the northeast edge of the island. The most part of its territory is at a low hypsometric level. An important role in the spatial organization of the complex is played by streets descents – Moscovskaya and Rozhdestvenskaya - going down which one can observe the whole territory of the suburb.

## ***2.4. Management of the property***

### *2.4.1. Institutional management structure*

The Assumption Cathedral is a cultural heritage site of federal significance. On the territory of Sviyazhsk in the buffer zone of the Assumption Cathedral, there are other cultural heritage sites of federal and regional significance. There is a clear and transparent block diagram of the management of the complex, including the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, as well as other organizations.

Total control and supervision of compliance with the requirements of the Russian legislation and international law in respect of the property is carried out by the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and the Russian Foreign Ministry, represented by the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO.

Preservation of cultural heritage, both of federal and regional significance located on the territory of the Republic of Tatarstan,



including the Assumption Cathedral, is implemented by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan as the governmental agency authorized to exercise state control in the field of preservation, use, promotion and state protection of cultural heritage sites in accordance with applicable Federal law of the Russian Federation d/d June 25, 2002 No 73-FL “On the Cultural Heritage Sites (Monuments of History and Culture) of the Peoples of the Russian Federation”.

Archaeological research of the cultural layer, and works on conservation, preservation, management and protection are held only with the permission of the federal and regional bodies responsible for the protection of monuments.

Archaeological research is currently being conducted by the Institutes of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tatarstan. According to the established legal rules, other scientific organizations may be involved.

The management of the territory of Sviyazhsk:

- in terms of management of cultural heritage is implemented by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan;
- in terms of tourism is executed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan jointly with the State Committee on Tourism of the Republic of Tatarstan;
- operational activities in the field of tourism is carried out by the State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk” (since 2015 – Museum-Reserve);
- religious activity is carried out by Tatarstan Archdiocese of Moscow Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church;
- in terms of the conservation of natural heritage – by the Ministry of Ecology

and Natural Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan together with the Ministry of Forestry of the Republic of Tatarstan (on the territory of the buffer zone operational management of the conservation of natural heritage is carried out by the State Natural Reserve “Sviyazhsky”).

- in terms of organization of local community, the work of institutions of social infrastructure, landscaping and other issues related to the life of Sviyazhsk. Management in rural settlements is performed by its Executive Committee.

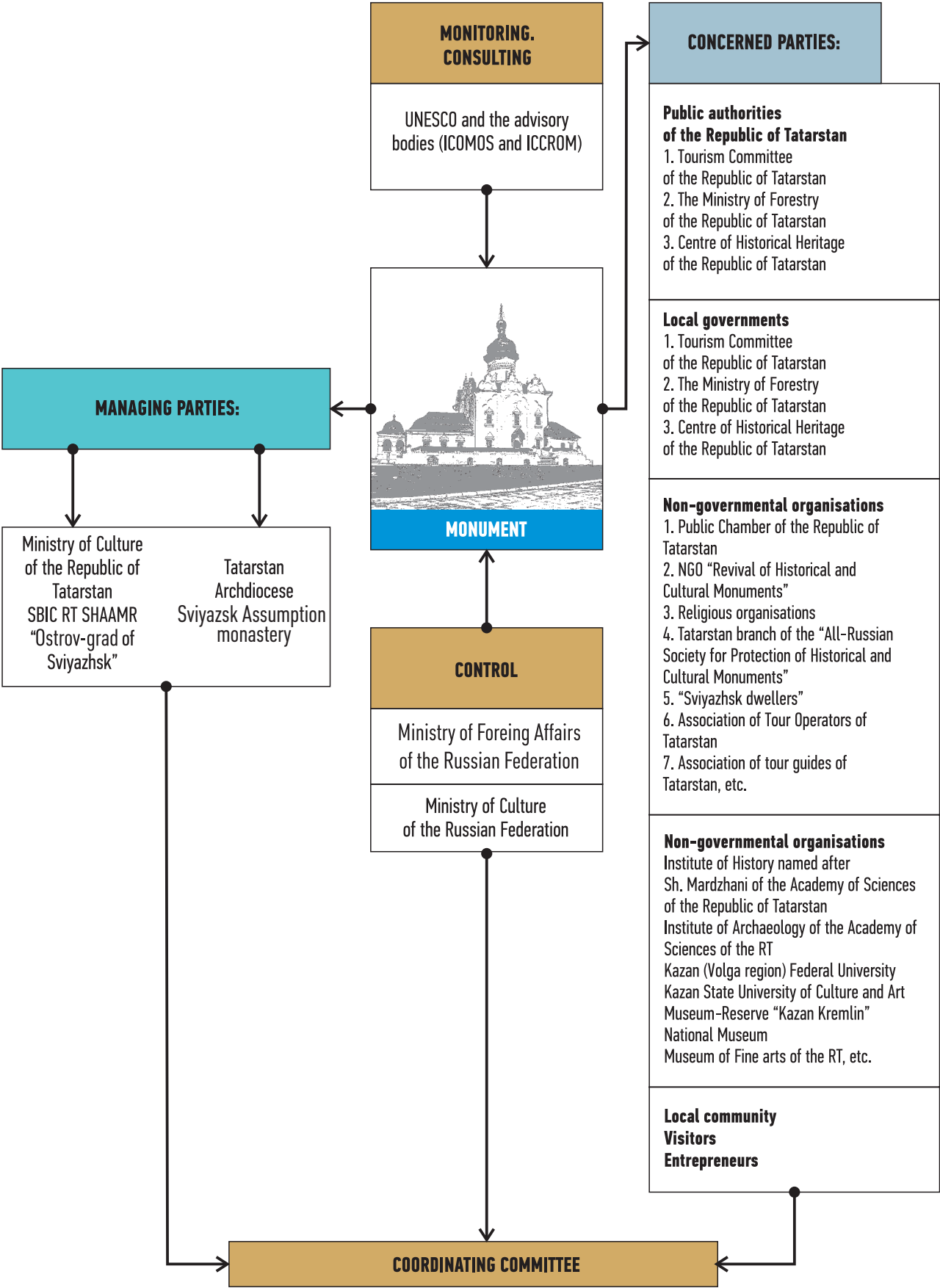
There were developed and approved rules of visiting of the remarkable site “Town-Island of Sviyazhsk”, that determined the mode of access, code of behavior on the territory of attractions and temples, the rules of the tours, etc. The access of organized tourist groups is conducted on the basis of contracts signed with Sviyazhsk Museum, access of organized pilgrimage groups is carried out on the basis of contracts signed with the Assumption monastery.

Methodological guidance on the definition of the main activities, contributing to the preservation and use of the property nominated to the World Heritage List and the buffer zone is provided by non-profit organization the “Republican Fund of Revival of Monuments of History and Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan” under the leadership of the First President of the Republic of Tatarstan Mintimer Shaimiev and scientific-methodical Council of experts of the Fund.

Direct coordination activities on the island are carried out by the State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk” (since 2015 – the Museum-Reserve), acting on the basis of the Charter.



Scheme of the management system  
of the Assumption Cathedral of Sviyazhsk





#### *2.4.2. Characteristics of the local community*

The Assumption Cathedral and the island of Sviyazhsk are located in the territory of Zelenodolsk district of Tatarstan. In 2014, the total population of Sviyazhsk accounted for 252 inhabitants. In 1953, there were 2700 people living here, but the population in the last half-century has decreased significantly. Since 1990s, the population has remained stable. The residents demonstrate their active position and interest in the processes taking place in Sviyazhsk. The number of students in secondary school experienced a steady decrease: in 1989 their number made up 50 people, in 1994 there were 32 students and in 2009 there were 15 students. In 2014, the number of students in school in Sviyazhsk accounted for 32 people (including 13 children of preschool age in the kindergarten).

The special state program enabled to resettle more than 80 Sviyazhsky families, mostly from the territories belonging to monasteries, where in Soviet times communal apartments were built, as well as from the other buildings, which are acknowledged to be the sites of cultural heritage and are in an unsuitable condition for permanent residence. Small houses on the territory of Sviyazhsk were built to provide resettled residents with accommodation. Construction on the territory of Sviyazhsk, on the one hand, enabled to retain the local population, and provide locals with modern housing, on the other hand, partly tackled the problem of the numerous losses of civilian buildings of the city and reduced the number of urban wastelands which were formed as the population left Sviyazhsk in 1950 and old buildings were in decay.

Local communities are represented by non-governmental organization “Sviyazhsk Dwellers”, by local fishermen, the community of monks, “Sviyazhsky community of artists”, summer residents, owners of small motor, rowing and sailing boats and others.

The State Historical and Architectural Museum “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk”, which was founded in 2009 and in 2015 became the Museum-Reserve, is now known as a major organization providing employment on the island. Before the museum was founded, 40 people out of 110 employable residents were registered at the Unemployment Benefit Office, in recent years all the inhabitants have become employed. Some of them, due to the increase of tourist flow caused by the activities of the museum, found a job in a cafe, souvenir shops and businesses involved in production of souvenirs.

The museum is actively involved in the life of the urban community: almost all residents with no exception contributed to the expansion of the museum’s collection. Various artifacts related to the history of Assumption Cathedral and Sviyazhsk were donated. Joint efforts of bodies and residents resulted in collection of memories of Sviyazhsk residents. The museum supports various activities, which involve local communities.

The interaction of the museum with the local community includes the following areas:

- Joint efforts to manage historical territory;
- Development of social and cultural environment of Sviyazhsk;
- The revival of the traditional cost-effective forms of economic activity;
- The development of new types of craft and economic activities;
- Involvement of children and youth in museum activities.

The development of the territories surrounding Assumption Cathedral is based on territorial planning schemes of Zelenodolsky and Verkhneuslonsky Districts and the new municipality satellite city “Innopolis” (Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan “On Amendments to the Scheme of Territorial Planning of the Republic



of Tatarstan" d/d 09.27.2013, № 686 ). These basis documents determine the direction and development of the areas, buildings, land use, social and economic indicators. However, it is crucial to adopt new approaches to territorial planning schemes, which are to take into account the new realities of the area, namely the recognition of Assumption Cathedral as World Heritage Site. Apart from these, the activities and events aimed at preserving the integrity and authenticity of the nominated World Heritage site and its cultural landscape are to be taken into consideration.

This document (amendments to schemes) will become legally valid after it undergoes the final design and development, public hearings and will be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan. Planning document will be developed jointly with the population of Sviyazhsk and with Sviyazhsk Museum and is certain to become an effective tool of preserving the authenticity and integrity of Assumption Cathedral.

Since the materials for the nomination of the Annunciation Cathedral to the World Heritage List started to be developed, as well

as during the development of a management plan, meetings with the local community and the leaders of local organizations and institutions were held. These meetings pursued the goal of clarifying interests and needs of the population, as well as involving them in the activities included in the plan of management of the sites nominated to the World Heritage List. The survey was conducted to identify the views and interests of the various parties. When developing the management plan analysis of the current situation in relation to the nominated World Heritage site was carried out. The opportunities and risks, strengths and weaknesses were assessed.

The management plan encourages to attract the local community and the implementation of the principles of dialogue, cohabitation, popularization of traditions and values in culture, education and science in the policy of federal, republican and local authorities is viewed as a crucial part. It is aimed at the implementation of the measures proposed by the UN in 2010 on the cooperation of cultures and fixing false cultural values, attitudes and perceptions.

#### *2.4.3. Other organizations and parties concerned*

Apart from the local community, there are other concerned parties who are involved in the territory use.

##### *2.4.3.1. Russian Orthodox Church*

Russian Orthodox Church plays the most significant role in the management of cultural heritage. The concerned party is represented by Assumption Monastery Kazan Archdiocese of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The Kazan Archdiocese, Sviyazhsk Museum and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan signed an agreement on joint use of facilities, which are regarded as objects of worship of the Orthodox Church. In cooperation with the Monastery of

Assumption measures aimed at regulating the flow of visitors and visits to the most valuable cultural heritage are taken.

Several sections of Sviyazhsk History Museum are devoted to the history of monasteries and churches as well as the Orthodox culture of the town-island. The significant events in the history of Christianity and religious life of the faithful museum are marked by exhibitions. In 2013, the museum held an exhibition "From the history of Soviet propaganda". The exhibition displayed the collection of posters and toys of anti-religious nature of the State Museum of the History of Religion (St. Petersburg), which were spread from 1919 to 1970. Soviet anti-religious posters are viewed as important monuments



of national history, the documentary evidence of the fight led by the Soviet government against religion and the Church throughout its existence. Compared with the fine arts of the time (except for the newspaper and magazine graphics) anti-religious theme has not received such a massive realization as in poster art. As a result of this fight parish churches in Sviyazhsk were destructed, sacred things were abolished. It also resulted in the massacre with the greatest part of the clergy and monks. Therefore, it is important to study the content and methods of implementation of Soviet propaganda to understand the historical realities of the time and the events taking place in Sviyazhsk in the Soviet years. It was the time when the Soviet Union was founded and a system of strict suppression against dissenters was imposed alongside with the relevant ideological, administrative and repressive structures. In 2014, Sviyazhsk successfully hosted the exhibition “Heavenly patrons of Sviyazhsk” on the occasion the anniversary of the birth of St. Sergius of Radonezh. The exhibition displayed a variety of icons and artifacts related to the life of the Orthodox Sviyazhsk. In 2015, there was an exhibition “Holy warrior, Christopher”, dedicated to the history and iconography of reverence of this saint in Russia in the XVI-XVII centuries. There were 18 museums and museums-reserves from 11 regions of Russia involved in this exhibition. Icons, enamel, pictorial needlework dated back to the second half of the XVI - the beginning of the XXI centuries were displayed.

Taking into account the cultural, spiritual and religious significance of Sviyazhsk and the fact that according to the documents of ICOMOS and ICCROM, living religious heritage has characteristics that distinguish it from other forms of heritage, and the fact that, in accordance with UNESCO initiative on the heritage of religious interest holy places “are actually the oldest protected areas on the

planet ... and are vital for the preservation of cultural diversity for future generations”, the Management Plan reckons for active participation of religious communities in the preservation and development of the image of Sviyazhsk, maintenance of its spirit, lifestyle, social and spiritual nature. This part is entirely based on the Nara document about authenticity in relation to the World Heritage Convention (1994) and the Quebec Declaration on the preservation of the spirit of place, adopted by the General Assembly of ICOMOS 16 in 2008.

The planning process to manage this part and approaches to interaction with the local community imply that being recognized as the main objects of heritage owned by the state and an agreement on cooperation with the Russian Orthodox Church result in preservation of the site. The work, which is conducted among the concerned parties creates opportunities to exchange of information, increase the commitment of parties, due to collective responsibility and to gain knowledge, consent and support of those who will protect and enhance the value of the monuments of Sviyazhsk, their integrity and authenticity.

#### *2.4.3.2. Local bodies*

The Executive Committee of Sviyazhsk contributes much to compliance with the legislation on the protection of cultural heritage and prevention of illegal construction and illegal archaeological excavations. Also, the director of the museum is a Deputy of Sviyazhsk settlement and represents Sviyazhsk as a Deputy in the District council of deputies of Zelenodolsk district of Tatarstan, which includes Sviyazhsk.

The positive nature of the interaction with the local authorities is largely due to the fact that the budget of Sviyazhsk is provided largely through tax deductions from the activities



realized by the Museum. Improvement of the village and conducting mass events, both local and external are viewed as an important area of cooperation between the local authorities and the museum.

#### 2.4.3.3. *Tourists and sightseers, and other categories of visitors*

Tourists and sightseers make up the most significant group of visitors coming to Sviyazhsk. In 2014, their total number accounted for 180 thousand. The main purpose of visits is to present visitors the history of Sviyazhsk, as well as present outstanding architecture and monumental painting of Assumption Cathedral and other landmarks of the island, combined with a visit to museum exhibitions and other attractions of Sviyazhsk. Due to the implementation of the program of development of the museum in Sviyazhsk and conservation of cultural heritage the rate of visits is growing at a significant pace (in 2012 Sviyazhsk was visited by 21 thousand tourists)

This is a very high load, although visits have not yet reached the limit value. Rough estimates of the stability of the cultural landscape gives the value of the load limit on the island of 350-450 thousand people over the year. However, it should be taken into account that the main recreational load on the island takes place mainly within four months (from June to September). It can be argued that currently Sviyazhsk hardly sees so many tourists in summer and autumn months. It is also important to note that the non-uniformity in the anthropogenic load falls on Sviyazhsk not only in the season, the guided visits lead to a very intense day load

The load and on the territory is also very uneven. Tourists and tour groups are able to discover a very small part of the island. The biggest recreational area of the load falls on the Assumption Cathedral and two streets - Uspenskaya and Troitskaya. For this reason

human pressure on local cultural and natural systems of Sviyazhsk impressively increases.

Anthropogenic pressure is a very significant threat to the cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk and, above all, the cultural landscape of the territory. The management plan seeks to actively control the flow of tourist and sightseers. It is expected that the focus will be not on the number of visitors, but the “quality” visitors, willing to visit attractions in Sviyazhsk and perceive its value. The island will not develop the hospitality services. The hotel network will be limited to small hotels for religious pilgrims and secular tourists, as well as professionals - for a maximum of 100 visitors. Turning other facilities into museums on the island is another crucial goal. It will help to avoid concentration of visitors at the Cathedral of the Assumption and the other most valuable objects, to disperse the flow of tourists and sightseers and relatively evenly distribute them in the historical territory. At the bottom of Sviyazhsk in the area of the river station one can see a monument to the reconstruction of 12 paddle boat belonging to Paul I, can visit a park and the Museum of Archaeology tree. At the top of Sviyazhsk one can see historical and cultural monuments, museums of Sviyazhsk history, the Civil War, the artist G. Arhireeva, Orthodox culture, children’s recreation center “Fairy Tale”, the Museum of district medicine) and exhibition halls.

To prevent the risk of influence of anthropogenic load studies of recreational load on some parts of the island were conducted, the state of natural and cultural landscapes and modern tourist flow were examined and assessed. On the basis of findings, the redistribution of tourism extreme loads on the separate territories of Sviyazhsk will be developed and implemented.

“Summer Residents”. This is another group of newly arrived population, which is represented by families who purchased the



abandoned, empty plots on the territory of Sviyazhsk, and actively use them for summer holidays, for a short time or in some cases for long-term rentals. This group is relatively small (up to 25 suburban areas), but at the same time is quite active in terms of impact on the historical and cultural landscape of Sviyazhsk.

This group of newly arrived population demonstrates only an indirect interest in preserving the Outstanding Universal Value of the site, nominated to the World Heritage List, and in fact only the part, which affects the prestige of their summer residence.

To reduce the negative impact of this factor in 2013-2014 the following decisions were made:

- development of house plans to be used in the construction and development of Sviyazhsk;
- development of a draft order of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan on establishing the order of project documentation adjustment for construction at the territory of the remarkable site of regional significance "Town - Island Sviyazhsk";
- Development of the system of measures for decorating and painting homes already built in order to reduce their disharmonious effect on the historic landscape and make recommendations on their use.

Another small, but active part of the visitor population is represented by intellectuals. These, as a rule, are artists, actors, writers and representatives of other creative professions, residents of Kazan, Tatarstan and other regions, which have chosen Sviyazhsk as summer recreation and creativity site. Some of them moved to Sviyazhsk for permanent residence. This group of individuals became known informally as "artists' community".

The arrival of this group at the island proves the value of the Assumption Cathedral and

other landmarks and landscapes of Sviyazhsk and interests of this group are directly aimed at maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property, to preserve the unique historical landscapes. In its activities, the group, in fact, can be seen as an important promoter of the Cathedral, Heritage of Sviyazhsk, and they actively support events to preserve the historical and cultural and artistic heritage of the island.

In terms of management, the active work of another group of visitors is seen to be crucial: these are museum professionals, scientists, graduate students and students who are involved to ensure the operation of the museum-preserve, research cultural heritage, preparation of monographs and other scientific products, conferences, seminars, etc. State Museum Reserve cannot be staffed only by local residents. Some of the employees (mostly qualified) are museum professionals who are live in Kazan, but work in Sviyazhsk. They are to live in Sviyazhsk to ensure the tourism demand in summer.

The implementation of joint research, educational, cultural, educational, information and presentation programs in Sviyazhsk is provided by Museum-Reserve, the local municipality, representatives of the Orthodox clergy in close cooperation with the largest higher educational institution of the Republic of Tatarstan and the Volga region as a whole - Kazan Federal University.

Departments of the University, together with the institutions of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan is the basic research institutions, providing a full range of basic and applied research in the humanities - history and archeology, ethnology and anthropology, museology and cultural, archival and Source, religion and theology and a number of scientific disciplines - geology, chemistry, physics, biology and genetics, etc.

A significant number of researchers that make up the contingent of persons who are on



an island in the field season (April-October) are the faculty, staff and students of the Kazan Federal University (bachelors, masters, postgraduate students) are actively involved in research and educational activities as part of the archaeological, museum, ethnographic, dialects, of archaeological, biological expeditions and practices of Kazan Federal University.

Scientists, teachers and students, representatives of the university and academic scientific community involved in the implementation of large-scale humanitarian projects in Sviyazhsk make up a collectively sustainable scientific community which has a strong influence on the formation of the image of Sviyazhsk in the world scientific and cultural process.

In recent years, Sviyazhsk has become the site of regular scientific meetings and conferences. There are constantly working group of experts (restorers, archaeologists, and others.). Research and scientific activities have become an attribute of Sviyazhsk. It is proposed to further expand the publication of research paper, to implement measures to promote the involvement of scientists from not only of the Russian Federation and Tatarstan, but also from other countries.

With this group of newcomers Sviyazhsk population is becoming more open to the global community.

The events to attract local population which are carried out by authorities for service of tourists and pilgrims, huge and fruitful work of "Revival of Historical and Cultural Monuments of the Republic of Tatarstan" Fund for involvement not only local community, but also inhabitants of the Republic of Tatarstan, the Russian Federation, orthodox believers living worldwide, business structures, the industrial and commercial enterprises, and also the developed plan for management of site enables to accent actions on protection of Outstanding Universal Value, effective preservation, management, protection and use of material and spiritual heritage of the site nominated to the List of the world heritage and its environment.

The goals and interests of all parties are summarized in the table (Table 1) to assess the possibility of cooperation between the parties and give a clear idea of the direction of action for the conservation and sustainable development of the site "the Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk: Historical, Cultural and Art complex."

## 2.5. Modern use of the Assumption Cathedral

The Assumption Cathedral at the moment is used as:

- a site of cultural heritage, attracting thousands of visitors because of the special status of the medieval ancient monuments;
- tourist excursion to demonstrate the core values and attributes of the Assumption Cathedral as an outstanding Christian Orthodox religious site, its significant and unique contribution within the Christian monasteries in the Volga-Ural region and the emerging Russian Empire.
- a cult site and for purposes of religious and pilgrimage tourism (carrying out religious ceremonies and liturgies in monasteries and temples of Sviyazhsk, receiving religious pilgrims);
- a permanent residence of monks and novices in the territory of the monastery;
- cultural and educational (training sessions, lectures, master classes, summer archaeological school, as well as the use by the painters, directors, actors and other artists in the territory of the island for their work);



**Table 1.**

The concerned parties in the preservation of the Assumption Cathedral

Parties concerned	Aims and interests
Federal executive authorities	Preservation of cultural heritage of federal importance. Enhancing the prestige of the Russian Federation on the international cultural scene.
The state authorities of the Republic of Tatarstan	Preservation and presentation of the World Heritage site, located in the territory of the Republic of Tatarstan. Enhancing the prestige of the Republic of Tatarstan in the Russian Federation and the world at large. Increasing tourist attractiveness of the Republic of Tatarstan. The emergence of the new momentum of social and economic development of the local territory.
Special supervisory bodies of state authority of the Republic of Tatarstan: The bodies of cultural heritage protection	Creating conditions for the preservation of cultural heritage and to ensure their accessibility and popularization.
Environmental authorities	Preservation of natural areas, biodiversity and landscape diversity.
Local bodies	Socio-economic development of the territory and the local community. Improving the quality of life of local people by improving infrastructure. The inflow of funds into the territory of the area due to the emergence of new economic activities and the expansion is still possible, and also due to new investments due to the increased attractiveness of the area. Ensuring local employment.
Local residents	Improving living standards (income, the development of local services). Improving the quality of life (improvement of infrastructure, improvement of improvement, taking care of the cultural landscape and the environment). Creation of new jobs, new opportunities for the development of their own business.
Religious organizations (Russian Orthodox Church)	Using the object, nominated to the World Heritage List for religious purposes, the reception of pilgrims. Worship and religious ceremonies in churches operating in the territory of Sviyazhs.



Non-residents (tourists and sightseers)	<p>Interesting tourist and sightseeing tours.</p> <p>The advent of multi-day options stays with tourist and recreational purposes in the territory of Zelenodolsk area in the Republic of Tatarstan and the Russian Federation as a whole.</p> <p>The emergence of the capacity of the relaxation and comfort combined with the cultural, educational, religious needs.</p>
Summer residents	<p>The possibility of a summer holiday in the prestigious and quiet location.</p>
Non-residents (intellectuals)	<p>The possibility of a summer holiday in the attractive from an aesthetic point of view of location.</p> <p>The ability to realize the creative potential, create works of art.</p>
Non-residents (academics and professionals)	<p>Working in Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve.</p> <p>Working on the study of natural and cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk, the study is ongoing socio-economic processes.</p> <p>Helping local governments and Museum-Reserve to obtain new information about Sviyazhsk.</p> <p>Possibility of scientific conferences and seminars, preparation of scientific papers and publications.</p>
Business organizations	<p>Formation of a new competitive tourism product and the development of tourist and excursion activities.</p> <p>Providing opportunities for investing in the development of infrastructure facilities (hotels, commerce, banking infrastructure, transport services and transport infrastructure, etc.).</p> <p>Expansion of possibilities of development of agricultural production and an increase in the local market at the expense of tourists.</p> <p>The emergence of new small manufacturing enterprises (production of souvenir products, products for the needs of other developing areas).</p>
Non-profit organisations	<p>Depending on the profile of the organization – the study and preservation of the Assumption Cathedral and Sviyazhsk, organization of volunteer movements and social initiatives related to the promotion of the cultural heritage sites and the island in general.</p>



- presentation and exhibition (festivals and celebrations, exhibitions, presentation programs, publishing activities);
- scientific (holding in the territory of Sviyazhsk the research, scientific conferences of various levels, including international);
- employment (Museum-Reserve and other users of the territory provide about 120 workplaces, which primarily covers the local population);
- recreational (temporary residence in the territory of Sviyazhsk in the summer and on weekends of people who bought homes here or build cottages on empty land plots, visiting festivities by the residents of Tatarstan and neighboring regions).

The user of the Sviyazhsk Assumption Cathedral is a Russian Orthodox Church and the Monastery of the Assumption. The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan and the State Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve “The Town-island of Sviyazhsk” performs the conservation, research works, as well as the organization of the reception of visitors. Museum-Reserve received premises in the historical buildings for the museum exposition and storage facility; it organizes an active cultural and educational work among the tourists and sightseers.

An important user of the monastery territory is living here Orthodox monks and pilgrims. Believers from all over Russia and even abroad come to Sviyazhsk, the religious ceremonies and activities are held on the island.

A substantial is a part of the local community: in the territory of Sviyazhsk live 252 inhabitants. In addition, Sviyazhsk is used as a summer resort and weekend getaway place. Over the last decade, it has become fashionable to have a summer house (dacha or cottage) in the territory of this historical place and here about 25 country houses are built. Thus, the “gardeners” or “holidaymakers” are an essential part of the local community and have specific requirements for housing erected by them, a way of life.

A part of the time residents of Sviyazhsk is creative intellectuals (mainly artists, actors, directors), who spend here the summer plein-airs, draw inspiration for their work on the island. Some of the artists has already lived permanently in Sviyazhsk and founded a kind of art colony. Interests of this group largely coincide with the purposes of the conservation and presentation of the site nominated to the World Heritage List.

The island is also used for theatrical and festive events, which visitors are not only citizens of the Republic of Tatarstan, but also of the neighbouring regions. Local governments are responsible for the maintenance of the order, cleanliness and service of the local population and visitors, as well as for the socio-economic local development.

Business structures are also interested in the use of this territory, their interest is connected with the possibility of service here tourists and sightseers, trading opportunities, rendering services, development of the infrastructure sector.

## ***2.6. Main threats and risks to the condition of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List***

In the interests of all parties, there are apparent contradictions that are the threats and risks for the Assumption Cathedral.

Significant risk to the site and to the interconnected with it cultural landscapes

is a man-caused impact on the territory of Sviyazhsk, especially considering the peak impact during the summer. In this regard as priorities were highlighted the measures for a more even redistribution of man-caused



impact as throughout Sviyazhsk, and during the calendar year.

Significant risk to the Assumption Cathedral and, especially, to its monumental painting, is associated with the need to comply with the conditions of preservation and maintenance of historical and cultural and artistic monuments: the violations of temperature and humidity conditions, and other impacts on the structure. The Management Plan provided the restriction of the services in the cathedral, and the regulation of visitors flow.

The real threat is now connected with the violation of the cultural landscape of Sviyazhsk, the disappearance of the traditional historic buildings and new disharmonious residential buildings appearance. The social cataclysms of the Soviet period led to a sharp decline in the population of Sviyazhsk, the appearance in the historical territory of empty spaces and dilapidated, crumbling buildings. Many new buildings have appeared inconsonant to the traditional architecture. The Management Plan provides for strict regulation of new construction (as per the type of houses, and as per the land development), coordination of permits issued, the development of "model" types of houses recommended for construction on the island (as it was used for chief towns of uyezds in Russia).

With due regard for the insular position of the object, nominated to the World Heritage List, it has an extensive area of the buffer zone, which is determined largely by the size of the visual pool of sight visual dominants - church buildings (and is 25 km). Views from the island of the surrounding distances were recognized as one of the main value aesthetic characteristic at the sociological survey of local residents and visitors of Sviyazhsk. A significant threat represents possible violations of the buffer zone at new construction on the river banks. Management Plan identified the

detailed differential conditions within the framework of the buffer zone, approved by the Government of the Republic of Tatarstan, which should prevent these threats.

Certain risks, while preserving the cultural landscape can become diverse interests of the local community. Enhancing cooperation of the Museum-Reserve and the monastery with the local population, raising awareness of the local community will allow to strengthen at the local population a sense of involvement in the preservation of the Assumption Cathedral and other sites of cultural heritage and the responsibility for these sites, to engage in the conservation and regeneration process of historic buildings and the revitalization of the historic landscape and traditional culture, to provide a more fair distribution of the benefits of the World Heritage sites.

Existing conflicts are interrelated and are directed into the framework of partnership agreements in solving problems of the preservation and presentation of the values of the Sviyazhsk Assumption Cathedral. The management plan not only reveals the possible risks to the Assumption Cathedral, but also allows to prevent them timely and purposefully due to elaborated system of measures. For preventive solutions of threats and risks of the Assumption Cathedral condition, conflict resolution, several levels were defined. Issues related to the conservation and use of the Assumption Cathedral are resolved by the International Scientific and Methodical Council of the Fund of Renaissance of History and Culture Monuments, as well as by the Scientific and Methodological Council of the Ministry of Culture. Issues related to the activities of local communities are solved with the involvement of the relevant structures of Tatarstan (Public Chamber of the Republic of Tatarstan).



### 3. Strategic objectives of the management plan of the property nominated to the world Heritage List

The main strategic objectives of the management plan are as follows:

**Objective 1.** Preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral.

**Objective 2.** Creation of conditions for preservation and sustainable development of the surrounding territory.

**Objective 3.** Achievement of public consensus concerning the preservation, use and sustainable development of the property, nominated into the World Heritage List.

The concrete directions of implementation of the strategic objectives

have been defined on the basis of the analysis of the current situation, analysis of possible risks and on the basis of common strategic approaches concerning the property, nominated into the World Heritage List. Measures, including the priority ones, directed on elimination of possible threats to the condition of the Assumption Cathedral and on provision of necessary conditions of its existence are singled out within each direction. Each direction is represented in the form of a concrete scheme of projects and events.

#### ***3.1. Preservation of The Outstanding Universal Value of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List***

##### *3.1.1. The system of main objectives aimed at preservation of the Assumption Cathedral*

The main objective of the Management plan for the Assumption Cathedral is preservation of Outstanding Universal Value of the site nominated to the World Heritage List.

The realization of this objective is connected with the solution of a system of tasks on preservation of architectural and pictorial heritage of the Assumption Cathedral, preservation of its environment, and also preservation and maintenance of its historical and cultural landscape. An effective solution of these tasks is possible only upon the transition from protection of a separate monument to preservation of the whole set of cultural and natural heritage with the minimum interference into the landscape environment and with careful preservation in its traditional environment of the masterpiece of ancient architecture which is extant now.

For achievement of the main objective, it is necessary to solve the following problems:

1. Carrying out scientific research for the purpose of the organization of an effective

control system for protection and preservation of attributes of Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated site and the organization of monitoring of their state.

2. Conservation and preservation of the Assumption Cathedral.

3. Preservation of the movable property of this sites.

4. Preservation and regeneration of historical building and cultural landscape which is an important element for preservation of Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral.

5. Preservation of other sites of cultural heritage (monuments of architecture and archeology) on the territory of the remarkable site "The Town-Island of Sviyazhsk" (a buffer zone of the site nominated to the World Heritage List).

6. Safety and protection of sites decrease in risks of destruction and loss.



### 3.1.2. Scientific research of the Assumption Cathedral

The activities aimed at preservation of Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral of Sviyazhsk and its study is included into the program of complex scientific research of the Assumption Cathedral and the cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk in general. The scientific research of the territory surrounding the Assumption Cathedral is an important condition for development of a note-worthy place that is stipulated by the international requirements for preservation of objects of the World heritage.

The relevance of the comprehensive program is determined by the need of a fuller disclosure of historical and cultural potential of the Assumption Cathedral and other sites of Sviyazhsk on the basis of modern research materials familiarizing general scientific community and the leading experts with the newly gained knowledge through publications and discussions at scientific forums, and also for promoting of sites of cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk in Russia and abroad with the use of traditional and modern methods of informing.

An important condition when performing these research is the development of corresponding recommendations and regulations concerning safety of sites of cultural heritage with implementation of conservation, museum, scientific, administrative, social, religious and other activities.

Complex study requires involvement of a wide range of experts of various scientific areas: historians, architects, art critics, restorers, archeologists, cultural specialists, ethnographers, museologists, specialists in protection of cultural and natural heritage, with the use of the data obtained by scientific methods.

The main site of scientific study and preservation on the territory of Sviyazhsk is the Assumption Cathedral nominated to the World Heritage List.

The main directions of research of the cathedral presuppose:

1. Complex historical research, including identification and study of new archival materials and sources; complex historical and archival, architectural, source study, historiographic, art criticism, culture research and comparative analysis.

2. The assessment of the current state and development of measures for preservation of the Assumption Cathedral on the basis of complex interdisciplinary historical and archaeological and scientific research with obtaining new data on the construction time, the materials, the technologies used during its creation.

Thus, it is supposed to carry out:

- the research of monumental painting for the purpose of specification of its characteristics and detection of potential threats and risks to the condition of the pictorial layer;
- the examination of the building of the cathedral for the purpose of detection of potential threats and risks and of better conditions for preservation of monumental painting;
- the research of temperature and moisture conditions in the cathedral.

The set of measures on the research of the cathedral frescos has been determined and is being carried out:

- the analysis of the paints by using the method of electronic scanning microscopy with a laser micro analyzer;
- chemical analysis of the painting pigments;
- microbiological and genetic analysis of biotics;
- the analysis of organic components of paints and the primer by the chromatography method;



- the examination of the painting layer by using the method of the nondestructive X-ray fluorescent analysis;
- the detection of the age of wooden constructive elements by using the method of the radio-carbon analysis;
- the detection of the time of drawing frescos by means of studying of organic chemistry of the primer by using the method of accelerating mass spectrometry;
- the chronological analysis of wood.

The works on studying the design features of the Assumption Cathedral are coming to the end:

- the condition of the bases,
- the condition of walls and the roof,
- the condition of the internal supporting structures of the cathedral.

Special importance is attached to the study of temperature and moisture conditions in the cathedral and the organization of continuous monitoring of temperature and moist parameters.

Interdisciplinary complex research works include the studying of the condition of soils, designs, temperature and moisture conditions of monuments, primer and paint layers of the frescos, and also the extent of interventions into the author's painting which occurred at different times, continuous monitoring of environment, of the level of underground water, the condition of the protecting constructions and the murals of the cathedral. The research works contain, at the same time, technological studies by nondestructive methods with the help of the hi-tech equipment and are conducted on the basis of research and conservation laboratories of the Kazan Federal University, the Institute of conservation (Moscow) and other leading centers of Russia and the world.

The complex of interdisciplinary methods based on broad application of nondestructive methods of study increases the quality and the results of archaeological research. The combination of these methods when studying cultural beddings expands the understanding of integrity of authenticity of the sites, opening some new knowledge of its Outstanding Universal Value. This program including archaeological research, creates conditions for formation of a new stage in understanding of the role and place of the Assumption Cathedral of Sviyazhsk in the world and Russian culture.

The development of the automated computer system aiming at systematization and accounting of results of all conducted research, at creation of the system of monitoring and control of the current state of the Assumption Cathedral and some other historical and architectural sites, of the island town of Sviyazhsk is currently being conducted. The development of the automated system will result in the creation of the uniform information system including the following modules:

1. Visualization of the nominated site by creation of a 3D model.
2. Historical and graphic reconstruction of construction of the Assumption Cathedral, of the architectural innovations introduced and conservation activities performed.
3. Monitoring of the condition of the Assumption Cathedral in real time and archive of state.
4. The account and storage of samples of research of the nominated sites.
5. The account and storage of the results of research and analyses.
6. The storage of archival documentary sources.
7. The organization of the multiuser mode of access to the database.



### 3.1.3. Conservation and preservation of the Assumption Cathedral

The main method of protection of the monument is preservation directed at providing optimum maintenance conditions of the monument, identification and elimination of causes of possible violations of the stone laying and other constructions, and of monumental painting. This is carried out by means of a technique of complex preventive maintenance based on long-term results of scientific research and the available experience of conservation activity.

The system of complex preventive maintenance includes:

1. Complex monitoring of the condition of the Assumption Cathedral, including:

- monitoring of destructions as a result of water and wind erosion, mechanical influence and other causes;
- monitoring of biodestructions allowing to establish the centers and the causes of emergence of biological deterioration of the monument;
- monitoring of technical condition of the Assumption Cathedral allowing to detect the existing or possible destruction of the elements and constructions of the architectural object.

When working on monitoring scientifically based techniques and modern hi-tech equipment of nondestructive control (an acoustic detector, an electronic tacheometer) are used.

2. Preventive maintenance and preservation of the monument, including:

- elimination of the established causes of physical and biological destructions of the site of cultural heritage;
- elimination of leakages of roofs and other parts of the building;
- regulation of the microclimate inside the building.

The main task in ensuring preventive maintenance is providing continuity of the conducted activities.

3. Collection and storage of information on the site nominated to the World Heritage List.

These works are carried out by scientific experts of corresponding profiles and are gathered and stored in the Sviyazhsky conservancy area and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan – the government body of the Republic of Tatarstan responsible for protection of cultural heritage.

The program of preservation of the interior of the Assumption Cathedral also presupposes a number of technical and organizational activities.

Special importance for preservation of the paint layer is gained by observance of temperature and moisture conditions.

First of all, it is provided by the solution of a technical problem of special heating of floors in the basement of the cathedral. The solution of this task will allow to soften the influence of winter temperatures, and also will allow to reduce the negative influence in the period of rainy weather and sharp cold snaps in a warm season.

The organizational mechanism of maintenance of the condition of monumental painting lies in the measures for restriction of visits to the cathedral in the period of low temperatures and high humidity, and also establishment of limits of visits to the cathedral during the day (in particular, letting into the cathedral only organized groups according to the established schedule).

An important restriction is the ban on regular services in the Assumption Cathedral. The cathedral has to lead a liturgical life, but the number of services has to be limited. Preliminary research shows the possibility of carrying out 1-2 services a year (practically such a scheme is characteristic of the majority of other ancient church buildings which are the Russian sites of the World heritage – the churches in Kizhi, Kolomenskoe, Ferapontovo). This restriction will not an



obstacle for believers from the local population and visitors in meeting their religious needs as inviolable monastic life remains in the St. John the Baptist Monastery and in all the other buildings of the Annunciation Monastery, regular services also take place in monastic church of Mother of God of all

grieving pleasure and Konstantin and Elena's parish church.

The current, annual and long-term plans of scheduled, repair and conservation works are drawn up on the basis of the monitoring defining tendencies of change of the condition of the Assumption Cathedral during a year.

#### *3.1.4. Preservation of movable property*

The funds of the Museum-Reserve "Osrovgad Sviyazhsk" include objects of archeology, numismatics, ethnography, painting, graphics, sculpture, items of applied art, photos, documents, rare books. The number of exhibits of the main stock as of January 1, 2015 was more than 38 thousand items, including archeology objects – more than 22 thousand; objects of applied art, life and ethnography – about 1500; manuscripts – about 1500, rare books – about 500, works of painting and graphics – about 600.

Some items from the territory of Sviyazhsk are stored in the museum of archeology of the Kazan Federal University (Kazan). Icons, liturgical items are stored in the State Museum of Fine Arts of the Republic of Tatarstan (Kazan) and in National Museum of the Republic of Tatarstan (Kazan).

Functions of identification, accounting, storage, ensuring safety, studying, the publication of museum items and collections, and also ensuring access to them are assigned to the museum.

Creation of a special Museum of orthodox culture is stipulated. Its placement is planned in the historical building opposite the Assumption Cathedral in the refectory of St. Nicholas Church. The purpose of a similar museum – creation of an exposition which would precede the visit to the Assumption Cathedral and acquaint visitors with history of its construction, the concept of monumental painting, copies of separate fragments, the remained artifacts of the period of creation and functioning of the cathedral.

Thus, visitors will be able to receive considerable preliminary information on the Assumption Cathedral in this museum, and will not stay in the cathedral itself to receive preliminary explanations for a long time. Thereby a very important problem connected with the organization of visits to the Assumption Cathedral, the reduction of visitors' staying time and the observance of temperature and moisture conditions will be solved (more details about the organization of this museum see in section 7.3).

The main objective of the next years is the organization of activities for acceleration of formation of the museum fund, giving this process a systematic and evidence-based character.

Provision of museum funds with items and collections is carried out as at the expense of both budgetary and non-budgetary sources, also due to more active work of museums with individual persons and legal entities for the purpose of gratuitous transfer to the museums of collections and separate items.

The main priorities of ensuring safety of museum items and museum collections are:

- formation of a special fund presupposing equipping by the portable museum items making and emphasizing the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral;
- creation and introduction of a uniform information system of monitoring of the state and use of museum items and collections;



- systematic formation of registration databases, maintenance of data in valid and complete state;
- development and implementation of systems of security and registration marking of museum items, and also creation of insurance electronic copies of the main registration documentation of the museum;
- development and implementation of modern systems of ensuring safety (control and providing the temperature and moist and light modes, control and ensuring microbiological and entomological safety), anti-terrorist, anticriminal and fire safety;
- creation of conditions for use of different types of protection by the museum;
- development of anti-crisis plans and instructions on actions in case of emergency situations.

The museum fund carries out methodical ensuring of work on the account and storage of the museum items and museum collections collected by them. In modern conditions preservation of museum funds demands an effective combination of the latest methods of research, preservation and conservation. Conservation activity allows not only to keep a monument, but also to reveal its historical and cultural and art importance.

Since 2014 creation of conservation workshops as a part of the Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve in which it is supposed to realize four main areas of work is conducted:

1. conservation of oil and tempera painting;

2. conservation of paper sources;
3. conservation of ceramics;
4. conservation of items from a damp archaeological layer.

Subsequently the work of conservation workshops will be conducted in two directions: conservation of furniture and wooden items and conservation of objects from metal.

The priority directions of development in the field of preservation and conservation of museum items are:

- training of restorers (higher vocational education, professional development, training);
- technological equipment of conservation departments;
- research maintenance of works at conservation of museum items;
- creation of a depositary;
- development of the preventive preservation of cultural values allowing in many cases to avoid conservation intervention.

Existence of conservation workshops in the structure of the Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve, and also a field laboratory of the Institute of archeology possessing great conservation opportunities and experience, cooperation with the Kazan (Volga) Federal University allows to regard Sviyazhsk as a new regional center of practical conservation and to consider this direction of the museum and its partner organizations, as a promising one.

### *3.1.5. Preservation and regeneration of historical environment and cultural landscape*

#### *3.1.5.1. Preservation of the historical environment and cultural landscape of Sviyazhsk*

For preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral and of the refectory Church of St. Nicholas

with the bell tower, as one of the main monuments of Sviyazhsk and all of this Volga area, it is necessary to apply a landscape approach. Preservation of such monument can be made only within its inherent cultural and landscape complex. This complex, in which nature and historical components, elements of tangible and intangible heritage organically



related to each other, for The Cathedral of the assumption in a narrow sense is the territory of the island of Sviyazhsk, but in a broad sense is the territory and the water area within the boundaries of the buffer zone.

The aim of the management plan in this aspect is the development of mechanisms to ensure the preservation of the authenticity, the integrity not only of the Assumption Cathedral, but also cultural and natural landscape of Sviyazhsk and regeneration of the historical and cultural environment.

The territory of Sviyazhsk is characterized by the preservation of many historic architectural sites that form the cultural space, components and emphasizing the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral. They are monuments of history and culture, the layout structure of the former city, the archaeological layer and archaeological sites, sites of natural, historical and cultural landscape. As a result of conservation work and further management, they become important sites of the museum sphere and tourist show.

An important condition for further development of sights area is the research and regeneration of the historical landscape with the elaboration of mechanisms for its preservation.

To preserve the integrity and authenticity of the Assumption Cathedral and the Trinity Church, the urban cultural landscape, in particular, the sites of historically valuable environment, it is developed the differentiated regimes on the territory of the island. Three subzones in planning and morphological features are dedicated.

**A** – the subzone of the highest concentration of cultural heritage sites.

This is the territory of the former fortress part of the town. It includes the territory of the Assumption, Bogoroditsky and John the Baptist monasteries, the Church of Constantine and Helena, Christmas square with the architectural and archaeological

remains of four churches of the XVI–XVIII centuries: the Nativity Cathedral, St. Sofia, St. Nicholas and Annunciation churches, Troitskaya Street building, Uspenskaya square, and parts of the Uspenskaya street. The external boundaries of the zones established in the city center of the Shchuka river, on the South line of the water's edge along the coastline and is bordered by the island from the North, North - West, West, South - West, South and South-East, repeating the tracing of the wall of the city. Internal boundaries are set by lane Christmas, the border houses on Uspenskaya street, Monastirskaya lane in the North. 28 objects of cultural heritage of Federal importance, including the nominated sites. 7 objects on the territory of the Dormition monastery, 9 – on the territory of St. John the Baptist monastery. There are 12 sites on the allocated territory of cultural heritage at the regional level. They have their fixed territory, including the complex of stable yard buildings of Annunciation monastery, a complex of state-owned facilities (treasury, government offices, prisons, office space prisons, hospitals, bathhouses) by Monastirsky lane, the trading building on the City square, a residential house (Medvedev-Brovkina) with a columned portico (Moskovskaya str. 8/ the quay of the river Shchuka), the house of the mayor F. P. Polyakov (Eleninskaya street, 4).

**B** – subzone of valuable and ordinary city forming environment of the island; occupies the North-Western, Northern and Central parts of the island. Bounded on the North-West to Naberezhnaya street of the Shchuka river (along the walls of the XVI century, in the East - Rozhdestvenskaya lane, in the South-East boundary of the houses of the Uspenskaya street (buildings on both sides of the street), in the South West – Monastirskaya lane. On the territory of the subzone located 3 sites of cultural heritage of regional significance, which have their fixed territory, including the complex of buildings of the provincial hospital



on Nikolskaya street, 10, 18; Uspenskaya street 8, 11, 13. This building on a regular plan of streets occupies the North-Western, Northern and Central parts of the island. Intra-cutting areas for home ownership is a relict element of the mid-XVI century.

C – subzone with low density and with single inclusions of cultural heritage sites; occupies lower Posadskaya the North-Eastern part of the island with fine thread quarterly construction. It has 1 cultural heritage property of regional value with their fixed territory – a tradesman’s house Timofeev-Terentiev-Brovkin - Djyackovich on Konstantinovskaya Street and 5 identified sites.

Subzones are identified for the differentiation of content and modes of land use, the relevant regimes and regulations established in accordance with applicable national urban planning and monument protection law.

It should be underlined that currently preservation of the cultural-landscape surroundings of the Assumption Cathedral on the island is the most difficult problem and is one of the priority tasks for preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the world heritage property.

Sviyazhsk is a unique architectural-town-building and landscape phenomenon, a united historically shaped ensemble. Earlier architectural constructions of the Assumption and John the Baptist monasteries, verticals of churches of Constantine and Helen and the lost St Nicholas, Tikhvin, Annunciation and Nativity of the Virgin formed the basis and expressiveness of this ensemble in addition to its natural sub-basis. Few stone, mainly administrative and public buildings and most important the characteristic wooden one-two-storey ed development of the mansion type were the inseparable part of the whole ensemble.

Unfortunately this last the most important part, which forms the integrated and unique image of the town and stresses the

expressiveness of architectural complexes of monasteries and churches, creating the unique historical environment of Sviazhsk has suffered significant losses during the period of complex changes of social-economic life during the XX century. Some newly build living houses discord the preserved architectural environment by the principle of development, by their size, color and the façade structure. Without strict regulation of the newly built houses, the process of losing the historical architectural environment of Sviazhsk can become irreversible.

The management plan regulates the building of Sviazhsk. This developed design solutions for typical houses for Sviazhsk, which are designed to recreate the lost typical residential environment and to minimize the negative impact is already built disharmonious facilities. They used repeatedly applied principle of construction of county cities in the Russian Empire, when the provincial authorities recommended different types of “model” projects.

In this regard, the concept of project proposals by modern residential building of Sviazhsk contains the principle of the maximum matching of the external appearance of historic buildings: similar in size, structure and proportions of the main facades forming the construction of streets, the colors, the techniques and the details of the decoration. The internal layout and engineering equipment of residential buildings is carried out in accordance with modern requirements. As a basis for projecting on the results of field research preserved historic residential building of Sviazhsk there were selected some of the most expressive and characteristic types of homes. There was a detailed analysis of the preserved historical building of Sviazhsk, historic buildings transported from Sviazhsk, as well as analysis of similar buildings, preserved in the historical center of Kazan. There were considered the volume of buildings and its decor.



The results of the research gave the opportunity to recommend five basic types of houses for the building of Sviyazhsk, which will be recommended as models for housing development. Also there was developed the concept of the improvement works and landscaping of Sviyazhsk in accordance with historically traditional principles.

#### *3.1.5.2. Preservation of the natural environment and cultural landscape of the buffer zone*

Organization of an effective system of management for the protection and preservation of the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral and monitoring is carried out through the regulation of regimes of the buffer zone in accordance with international and national legislation.

Taking into consideration the need to preserve the cultural landscape in the management plan identifies measures to study the natural heritage of the territory of Sviyazhsk and the buffer zone.

The first zone of protection around the Assumption and of St. John the Baptist monastery of Sviyazhsk was established in 1969 by the government of the Tatar ASSR. In 1998 on the territory of modern buffer zone was organized the State natural reserve “Sviyazhsk” and in 2009, the island has received the status of the historic site as a special kind of cultural heritage sites at the regional level. Changes in borders of zones of protection of Sviyazhsk island included in “Schemes of territorial planning of the Republic and district”, developed and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of the

Republic of Tatarstan, new boundaries of the buffer zone and the modes of the content areas, differentiated according to national legislation.

A buffer zone provides conditions of perception, as a property nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List and a number of monuments of Sviyazhsk, and from them, since the attribute value is integrity with the surrounding cultural and natural landscape. The visual appeal of the island and its unique location is also associated with the importance of Sviyazhsk in geopolitical terms, as a unique natural and architectural complex, located almost in the middle over the Volga River is the largest river of the Russian Federation and Europe in general.

Modes of zones control of housing development and economic activity allows to constrain urban development pressure and to preserve the unique look of Sviyazhsk on the surrounding countryside and open spaces of fields and woodland, in which there is a complex of Makarjevsky monastery, as well as the panoramic disclosure to the island from the fixed points.

It is necessary to provide the control on enforcement of the adopted legal acts of regulations and limitations in the buffer zone for successful preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. This control is provided by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan.

Also during implementation of any large projects on the territory of the property or its buffer zone there must be an assessment of their possible impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property in compliance of the ICOMOS methods.



### 3.1.6. *The preservation of archaeological sites*

On the territory of Sviyazhsk there is archaeological cultural layer of the middle ages, which is an exceptional source of information about the property and history of the region in the XVI–XX centuries. In order to preserve the archaeological heritage located on the territory of the historic site of regional (Republican) values “Town-island of Sviyazhsk”, on the ground of the planned excavation and other types of works, hold preliminary rescue archaeological field work for the purpose of the comprehensive study and scientific assessment of archaeological deposits archaeological cultural layers and sites in this territory.

For many years of research, launched in the second half of the twentieth century, is studied no more than 7% of the area of the historic site. The remainder represents an authentic and holistic object. The unique history of Sviyazhsk fortress has no analogues in Russian military history. In the cultural layer of the monument reflected information from the epoch of Ivan the Terrible to the political repression of the XX century.

The most important feature of the Sviyazhsk archaeological cultural layer, in the lower part of the city, is it thicker wooden remnants of the middle ages, the so-called “wet cultural layer”. The cultural layer in this part of the property reaches 3 meters. Authentic cultural layer of Sviyazhsk reflects the state of its formation in the middle ages, reveals all the features of the topography and its functional features for individual parts of land.

Modern archaeological research focused on the study of topical issues of development of the monument attract the whole complex of interdisciplinary methods based on the extensive use of non-destructive methods of learning, that enhances the quality and results of archaeological research. Methods of archaeological research on the territory

of Sviyazhsk correspond to internationally accepted standards.

Currently on the territory of Sviyazhsk, the following research methods are applied:

- historically - archaeological;
- geophysical;
- chemical engineering;
- soil and pollen;
- anthropogenetics;
- archaeozoological;
- geoinformation (GIS, 3D modeling, etc.).

Widely used non-destructive cultural layer geophysical methods allowing to localize architectural and industrial constructions (GPR). Introduction of technologies of computer mapping archaeological site allows the fixation of the mass of material in the excavation area using precision surveying equipment. Development of database management systems and geographic information systems in archaeology provides an opportunity not only to capture the spatial arrangement of archaeological finds, but also to predict the location of monuments on the still unexplored territories.

A comprehensive conservation is carried out of the items retrieved during the excavation. For newly identified architectural and archaeological items the preservation methods. Were used so, in the coastline of Sviyazhsk, on the territory of distribution “wet cultural layer” created the museum of archaeology of the wood in the Tatar Sloboda, where in situ planned the conservation of archaeological excavation. An important part of this work is the creation of a laboratory for the support of works in the field of conservation, preservation of archaeological wood and maintain in subsequent museum exhibitions, and experimental archaeological research. In the upper part of Sviyazhsk held management of the ruins of two Orthodox churches, the Church of Annunciation and the



Church of St. Nicholas, which were destroyed in the 1930s.

The development of scientific research in Sviyazhsk assumes continuation of implementation of archaeological work in order to preserve the cultural layer. The comprehensive program of scientific research of the assumption Cathedral and the cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk for the period 2015-2019, also includes extensive use of modern methods of studying archaeological site:

- geophysical studies of the territory of the Assumption and of St. John the Baptist monasteries for localization historically known items;
- research and development of the fortifications of Sviyazhsk of second half of the sixteenth century, which are emphasizing the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral. Fence of the Assumption monastery on the southwest side of Sviyazhsk was a part of the fortress;

- implementation of scientific architectural and archaeological research, pre urban and early urban history of Sviyazhsk and counties in the delta of the Sviyaga river with the management of found items.

Archaeological studies also suggest the systematization of results and the maintenance and formation of managed database on the historical and cultural heritage.

Authentic cultural layer of Sviyazhsk reflects the state of its formation from the middle ages to the twentieth century and reveals all the features of the topography of the cultural landscape of the Assumption Cathedral and its surroundings, as well as its functional characteristics for individual sites. He remained unchanged, and contains data about objects, planigraphy, production facilities and separate facilities, many of which are not expressed visually, but are stored under a layer of earth.

### *3.1.7. The system of measures for reduction of risks of disasters*

#### *3.1.7.1. Protection principles*

For the site nominated to the World Heritage List, there are two main categories of risks:

- associated with potential natural and biological factors of physical destruction of the site nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List;
- due to current activities of the various members of society whose interests are directly related to the Assumption Cathedral or affect it.

Risk management is directly related to their monitoring and periodic analysis of process control.

The peculiarities of the Assumption Cathedral and its cultural landscape,

determining the choice of measures for their protection are:

- the location of monuments on the terrace of the river and the susceptibility of this territory to geological disturbances and landslides;
- structural vulnerability of preserved parts of stone buildings;
- the need for protection from various types of external influences and destruction;
- severe weather and climate conditions of exploitation the monuments and its protective equipment;
- the vulnerability of the landscape environment of monuments;
- pronounced seasonality of tourist traffic - intensive peak summer load.

The basic principles for the protection of the Assumption Cathedral are:



- systematization of all threats and corresponding systematization of measures for the protection of the site;
- prevention and timely preventing the very possibility of threat;
- ensuring compliance of the measures to the objectives of protection: the means and methods should be sufficient and distributed in accordance with the probability of threats and the importance of the protected area;
- the combination of prompt and effective technical means, meeting the objectives of protection in the best way.

Forward planning and readiness for threats of all kinds are essential aspects of the management plan of the Assumption Cathedral and its cultural landscape to ensure a high security level of the site relative to possible threats. In addition to the measures for the protection of historical and cultural environment and the cultural landscape of Sviyazhsk (see sections 6.5 and 6.6 of the Management plan), were specifically conducted ecological research on identification of hazardous and adverse natural processes in the buffer zone of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List.

Significant areas of the buffer zone of the remarkable site of “The town-island Sviyazhsk” experience effect of hazardous and unfavourable natural processes. The situation with natural processes aggravated after construction of the Kuybyshev reservoir: alongside with erosion processes, which are traditional for this region, there appeared new unfavourable and dangerous natural processes:

- abrasion processes, related to the action of waves on the banks;
- processes of flooding the territories adjacent to the reservoir.

Currently the area of the town-island of Sviyazhsk and its buffer zone feel the influence of the following natural processes:

- erosion;
- landslides;
- flooding;
- abrasion;
- fluvial.

The largest areas are covered by erosion and flooding processes. The area of influence of erosion processes covers the south and east parts of the protected zone and is defined by steep and slanting slopes. It is on these slopes that such forms of the relief erosion as ravines and hollows are represented.

On the island itself the erosion processed are currently weak despite the large steepness of its slopes (25–40 degrees). At the same time there are significant risks of their activation in some natural-man-made situations (shower rains, disastrous storm drain and etc.). The same is relevant with the possible activation of landslides on the slopes of the island (currently landslide formation seen most well on the east slopes are passive).

No less than one fourth of the buffer zone experiences flooding effects. As far as the landscape is concerned, they are connected with semi-hydromorphic natural territorial complexes represented by half-flooded parts of the first terrace above the flood-plain and the high flood-plain of the Volga and the Sviyaga rivers. Negative influence of the flooding processes manifests itself in growing bogging and water intrusion of the flood-plains and terraces.

The area of the effect of abrasion processes related to the influence of waves on the banks covers mainly territories of the west and south banks of the reservoir: the region of villages of Medvedkovo, Vvedenskaya sloboda, Petropavlovskaya Sloboda Makarius monastery as well as the regions of the village of Gavrilkovo. It is in these regions that the combination of relatively deep places near the banks and the open water space promotes formation of large waves and accordingly their destructive effect on the banks. The trading



Quarter is mostly influenced by abrasion on the island-town as well as the banks of the rock dam, which connects the island and the mainland.

Due to flooding of the majority of rivers and springs on the remarkable site, fluvial processes cover small areas.

The general characteristics of hazardous and unfavourable natural processes and their relation to concrete areas are shown in the Table 2.

### 3.1.7.2. Landslides and geological faults

Considering that the Sviyazhsk is washed on all sides by the Volga river and, therefore, exposed to water due to seasonal fluctuation, the spring filling, ascent and descent of water in the Kuibyshev reservoir (upgrade to 5.4 m and above, achieves the highest mark to 54,60 m BS), the implementation of landslide protection is extremely important.

During the period of operation of the Kuibyshev reservoir (1957), the coastline has undergone significant processing, the retreat of the banks amounted to 90-140 m. In the area of recycling got a coastal area near the river station. Currently the situation has stabilized.

Landslide and bank protection works were carried out in 2009-2013 around the perimeter

of Sviyazhsk, and they have improved the situation.

Nevertheless, taking into consideration of the future problems of landslides and geological faults, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan is monitoring and controlling the situation at the facility and in the case of need, it is planned to include the development of plans and corresponding project documentation with the decision of questions of financing.

### 3.1.7.3. Fire protection

Action planning in case of fire in Sviyazhsk is extremely important. Russian and Tatarstan legislation ensure the protection of architectural monuments, museums and buildings of the Museum, as well as residential buildings in the village, which are private property.

In the Museum and the Assumption monastery drafted and approved a plan of fire prevention measures. The building of the Assumption Cathedral, Museum, exhibition halls, storage facility, conference center, hotel, café – museum and other facilities have local plans for fighting fires.

The fire station is in the village of Nizhnie Vyazovie - in 10-minute drive from Sviyazhsk. The fire Department inspects the Uspensky

**Table 2.**

The Landscape confinement of hazardous and unfavourable natural processes for Sviyazhsk and its surroundings

Processes	Natural and mad-made territorial complexes
Erosion	Slanting and steep slopes of the Volga and the Sviyaga
Fluvial processes	Valleys of small rivers
Flooding	Hydromorphic complexes (half-flooded flood-plain and the first terrace above the flood-plain of the Volga and the Sviyaga)
Abrasion	Banks of the bluff lines of the Volga and the Sviyaga, Island of Sviyaga, the dam



Cathedral (and Trinity Church and other monuments on the territory of Sviyazhsk) twice a year and makes provisions for the implementation of fire prevention measures. The fire Department is aware of the value of archaeological artifacts, construction of the monuments, documentary archival materials and books and has a special procedure of combating their fire and epidemiological diseases.

All sites are provided with fire alarm with output for remote protection and control point of each site separately. The following sites are equipped with the fire protection systems:

- The Assumption Cathedral, Museum of the history of Sviyazhsk, conference center of museum, hotel and cafe “Sviyaga” are equipped with dry powder fire extinguishers and fire valves.
- Repository: gaseous fire in the storage areas on the second floor of the building.

Museum, the Assumption and John the Baptist monasteries and other buildings located in the jurisdiction of the division of occupational safety and health of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Tatarstan Archdiocese of Russian Orthodox Church, Zelenodolsk region municipality, which hold regular fire drills.

#### 3.1.7.4. *Terrorism and serious accidents*

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Tatarstan and unit in the Zelenodolsk region are responsible for the consequences of terrorist acts and other serious incidents. Together with the Ministry for emergency situations of the Republic of Tatarstan and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Tatarstan and its subdivisions developed alternative plans in case of emergencies and special plans for liquidation of consequences with regard to the Assumption Cathedral, museum, religious, and other monuments.

#### 3.1.7.5. *Vandalism, theft and accidental damage*

Vandalism, theft and accidental damage are viewed as extremely important aspects in the management of the site. The installation of the integrated safety system, which will include CCTV and remote control fire protection alarm, will be carried out in the Assumption Cathedral. In the Sviyazhsk Museum, in the exhibition halls, storage facility, expositions, and other areas where there are movable artifacts, preservation is ensured in accordance with national legislation for the recording and storage of Museum values.

All archaeological artifacts, paintings and other movable property is catalogued and numbered. Museum objects containing precious stones and metals have a special account and special measures for their conservation in the form of safes, safe rooms with the sealing, security alarm and video surveillance. All the buildings are provided with a security alarm.

To prevent cases of theft and vandalism provides the improvement and strengthening of security measures. In the case of visiting the museums and monuments by many tourists, sightseers and pilgrims, these measures will be corrected in the management plan. In the section of “Fund Management” provides the key management priorities for the conservation of museum items and collections for the next 20 years. An important aspect in this regard is the creation of virtual museums, exhibitions and expositions, which excludes the possibility of vandalism and theft.

#### 3.1.7.6. *Anthropogenic loads*

The task of reduction of reduce the anthropogenic impact on the nominated Assumption Cathedral, is one of the most important points in protecting the



monuments. Within the management plan provided the permanent improvement of the control of the flow of visitors, which includes:

- tour escort tourist groups and visits to museum exhibitions (the guide is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the rules of visiting the Museum-Reserve);
- the distribution of the museum attendants in the museum and exhibition halls and interiors and in the field of active visiting the monuments on the island;
- implementation of fire inspection (Smoking bans and making open fire);
- security, police public order and preventive measures against unauthorised and unlawful actions;
- anti - terrorist measures, especially in situations of mass in the vicinity of the site on the days of religious and national holidays.

The management plan provides the definition of counted (permissible) anthropogenic load on the territory, monuments and natural landscape of Sviyazhsk, as well as the assessment of anthropogenic influence that will allow you to adjust the mode and timing of visits. It is planned the preservation of new facilities on the island that will allow to avoid crowds of tourists at the Assumption Cathedral and the other the most interesting monuments of history and culture, and relatively evenly distribute in the territory of Sviyazhsk. The introduction of a new (additional) and supporting tour itineraries for tourists and visitors will relieve the tourist flow on the main (most visited) sites of the complex.

With the development of the concept of sustainable tourism, we pay special attention to the calculation of the maximum anthropogenic load on the territory of the island town of Sviyazhsk and the nominated individual properties – the Assumption Cathedral and the Trinity Church.

Maximum anthropogenic pressure on the Assumption Cathedral.

Comfortable visit to the Cathedral can be carried out by a group of no more than 40 people. The full story of the Assumption Cathedral and its unique frescoes takes about 20 minutes, considering the entrance into the Church and out of it this time increased to 30 minutes. There is a 30 minute break between group visits.

In the early years of the Cathedral will be open for visits only during the warmer months in the period of the tourist season from May 1 to September 30 in order to maintain temperature and humidity conditions. This daily routine of work during the period of the tourist season will last 6 hours (from 10:00 to 16:00). Thus, six groups with the total number of people no more than 240 will be able to visit the cathedral daily. Non-organized visitors will be able to get acquainted with the cathedral through the open doors protected by wooden lattices. The maximum throughput when operating the Cathedral as a display monument for 5 months a year will be about 36 000 people.

In order to ensure qualified demonstration of interesting places for tourists in Sviyazhsk and to reduction of anthropogenic pressure, in the management of a tourist destination “Town-Island of Sviyazhsk” will be a redistribution of tourist flows between properties.

In the collections of the Museum of the history of Sviyazhsk can hold up to 100 people (1000 people per day, 360 000 per year).

In St. Nicholas Church, the Cathedral of the Mother of God “Joy of All who sorrow” can accommodate up to 40 people (800 people per day, 288, 000 a year). In the Church of Saint Constantine and Helen – for up to 20 people (400 people per day, the 144,000 per year).

The limitation of the maximum number of visitors will help preserve the temperature and humidity of the monuments, the elements of exterior and interior, but also to increase the number of repeat visits places that has great marketing effect to attract tourists.



### 3.1.7.7. *Reducing the consequences of disasters and natural disasters*

The problem of natural disasters, floods and other natural disasters is perceived

as a problem of significant scale, so in the programs of the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Situations of the Republic of Tatarstan includes measures to reduce these consequences.

## 3.2. *The creation of conditions for sustainable development of the surrounding area*

For the achievement of objective 2 - “Creating the conditions for conservation and sustainable development of the surrounding area”, it is necessary to solve the following tasks:

1. Arrange an efficient use of the Assumption Cathedral potential by means of development of the “State historical-architectural and art Museum-Reserve «The town-island of Sviyazhsk”;

2. Form the mechanism of the tourist flow management;

3. Arrange the conditions for local community development;

4. Popularization and promotion of the site nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List.

### 3.2.1. *Organization of the efficient use of history and cultural potential of the Assumption Cathedral*

Development of the territory in the surroundings of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List is intended to be realized on the landscape approach basis. Consecutive realization of the given principle will allow the conservation of the historical environment and develop necessary infrastructure, using only traditional historically grounded forms, and also historical environment, planning (layout) and cultural landscape of Sviyazhsk island. The outlined arrangements are designed to enlarge the range of services linked with the Assumption Cathedral presentation and enhance their quality, to guarantee the security of cultural and natural heritage sites, and also to improve social and economic situation in the region.

The management plan comprises the following directions of the region development:

- the whole territory of the site nominated to the World Heritage List together with its buffer area will be considered as an integrated cultural landscape site including

not only architectural monuments and archeological sites, but also subsequently built-up environment, natural sites, the Volga riverside landscape;

- keeping in view presentation purposes, it is being planned to build a museum complex consisting of several exhibit displays which will be naturally extended to tour itinerary round the ancient city of Sviyazhsk (a sort of an open air museum);
- creating a system of different museums will enable to distribute visitors evenly on the site territory and avoid excessive visitor load to main historical sites;
- historical environment reconstruction will demand creating modern and supportive infrastructure that would guarantee maintenance and presentation of the Assumption cathedral and other heritage sites, comfortable housing conditions for the local community and providing services in accordance with modern requirements and regulations.

Conservation of the historic landscape and environment and, even more, the initiation



of infrastructure, should be made only on the basis of local projects, pass over extensive discussion and agreement at the international level. Any new project related to the buffer zone of the property and the surrounding area, nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List, must pass through public debate and pass the procedure of implementation of impact assessment of Outstanding Universal Value and the surrounding landscape in compliance with the article 172 of the Guidelines on Implementation of the Convention on protection of the world and natural heritage of 1972 in order to avoid harm to integrity and authenticity of the Assumption Cathedral.

Taking into consideration the world importance of the Assumption Cathedral and for the conservation and use of cultural heritage for the spiritual and cultural development of Russia's social and economic development of local communities and providing access to cultural values, according to the global significance of the Assumption Cathedral, special national and international significance of the historical, cultural, spiritual and natural heritage site of "Town-Island of Sviyazhsk", in 2008 the President of the Republic of Tatarstan M.S. Shaymiyev send a request (d/d 05.08.2008 N 01-1559) to Russian President D.A. Medvedev addressed a treatment on turning the territory of Sviyazhsk into a historical and architectural Museum-Reserve.

There are all reasons to create it in Sviyazhsk:

- the integrity of the historical and cultural complex of the XVI – early XX centuries, including architectural monuments, urban ensembles, as well as preserved ancient cultural layer of soil of archaeological and historical value;
- high level of preservation of historically formed planning structure of Sviyazhsk, a complex of monuments of religious and civil architecture;

- the presence of a unique qualities of the exposure of the town-island of Sviyazhsk and surrounding areas favorable for the development of tourism and creativity.

The concept of creation and development of state budget institution of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan «State historical-architectural and art Museum «Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk» was developed according to an order of the President of the Russian Federation dated 7.08.2008 No. Pr-1617. On July 24, 2009, the proposal of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan on creation of state budget institution of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan «State historical-architectural and art Museum «Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk» was supported by the Board of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and the concept on its creation and development was approved (decision of Board of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation dated 24.06.2009 No. 11). The specified concept was further developed as a Concept of development" of state budget institution of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan «State historical-architectural and art Museum «Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk» for further creation of the culture reserve and approved by order of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan dated 14.06.2011 No. 453.

On August 28, 2009, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan signed decree 584 "On Reorganization of the State Budgetary Cultural Institution of the Republic of Tatarstan "The State Museum of Fine Arts of the Republic of Tatarstan." This resulted in the creation of the state budget institution of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan «State historical-architectural and art Museum «Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk". It secured the state property of the Republic of Tatarstan and the land for their subsequent transfer to the federal property with the ultimate goal of building the Sviyazhsk Federal Museum-Reserve.



In 2015, the state budget institution of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan «State historical-architectural and art Museum «Ostrov-Grad Svvyazhsk» was reorganized into the State Budgetary Cultural Institution of the Republic of Tatarstan the State budget institution of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan «State historical-architectural and art Museum-Reserve «Ostrov-Grad Svvyazhsk».

The Museum-Reserve is the highest rank of the museum institution in Russian Federation and as a rule in addition to movable heritage (buildings and constructions) and non-movable heritage (museum fund) it includes also the historical territory.

The Museum-Reserve in Svvyazhsk will aim to conserve, study, and keep the Assumption Cathedral open to the public. It will also strive to maintain other monuments and ensembles that are located nearby and constitute the entire historical, architectural and natural complex. As the territory of the Museum-Reserve will be defined within the boundaries of the historic settlement, people who own land there will not lose it, and construction that will take place there will not contradict the conservation policy of the Museum-Reserve.

The purpose of the Museum-Reserve's creation is to preserve the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral; it is also socio-cultural use of the historically architectural, artistic, landscape and natural heritage, as well as development of Svvyazhsk as a cultural center of Tatarstan and Russia. Museum-Reserve is the high-status of the territory.

The main objectives of the Museum-Reserve's foundation:

1. Management of the Assumption Cathedral as the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List;
2. Organization of the management of the historical territory and the process

of preservation of historical and cultural heritage;

3. Supporting the conservation and preservation of the cultural heritage;
4. Creation of the museum complex;
5. Accounting, storage, acquisition, study, use and promotion of museum items and collections;
6. Organization of research and methodical work;
7. Museum-Reserve's participation in social development programs of Svvyazhsk;
8. Creating the facilities for the implementation of cultural tourism in the Museum-Reserve's territory.

The status of a Museum-Reserve which has broader authorities than just a museum makes it possible to carry out such work. A Russian Museum-Reserve is defined as an institution of culture established for provision of integrity, conservation, study and public presentation of integral territorial complexes of cultural and natural heritage, material and spiritual values in their traditional historical (cultural and natural) environment.

Museum-Reserve differ from all other institutions of culture by running not only museum pieces and collections but also the immovable property of cultural heritage and the territory surrounding them. Museum-Reserves are institutions complex by their functions, their aim is to preserve intact not only architectural, archeological or memorial monuments but also the historical territory per se, including unique cultural and natural landscapes, historical town and village settlement. According to current legislation (the federal law "On museum fund of Russian Federation and museums in Russian Federation" № 54-ФЗ d/d 26 May 1996 r.) a Museum-Reserve has the right to carry out on its territory household functions, develop social infrastructure facilities including hotels and catering services.



### 3.2.2. Functional zoning of Sviyazhsk territory as a condition for sustainable development of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List

A functional zoning is one of the tools for sustainable development of Sviyazhsk as well as preservation of the cultural heritage of the territory, integrity of cultural landscapes and appearance of the historic places and also presentation and use of historical and cultural potential.

It is intended to provide the preservation of monuments in their historical and landscape environment, as well as to target the main directions of land use. Functional zoning of Sviyazhsk is based on the characteristics of historical, archaeological and natural heritage of Sviyazhsk, as well as cultural and landscape the features of the territory of the island.

Determining the boundaries of functional zones in addition to the cultural landscape zoning the following factors were taken into account:

- analysis of the development of the planning structure of the attraction, analysis of buildings ( the value and the predominant type of the monuments were taken into consideration);
- peculiarities of tasks of saving heritage;
- perspective directions of the development of the museum;
- social factors of the development of the territory.

On the territory of Sviyazhsk it is reasonable to distinguish the following functional areas:

- The monastery complex;
- Museum area;
- Historical center;
- Historical trading quarter;
- Area of historical buildings;
- Coastal landscape zones.

These functional zones can be characterized in the following way:

#### 1. The monastery complex

*1a. The Assumption Monastery.* The Assumption Monastery complex is located in the southwestern part of the island. The territory of the monastery is restricted by a fence that in the west runs along the embankment of the Shchuka River on the upper edge of the hill, in the north and north-east runs parallel to Monastyrsky Lane and further on the considerable length runs along Uspenskaya Street. The monastery complex includes a group of buildings of the sixteenth and twentieth centuries, including: the Assumption Cathedral with a unique complex of frescoes and the refectory of St. Nicholas's Church of the sixteenth century, as well as a large group of religious, residential and commercial buildings and historical cemetery. Currently the complex belongs to an active monastery.

*1b. John the Baptist Convent* John the Baptist Convent is located southeast from the Assumption Monastery. The monastery's territory is surrounded by a fence that runs along the south knap along the river embankment of Sviyaga, on the west it descends to the Sviyaga River, for a considerable distance along Alexandrskaya and Troitskaya streets. The monastery complex includes wooden Trinity Church which was built in the sixteenth century - a unique monument of wooden architecture of federal significance, Saint Sergius Church (XVI – early XVII c.), Cathedral of the Mother of God "Joy of All who sorrow" (the nineteenth and twentieth centuries), and a large group of iconic residential buildings and outbuildings.

#### 2. Museum area

Dedicated museum area is an urban area with a complex of public buildings of the nineteenth century, where now are situated



houses of the Museum of the History of Sviyazhsk, as well as a district hospital complex which was transferred to the museum, a complex of buildings of the former stables. The museum area also includes a fragment of Monastery Lane and Nikolskaya Street with well-preserved archaeological remains of St. Nicholas's Church. The following regions are included: the area with the viewing platform between the gates of the monastery of the Assumption with a fragment of the Shchuka River embankment with a monument to the victims of repression, with a staircase and a part of the transport service; areas adjacent to the segment of Troitskaya Street between Ivanovsky Convent and the Assumption Monastery and other territories, that present the great value of the Assumption Cathedral.

Currently, this area serves the basic function of the museum visitor services of Sviyazhsk. This feature will be preserved in the future.

### 3. Historic center

The core of the historic community center of Sviyazhsk is the territory of former Rozhdestvenskaya Square and archeological remains of Nativity, Annunciation, and St. Sophia Churches of the XVIII century, the complex of residential and municipal buildings of the second half of the XIX – beginning of XX centuries, the monument to the perished in the World War II and the territory adjacent to Sts. Constantine and Elena Church, the complex of the historic construction along the Shchuka River and Moskovskaya Street.

The boundary of the selected zones in the north, northeast, and south is running along the upper edge of the hill, which aligns with the Shchuka River Embankment in the north. Westwards, the territory is restricted by Rozhdestvensky Lane, water tower, and Rozhdestvenskaya Square buildings. The southern end of the Rozhdestvenskaya Square and the Sts. Constantine and Elena Church gives a beautiful panoramic view on

the opposite bank of the Sviyaga River and the Makarius monastery, historic settlements of Vvedenskoe and Petrovsky, as well as the historic tenements of Sviyazhsk.

Currently, that area accommodates municipality and administration institutions of Sviyazhsk, namely town administration, school, post office, medical post, two hotels, grocery store, catering facilities, and the Museum of ethnography "Lenivyi Torzhok". The building of the water tower now houses a museum exhibition hall.

Preserved historic flavor and spatial connection of that area with historic, cultural and landscape setting shows clearly its high museum and tourist potential. The territory has been assigned with museum and tourist functions that will be further developed in the future.

### 4. Historical Trading Quarter

Trading quarter is located on east part of the island between the coastline of the Sviyaga river and slope of the hill. Part of the trade quarter is presently hidden under water. Territory of historical posada of Sviyazhsk differs a rich archaeological cultural layer with plenty of artefacts and tailings of dwellings buildings of medieval city. The Tatar suburb is here located – presently carefully the archaeologically inspected district.

Territory of trading quarter saved plan from the second half of the XVI up to the beginning of the XIX century and even separate elements of the medieval plan and topography are saved. In the district of Bolotnaya Street we can see the fragments of stone tessellation. On the territory of trading quarter up to the same time, the historical type of one-story wooden building prevails and saved a few characteristic of monuments of dwelling architecture of the second half of the XIX century common for Sviyazhsk town.



The territory of former trade quarter is in the area of panoramic view of Sviyazhsk from the side of the river Sviyaga and building of the river station, presence of moorage and attractive tourist ground, it is river gate of the city with which an acquaintance is begun with coming here water-carriage of tourists.

### **5. Area of the historical dwelling building**

The basic complex of dwelling building of Sviyazhsk is concentrated in central part of the island between selected monasterial and museum areas on west and by the area of historical community center on east.

The territory of residential development has been well preserved, historic layout of the XVII – XIX centuries with the surviving fragments of medieval. There are dominantly one-storey wooden residential buildings with separate living monuments of architecture of the second half of the XIX – early XX century within the boundaries of the selected area.

The architectural appearance of each of the streets of Sviyazhsk has its own individuality, which is determined by relationships with the large architecture complexes and architecture opening «paintings», the general character of the land, the peculiarities of relations with the landscaped surroundings. In the structure of residential development, a special role is played by the complex of Uspenskaya Street that connects the town's public centre and the Assumption Cathedral and the monastery. Currently there is a predominance of small-scale one-storey ed wooden buildings of the traditional type with groups of modern single-storey ed houses, interspersed with undeveloped land in the architectural and planning structure of the street.

One of the most picturesque streets of Sviyazhsk is Troitskaya, which connects the Christmas square and the complexes of St. John the Baptist and the Assumption monasteries. The view from Troitskaya Street to St. John the Baptist monastery with the

magnificent Cathedral of God's mother Joy of All Who Sorrow is loved by artists and is one of the trademarks of Sviyazhsk. And the very beautiful view opens when you turn the Street to the equestrian yard at the Assumption monastery.

Alexanderovskaya street runs from the Pike River to the banks of the Sviyaga River, offering beautiful views of the opposite bank of the Sviyaga River and Volga's side. At a considerable distance, the Street goes along the fence of St. John the Baptist monastery. The chapel of the early twentieth century was a very important architectural accent, built into the fence of St. John the Baptist monastery. Despite being not too expressive residential construction, the decoration of the Street was perspective views of Nikolskaya Street, Uspenskaya Street with the Assumption Monastery and Trinity with St. John the Baptist Monastery. Important and actually the only dominant in residential areas is the building of Olginsky orphanage, which is being prepared for scientific conservation, and it is a promising place to create a museum exhibition.

It should be noted that the high status of Sviyazhsk and its relatively small size permit reconstruction of certain streets on individual projects based on their historical characteristics. Along with integrating practice of development and use of standard designs, historically proven practice of purchasing plots and construction of houses with the subsequent sale of their owners may be introduced. Such a policy is advantageously carried out in the framework of special programs of social housing construction for workers of the museum, as well as, for example, for artists, craftsmen, other persons who are interested in keeping cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk. This will ensure a high level of personnel of museum workers and will contribute to a worthy attitude to the culture and history of Sviyazhsk in the local community.



## 6. Coastal landscape zones

*6a. The Sviyaga River.* The coastal landscape zone of the Sviyaga River in the allocated boundaries includes the area bounded by the coastline of the Sviyaga and the top of the town hill. Currently there is a transport road linking the dam to the marina and the river station along the coastline. Climbing to the top of town hill can be done from the river station and the Secret Descent of St. John the Baptist monastery. There is a line of sandy beaches in the space between the road and the coastline. The slope of town hill in some places is overgrown with trees and bushes. And there are few buildings in the area.

The decoration of the coastal zone is the views opening from it to the opposite bank of the Sviyaga River. The coastal landscape zone of the Sviyaga River has recreational potential due to the river, beaches and beautifully landscaped surroundings.

*66. The River Shchuka.* The coastal landscape zone of the River Shchuka currently is a naturally landscaped area, which has no cultural heritage sites, and is mainly used by local people for recreational purposes (water recreation, swimming). This area will retain recreational value.

The purpose of zoning is to define long-term objectives for meaningful development of the historic site, the need to define a kind of specialization of an area, directions of its development and its use, and to identify the most problematic areas and to provide recommendations for their preservation and further maintenance. It is a zoning that will be a basis for organization of museology and visitor service, improvement of local socio-cultural and economic development.

### 3.2.3. Strategy of formation of the museum sector

Due to the large increase in the number of visitors, including pilgrims, there is a special program of the formation of museum infrastructure to preserve the authenticity and integrity of cultural heritage sites on the island of Sviyazhsk. Within its framework the following objects have been renovated and opened since 2009. The main museum is the Museum of the history of Sviyazhsk (concerning the history of the town in the XVI – XX centuries).

It occupies a Complex of official buildings in Sviyazhsky uyezd (or complex of government offices) in Uspenskaya Street. The permanent exhibition devoted to the history of Sviyazhsk is situated in three buildings. The throughput ability of the museum is about 1,000 people per day.

The building donated to the museum for the children's center is next to the main museum building (20 Uspenskaya Str.). The children's Museum Center is open and carries out the joint activities with cultural and educational

institutions for education, training and development of the younger generation, the organization of cognitive leisure and recreation for children and adolescents, inter-regional and international contacts based on the active use of historical and cultural, spiritual and natural heritage of Sviyazhsk.

There are two buildings of the former barracks of the Corps of Engineers opposite this complex. The offices of the fund storage and administration are housed in the two-storey ed building, conference room and meeting room are in one-storey ed building, which is also widely used by the local community for meetings.

The museum complex also includes the former district hospital (in which in 2015 repair and conservation work was completed). The conservation workshops and business services are equipped and began working there.

At the end of 2014 a new exhibition hall was put into operation. It is located in the building



of the water tower built in the early twentieth century, designed for temporary exhibitions, with an area of 120 sq.m. The throughput ability of the exhibition hall is about 600 people per day.

There is another important facility of the museum “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk” at 6 Moskovskaya Street. It is a hotel and a museum cafe “Sviyaga”, as well as rooms for workshops and other visitors’ activities.

Two buildings of the complex Vocational School and Fire baggage were transferred to the museum on Christmas square. Art Gallery building occupies Sviyazhsky Vocational School, its project area is about 300 square meters, it is designed to dispose the permanent exhibition of paintings and graphics collection of the museum. The main tourist information center Sviyazhsk Museum (the visitor center) is planned to place in the adjacent building of the former Fire baggage.

An important part of the monument management is making it a museum to give promotion and presentation of the monument. The development strategy of the museum and tourist activities is aimed to give broad view of historical, cultural and spiritual potential of Sviyazhsk, the diversity of the heritage of the place, its development as a historical center of the Orthodox, tolerant coexistence with other peoples, the intersection of cultures and civilizations.

The creation of conditions for sustainable development of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List requires specific principles of museum management. In this regard, turning such a complex monument into a museum involves the following basic approaches:

- An integrated approach to museum heritage, in which along with movable monuments immovable property (individual buildings and their complexes), are preserved and turned into a museum;

- A spatial approach to museum heritage, in which all the historical space is becoming a monument, that is, along with the traditional type of museum an open air museum, which is largely due to the status of Museum-Reserve is formed;
- The formation of a varied museum and tourist offer, which will allow to disperse visitors among different monuments on the island territory and will be aimed to reduce the anthropogenic load on the Assumption Cathedral, Trinity Church and other key areas of the historical territory.

This approach to the development of the museum sector is intended (see Event, section 6), not only to ensure the organization of careful site visit, nominated to the World Heritage List, but also to give additional knowledge and impression about Sviyazhsk and at the same time to avoid undue stress on the main monuments of history and culture.

In terms of the presentation and the promotion of the Assumption Cathedral and other monuments that make up the attributes and characteristics of the Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property the most important are:

### **Museum of the Orthodox Culture**

First tourists go to the museum and then to the Assumption Cathedral. Having learnt the detailed information about the foundation and construction of the cathedral, the concept and artistic features, the style of painting of the Assumption Cathedral, as well as the most important paintings of scenes inside, visitors enter the cathedral already prepared for the excursion and will not spend in the cathedral a long time to obtain preliminary clarification. Thus, a very important problem of organization of a visit to the Assumption Cathedral is solved, the time the tourists are in the cathedral is reduced and therefore the temperature and humidity conditions are observed.



In the museum, the guests of Sviyazhsk learn about the historical, religious and cultural heritage of the Orthodox Church in the region, the creation of opportunities to display in Sviyazhsk facsimile copies of frescoes of the Assumption Cathedral, or the genuine icons of the iconostasis of the Assumption Cathedral and Trinity Church. This will show the role of the Kazan diocese in the history of Russia and the Russian Orthodox Church, and will be an important confirmation of the image of the Republic of Tatarstan as a model of tolerance, interethnic and interfaith community.

Museum-Reserve “Ostrov-grad Sviyazhsk”, the Museum of History Religion (St. Petersburg), the State Museum of Fine Arts of the Republic of Tatarstan, the National Museum of the Republic of Tatarstan plan to conduct joint exhibitions dedicated to:

- The history of the world and Russian icon painting and fresco painting in comparison with the Assumption Cathedral;
- The history of pilgrimage and the traditional routes of visiting the Holy Land;
- The history of monasteries and monks in Russia embodied in the Russian icon painting and drawing;
- Ecclesiastical relics of the Rurik House, the House of Romanov and the Russian noble families;
- The role of the Tatar names and phenomena in the Grand and the royal environment, the elite of Russian society;
- A unique phenomenon of Russian culture copper small plastic of Russian Old Believers of the XVIII - early XX centuries;
- The church and the folk traditions of celebrating religious holidays.

### **Archaeological Museum**

It is a very important museum for Sviyazhsk, as the territory of the town-island

is a unique site of the archaeological heritage, the formation of the historical and cultural landscape from ancient times. It is formed in the former urban tenements, not far from the river boat station, at an archaeological site. It is possible to create a space museum to show an ancient archaeological landscape. It will be a very interesting attraction of Sviyazhsk (as in the Museum of History of Sviyazhsk there is only a small archaeological exhibition).

It will be visited not only by tourists, but also special lessons will be conducted for students away from school. It is also planned to organize a summer archaeological school. The exhibition area of the museum will be about 100 sq.m. (with the possibility of further extension), the capacity - about 1,500 people per day.

The depth of the archaeological layer of Sviyazhsk at the top of it is up to 1.5 m, at the bottom of the Posad - to 3 m and includes several cultural layers with finds from the early Iron Age (1000 BC) to the present day. The peculiarity of the cultural layer of Sviyazhsk in low-lying coastal area is «wet archaeological cultural layer», due to the high humidity of the layer some items from organic are well preserved (wood, wool, cloth, leather, etc.). The excavation at “Tatar Sloboda” has been conducted since 2011. During the excavation residential and farm wooden buildings of the XVI–XVIII centuries, streetways, numerous artefacts made of logs saw cut were found. This finds will clarify the dendrochronological scale of Kazan Volga of the XVI-XVIII centuries.

As a whole, the findings and buildings listed above characterize archeological wooden monuments in the depth of Sviyazhsk’s cultural layer.

The main idea of the conception of the Archeological museum is «illustration of a medieval town site in kind», which is a constituent part of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral, and



comprehensive approach to the reconstruction of medieval manufactures and house building techniques.

### **Museum exhibition**

#### **“Sviyazhsk is the chief town of the district”**

The museum creates a system of several museum items, which demonstrate interiors and thematic exhibitions in historical town houses extant. It is a very important project for Sviyazhsk, taking into consideration the fact that traditional urban environment of a chief town of the district has changed dramatically, and Sviyazhsk was perceived as a former town. A house of a usual Sviyazhsk citizen with its interiors and inner patios will help to understand and imagine the past of this interesting city will fill the missing page with museum forms and images. It is supposed that there will be not only one house, but several houses of different types, having similar expository filling.

The now buildings of Sviyazhsk and its modern functions do not allow to imagine the development of Sviyazhsk as a former town center fully, there is a lack of traditional interior exhibition devoted to everyday life in the XVI-XVII, XIX and XX centuries.

The creating of the proposed system of expositions in ancient town houses will help to fill this gap.

### **The Volga Museum**

The Volga River is Russia's main historical road, it is one of the most famous Russian geographical names, in some way it is the symbol of Russia. Nowadays there is no Volga museum, though some efforts to establish it were made. The fact that nowadays Sviyazhsk is an island on the Volga way and that it is actually situated in the middle of the Volga on the way from its source to its mouth, is a vindication of establishing such an original museum.

There will be several thematic halls in the museum:

- an introductory hall with a model of the Volga basin and characteristics of geographical features of the Volga and its basin;
- a hall telling about history and culture of Volga towns and the history of developing the Volga basin
- a hall telling about the nature of the Volga basin, translating into an aquarium with specimen of fishes;
- a hall telling about the history of steam navigation on the Volga.

In the long term, the museum should become the key point of cultural tourism program called «Heritage of the Volga». It could be the most memorable museum for tourists traveling down the Volga on steamships, the main point of the extended Volga route.

### **Civil War Museum**

This is an ongoing project related to the 100th Anniversary of the Russian Civil War, which began in 1918. This date is a very important reason to think about our past and to produce a well justified point of view on the extremely important event for Russia and the whole world, which became a national accident. Its consequences are not overcome yet.

According to the eyewitnesses, in August –September 1918 Sviyazhsk and Sviyazhsk railway station were the places, where the Revolution fate was determined. The town was the most significant command operation center of White Czech rebellion suppression and domestic counter-revolution in the Middle Volga Region, in Civil War breakdown in general. Sviyazhsk should become one of the main points of the past event understanding on account of memorial evidences and symbolic characteristics preserved there. That is why it is necessary to conserve artefacts and add them to the category of museum items.

The Museum is located in the mansion house built in the middle of the XIX century.



The Red Army Authorities were situated there. The exposition will be devoted to the Civil War in Volga Region and the events happened in August-September 1918 in Sviyazhsk district. There also you can see an interior complex “Office of L. Trotsky” and the Scientific Center for the Study and Preservation Russian Civil War materials compared to other countries. We plan to attract materials from archive facilities, museums and libraries of Moscow and other cities and countries.

The accomplishment of this and other museum projects (we plan 18 projects

maximum on the territory of Sviyazhsk) will lay emphasis on the value Assumption Cathedral, historic and cultural meaning of Sviyazhsk. The gained experience in museum and managing work give an opportunity to solve the problem of the further development of museum and tourist point of interest potential and to turn it into one of the leading museum centers in Volga region. The established museum complex can become one of the best Russian museums and will attract a lot of visitors from our country and abroad.

### 3.2.4. *The strategy of sustainable tourism development within the land area of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List*

#### 3.2.4.1. *The threat to the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List in the connection with the tourism development*

Creating conditions for sustainable tourism development is the best way for the development of the territory and local community without damage to the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List. However, current trends of tourism development clearly demonstrate the ever-increasing tourist load on the site and extreme seasonal irregularity of tourist flow (table 3 and 4)

In general, over the past four years the attendance of Sviyazhsk has increased more than 10 times. The extremely uneven load on the island during the year worsens this situation. Thus, according to the sale of museum tickets, in the winter months, only a few thousand people visit the museum and in summer the attendance actually is increasing tenfold.

For the purpose of equal distribution of seasonal load, the winter event plan, primarily connected with the museum item’s load, has been developed. As already mentioned

**Table 3.**

Dynamics of attendance of the Island of Sviyazhsk

Year	Number of visitors, thousand
2011	15,8
2012	21,4
2013	48,0
2014	182,2

**Table 4.**

The monthly attendance of the «State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk” in 2013 and 2014

Month	The number of visitors, thousand	
	2013	2014
January	1727	1888
February	667	542
March	1082	1348
April	1500	1748
May	3625	7749
June	6903	7431
July	7378	7613
August	9232	7828
September	8284	6220
October	4249	3639
November	3230	2934
December	81	747
Total	47958	49687



above, in the summer period the load will be distributed through the development of museum and tourism and recreation offers.

#### *3.2.4.2. The main principles of tourist development of the territory*

Strategy for sustainable tourism should fully take into account the need to preserve the integrity and authenticity of the object, nominated in the World Heritage List, and its historic environment, and also interests of the subjects of the tourist market. A developed tourism strategy is based on market research of the target audience, on calculations of maximum allowable anthropogenic load on the Assumption Cathedral and the historic landscape. These activities are in priority now.

The main principles of the tourism development in Sviyazhsk are:

- the development of such areas of tourist activity, which meets the Assumption Cathedral it's Outstanding Universal Value conservation objectives and eliminates any possible negative impacts;
- interaction and cooperation with all concerned parties, the development of mechanisms to maintain stability, reduce risk for the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List;
- encouraging and promoting the development of tourism forms which contribute to the conservation of the historic landscape and natural ecosystem, the preservation and development of traditional material and non-material culture;
- positive influence on the local community as an environmental factor and as a factor to improve the conditions and living standard by creating new jobs.

Solving the problem of the presentation and promotion of Sviyazhsk monuments, preconditions for the establishment of the following types of tourism were created:

- cultural and educational tourism;
- pilgrimage tourism;
- ecotourism;
- event tourism;
- scientific and congress tourism.

There are also programs on children's tourism, cultural and educational trips for improving the educational level of youth, the development of the regional youth movement. These programs are closely connected with the issues of school education and patriotic education.

A proper museum's tourist product is actively developing and the organization of tourist and excursion services in cooperation with travel companies on domestic and international tourism markets is providing.

According to the market research conducted by the Austrian consulting company "Kohl&Partners", the most promising types of tourism development in the Republic of Tatarstan till 2020 are cultural and educational, active, religious and ecotourism. The richest resources for the development of these types of tourism are waterways – the largest rivers flowing through the territory of the Republic of Tatarstan are Volga, Kama, Sviyaga and Belaya.

The location of the island town of Sviyazhsk in the waters of the river Sviyaga at the confluence of the Volga River creates a special attraction for the remarkable site "The Town- Island of Sviyazhsk". Today the Town-Island is one of the monuments of the interregional route "The Great Volga", which unite 17 regions of the Russian Federation (Astrakhan region, Volgograd region, the Republic of Bashkortostan, Ivanov region, Kostroma region, the Republic of Mary El, the Republic of Mordovia, Nizhny Novgorod region, the Perm territory, Samara region, Saratov region, the Republic of Tatarstan, Tver region, Ulyanovsk region, Chuvash Republic, Yaroslavl region). All these regions are located on the shores of the world famous



river. The route was created for the purpose of popularization of cultural and historical heritage, preserved on the banks of the great river. The development of this route is under the patronage of the Federal Tourism Agency with support of administrations of all regions included in this route.

In addition, the town island of Svvyazhsk together with UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Ancient City of Bolgar and the Kazan Kremlin, are included in the international project “Great Silk Road”, organized with the support of Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States. The project “Great Silk Road” is a route that includes 6 regions of the Russian Federation (the Republic of Dagestan, Kalmykia, Karachay-Cherkessia, Tatarstan, the Altai territory and the Astrakhan region) and countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, which were at the intersection of trade routes. The route “Great Silk Road” will present a section of Eurasian civilization and will create conditions for the promotion of a unified tourist and recreational potential of Russia and partner countries.

For the development of tourist infrastructure near the town island of Svvyazhsk the investment project “Touristic and recreational cluster “Svvyazhsk” was developed in 2014. It is included in the Federal target program “Development of domestic and inbound tourism in the Russian Federation (2011-2018 years)”.

For the purpose of the development of the concept of sustainable tourism and reducing the impact of negative factors of anthropogenic load from increasing tourist flow on the town island of Svvyazhsk, the project of tourist and recreational cluster “Svvyazhsk” involves the development of tourist infrastructure not on the territory of the nominated property and its buffer zone but beyond - in the area of federal highway

M7, ski resort “Kazan” and the country club “Sviyaga”. The establishment and development of tourist and recreational cluster facilities will promote the promotion of cultural heritage. Availability of the facilities will be ensured by finding a basic tourist infrastructure near the Federal highway M7 (Moscow-Ufa) and the fairway of the river Volga.

With the development of the tourist potential of the island town of Svvyazhsk and the increasing flow of tourists, we take into account the need to limit the ground traffic load of tourist destination. In this regard, the construction of a park and ride for vehicles with the tourist shuttle to the entrance of Svvyazhsk using ecological gas engine or electric motor drive is planned in 2016.

Positive impact on limiting the traffic load on the island town of Svvyazhsk will cause the development of the river tourism. Today, aquatically Svvyazhsk can only be reached from the city of Kazan on small passenger vessels. The Republic of Tatarstan plans to expand the suburban river fleet for carrying tourists by water. The expansion of the suburban river fleet will allow us to replace tourist flows arriving by land transport by water transport. The approach of multi-decked cruise liners is currently impossible due to the small depths of waters near Svvyazhsk.

In the framework of the federal target program “Development of domestic and inbound tourism in the Russian Federation (2011-2018 years)”, partial dredging of the Volga riverbed and creation of an additional ship channel to the Svvyazhsk pier will be held. The creation of water approaches to the shore installation of Svvyazhsk will be implemented during the construction season 2015-2016. Thanks to this, the approach of the special multi-desk cruise liners to Svvyazhsk will be possible in the navigation period of 2017. Creation of water approaches for cruise liners will increase a tourist flow from current 182



thousand to 487 thousand people a year by 2020.

The development of river tourism will increase one-day visits and reduce multi-day visits to the “Sviyazhsk” destination, which is important for the reduction of the load on the nominated property. Despite the seasonal nature of river navigation in summer, in wintertime it is supposed to use alternative means of transportation, such as air-cushion vessels capable of travelling both on water and on the ice surface. In addition to the cluster “Sviyazhsk”, currently a tourism and recreation cluster “Sviyaga Land” is being designed. It will be the project for development of tourism infrastructure at the Federal highway M7 along the banks of the Sviyaga River at the junction to the road in the Sviyazhsk direction

Today in the Republic of Tatarstan there is a positive trend of an advancing of tourist services and tourism income growth, compared to the tourist flow growth. Introduction of the “One ticket” system granting access to the main sites of the “Ostrov-grad Sviyazhsk” museum and individual facilities will contribute to revenue increase received from tourism activity on the territory of Sviyazhsk, thus encouraging tourists to visit a greater number of Sviyazhsk monuments. Provided tourist services like tourist catering, souvenirs sale, handicraft shops and other services will earn additional revenue at the town-island of Sviyazhsk.

Factors that will lead to significant advance of revenue growth from tourism, compared to the growth of the tourist flow, as well as the development of “sustainable” and “qualitative” tourism on the territory of the nominated property are:

1. Introduction of a special booking system for visits to the objects “The Assumption Cathedral” and “The Trinity Church”;

2. Increasing the level of public catering enterprises, as well as their status from “cafe” to “restaurant”;

3. Conducting exclusive master-classes on various crafts and trades;

4. Organization of environmentally friendly water transport rentals (docks, kayaks, yachts), as well as the organization of tourist water routes on small vessels to Macarius Monastery on the right Bank of the Sviyaga river.

5. Organization of ecological routes on the territory of the nature reserve “Sviyazhsk”.

6. The development of a system of events aimed at maintaining the uniqueness of the place and events emphasizing the Outstanding Universal Value - theatre festivals, concerts of sacred and folk music, gastronomic festivals, individual trips towards the study of Orthodox culture and art residencies, research seminars and conferences.

7. Organization of events aimed at revealing the value of architecture and frescoes of the Assumption Cathedral and their significance in the context of the history of Russian statehood and world art and culture (exhibitions, installations, educational campaigns).

8. Strengthening the work of marketing tools to attract tourists to the territory cluster “Sviyazhsk” and not in the nominated object.

The management plan provides the central participation of Sviyazhsk in the implementation of a long-term project “Heritage of the Volga River” as a national and international cultural program highlighting the historical role of this largest Russian and European river. The program focuses on the presentation of cultural relations on the Volga River in different periods, identifying the role of existing and vanished urban settlements (such as the Great Bolgar), acquaintance with the culture of the various peoples living on its banks. The value of Sviyazhsk as a key point in the Russian extension to the East and as a historical place, located almost in the middle of the flow of the great river is very



favorable from the historical, economic and geographical points of view. The creation of the Volga Museum in Sviyazhsk will actively contribute to the implementation of this management direction.

An extension of modern methods of museum display and use of media and technology is provided. To achieve maximum "museum and exhibition" effect in the management plan, sightseers, tourists and pilgrims will be able to observe not only the preservation of archaeological items, but also "live" excavations. It not only gives them new information, but also enhances their sense of participation in history, gives an idea about the actual process of archaeological research, about the work of archaeologists. For pupils and students inspection of these monuments is included in the history lessons, archaeological practice and volunteering to give not abstract, but particular impression of the information on the ancient history of the region, the significance of archaeological sites obtaining.

The proper information resource (Internet security, booklets and guides, hotel-booking system) is improving. It will allow Sviyazhsk Museum the independent entrance on tourist fairs, including international. The most important component of the tourism structure should be the visitor center, which also performs informational, organizational and service function. The center will allow tourists to get information about all components of the regional tourist product (museums and other attractions, hotels, restaurants, entertainment, crafts, transport, etc.), provide the information and local history books, tourist maps, as well as video and audio recordings, information and gift CDs, etc. There will also be a function of booking of hotels and other locations in the Republic of Tatarstan, as well as for the further route, excursions and transport booking. Such a visitor center is already planned at the Museum.

Due to the large increase in the number of tourists, to preserve the authenticity and integrity of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List, a special program for the formation of an extensive system of exhibition spaces, which are located throughout the island was adopted. It will allow distributing the tourist flow on the historical territory relatively evenly (for details, see management plan 7.3). It is planned to create up to 18 of museum exhibitions in total. Also, for unloading the territories of monuments, interactive centers "Lazy Torzhok" and "Horse yard" with craftsmen's workshops and souvenir trade were created.

The growing dynamics of the attendance of Sviyazhsk by tourists poses another threat to the Assumption Cathedral and its landscape perception. It is connected with the necessity of formation of the parking system near the island. Now the main parking space is located just under the Assumption Cathedral and the Assumption Monastery at the entrance to Sviyazhsk. During summer and holidays it is full. The noise effect, emissions to the atmosphere, constant movements near the monastery complex obviously perform negative impacts on historical and cultural territory.

Currently the administration of the Republic considers the organization of a new parking area in 2-3 km from the island, on the mainland at the beginning of the pier. Parking lot here would completely remove visual and other negative effects on the Assumption Cathedral and other sites of the cultural heritage. Transportation from the parking lot to the island will be made using electric vehicles (small vans), as it is customary in many world's museums. Provision of the museum with such a transport is also important from the point of view of the organization of tourist services for seniors and tourists with disabilities.



### 3.2.4.3. *The Assumption Cathedral attendance management*

The management plan consists of security measures towards the site nominated for the World Heritage List to prevent it from bad tourism influence. They are the following:

- Imposition of transport usage and transit limitations on the island;
- Establishment security practices on the island forbidding making unauthorized places of resort and camping;
- Organization and control of the pass to Sviyazhsk territory (through the system organized by the driving up to the territory of the island from the parking lot of vehicles, as well as through service visitor center);
- Development and the introduction of the separate monuments visiting ( ancient church houses), museum and exhibition arrangement, including time limits and limits of persons simultaneously reside at the exhibition;
- Prohibition on the museum visiting, situated in separate memorials (ancient church houses) under unfavorable weather circumstances (rain, snow fall) to prevent from potential temperature fall and humidity, undermining temple interior.

It is thought to take the following preventive actions:

- Performing accounting of anthropogenic pressure on Sviyazhsk monuments and its landscape ambiance in the light of functional territory zonation;
- Creation an exhibition network allowing redistributing anthropogenic pressure on the island;
- Anthropogenic pressure redistribution by the calendar by means of the presentation functions system development.

A small chain of facilities for tourists has already been formed. There are two pilgrim

houses on the territory of the monastery that are run by the monastery (80 seats), museum hotel (11 seats), that is situated in the historic building of Sviyazhsk Almshouse, private hotel with 15 seats in the house of former merchant Kamenev, private hotel in the stables that is suitable for 8 people, hotel in the historic house of Timofeev-Brovkin. It allows to provide the diversity of touristic offer, combining it not only with touristic visit to the island but also giving an opportunity to stay on the territory of Sviyazhsk for several days to realize pilgrimage goals, to provide an accommodation for scientific conference participants or detailed study of the sites of cultural and natural heritage of Sviyazhsk.

It can be seen that all these facilities are situated in the historic buildings of Sviyazhsk and suitable for modern use. However, there will not be any further development of hotel facilities in the island (according to the management plan the hotel capacity may be extended to 100 seats maximum). It will become one of the factors reducing intensive anthropogenic pressure as a result of tourism development.

Sviyazhsk is relatively not far from Kazan that can provide sufficient number of accommodation facilities. Sviyazhsk is firstly considered to be the site of cultural tourism where pilgrimage is of top priority. For this reason, the attention will be drawn on cultural and educational touristic programs avoiding advertising Sviyazhsk as a place for beach holiday and noisy active sport. From active type of tourism it is advisable to develop rent of bicycles and rowing boats of different types. Within this framework, sailing and rowing tourism center has been created. On this basis, a route linked Sviyazhsk to Makarev Monastery, that is on the other bank of the Sviyaga River, has been developed. It allows visitors to get acquainted with natural component of Sviyazhsk and Orthodox monument.



### 3.2.5. Environment protection

Human economic activities concerned with environment pollution, also with the breach of architectural orders and land-tenure systems, act as a threat agent for natural surroundings of Sviazhsk.

Activity on environment conservation, of the property nominated to the World Heritage List, includes:

- natural complex observation according to the program of the long-term surveillance studies of biodiversity, ecosystems and landscapes; researches are conducted by experts of Kazan Federal University, their recommendations turn to the base in effect-oriented arrangement;
- surveillance studies of environmental conditions (air, water, soil); are conducted by local experts of sanitation and epidemiological service according to the special program of quarterly control of substance limit, during which air contaminant survey, water and drinking water source chemical diagnosis are carried out;
- daily meteorological observations;
- implementation of seasonal preventive activities, affording ecological safety of visitors, members and locals (acaricide treatment of the territory in spring,

exterminating treatment in spring and autumn);

- control action, including quarterly water chemical diagnosis from water distribution system; seasonal river-water analysis for recreational aims; subsurface resources control; pollution emissions control;
- implementation of production and consumption waste utilization.

The following engineering activities are also presupposed by the management plan:

1. Reconstruction of engineering communications and liquid waste and water discharge treatment system.
2. Systems retrofit of waste handling (collection, assortment, utilization and storage) in the territory of Sviazhsk and in population center of the buffer zone.

The important activities in the environment protection system are methodic awareness-building in the field of ecology and nature conservancy, including lectures and instructions, exhibition and scientific issues preparation, also organizations of environmental campaigns with the participation of local community.

### 3.2.6. Social-economic development of the territory

#### 3.2.6.1. Preservation and presentation of the Cathedral of the Assumption is the strategic direction of the development of local socio-economic complex.

Nomination of the Assumption Cathedral in the World Heritage List and carried out preparation activities allow to fix the strategic aim that cultural heritage is a special and very important economic resource, it can and should become the basis of a special branch of Sviazhsk's

specialization and become one of the most promising directions of the local economy's development. Also, this resource has a significant socio-economic impact on the territory of Zelenodolsk district, where the Assumption Cathedral buffer zone is located.

The growing activity of the Museum-Reserve for the presentation and promotion of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List, and the development of culture, tourism, catering establishments and sectors of the social infrastructure connected



with it, can bring significant economic effect due to new sources of investment and formation of the district budget for the emergence of new jobs. The general direction of the planned measures allows talking about high social returns and social efficiency. It is primarily connected with the development of culture, preservation of spirituality, improvement of the environmental situation and the preservation of historical and cultural environment, perfection of education, and environmental education.

However, the new realities of economic development carry potential threats:

Intensive activities' development, not properly disclosing the Outstanding Universal Value of the object, and intended on the average consumer and realization by standard faceless schemes.

Management plan in this situation is based on the following principles:

- for all emerging issues related to the development of socio-economic complex, the main priority is preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the site of the Assumption Cathedral, but not the household objects' preservation;
- any new project related to the buffer zone of the object, nominated to the World Heritage List, and the surrounding areas should be at the stage of schematic design to manage the procedure of implementation of the impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral and the surrounding landscape according to the UNESCO recommendations so that not to make harm to the integrity and authenticity of the World Heritage Property;
- one of the priority directions of the development of the social-economic complex is creation of conditions for development of the local community.

### *3.2.6.2. The interaction with the local community and the creation of conditions for the development of the local community*

Management plan requires the active participation of the local population. Currently, 252 people live in Sviyazhsk. The site has a significant impact on the economy and social complex of Sviyazhsk. It is important to stress that currently a significant part of Sviyazhsky museum-memorial employees are locals. Thus, the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List, plays an important role in ensuring the employment of local labor force, allowing local experts to find a decent job without moving to another city or region.

During the summer, temporarily increase of the museum staff is required, to ensure compliance with the total volume of tourists' maintenance work. This entails the creation of new jobs (as in Sviyazhsk and in regional centers and other settlements of Zelenodolsky area due to the organization of the conservation and construction work, the expansion of tourism services, etc.) Considering this factor, we can talk about the role of the Museum-Reserve as a special "city-forming" establishment on the island.

It is also important to note that tourism and tourist trade in the most attractive point is the purchase of the products created in Sviyazhsk, the purchase is part of a complex of tourist's impressions.

The Museum-Reserve is working on creation of their own product and souvenir symbolism. In addition, the museum offers a wide range of products of handicrafts produced in the territory of Sviyazhsk in craft workshops; paintings, drawings, applied art created by contemporary artists (original works and reproductions); other souvenirs reproducing the specifics of historical and cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk. There is an icon painting workshop operating a few years in



the monastery, where icons are created using traditional techniques.

Apart from an employment in the memorial, there are new jobs in tourism, public services and other sectors. Calculation shows that the further development of Svvyazhsk entails the creation of new jobs in various industries for about 50-80 people. This is the number of new jobs to the local economy significantly and almost completely eliminates the problem of the search of employment place, which was relevant to the local population 5 years ago. It is important to note that the emergence of new opportunities for employment and employment will affect some categories of vulnerable population (pensioners and young people).

An important part of the management plan is to define the policy of interaction with the owners of private houses in Svvyazhsk. Houses should maintain its traditional character and have no obvious modern completions and repairs distorting historical type of local residential building. New houses built a few years ago and found themselves disharmonious to a traditional urban environment of the former county town, being decorated with painting techniques and plated decor to bring them closer to the historical appearance. This is done with the consent of the villagers and the active role of local government. Already consulted at the local municipal authorities to those residents who want the village became attractive for tourists, and see it as their economic opportunities and prospects. This discussion and the debate will be continued.

The owners of summer cottages on the territory of Svvyazhsk must maintain the historical appearance of the buildings; it is prohibited to exceed the number of floors, to construct high-rise and disharmonious color structures, without coordination with the bodies of heritage protection, to use

modern construction materials in the facade of buildings. For new construction so-called "model project" was developed and offered (five different types of buildings on a historical basis were developed).

Management Plan involves the construction of several new buildings (project "model home") on an empty part for employees of Museum. The Museum-Reserve's staff, coming here to work from Kazan and other residential areas of Tatarstan, needs this housing, as there aren't enough qualified employees on Svvyazhsk (they may work here on a shift work, so they can held on the island the whole week). Also according to the management plan, the museum staff has possibility to obtain concessional loans for the construction of their own homes on Svvyazhsk. The implementation of these proposals will help to expand and strengthen the impact of the museum and the creative part of the local community, which is particularly important to create a favorable climate for conservation programs and use of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List.

The experts invited from Kazan and other scientific centers for the museum organization and scientific work (about 35 percent of the specialists of the Museum-Reserve) pass on their experience, help to prepare a new cadre from local residents to work in the Museum-Reserve, work with local school children.

A separate section of the management plan to attract the local community is dedicated to the implementation of the principles of dialogue and coexistence of representatives of different nations and religions. It is aimed to the implementation of the measures proposed by the UN in 2010 on the convergence of cultures and correction of cultural values, stereotypes and perceptions. Active participation of the religious community in the preservation and presentation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral will be expected.



Interaction with local people and communities goes via several ways:

1) through the work of the elected Council of the settlement. Currently Sviyazhsk is divided into seven electoral districts that choose deputies to the Board. Considering that each deputy is represented by 20-30 voters, obviously, that the work of the Council is trying to take into account the interests of the entire population of Sviyazhsk. Deputies of the settlement, in addition to the main responsibilities, organize the work with the veterans and the elderly, help with the financing of settlement activities, such as International Women's Day, New Year's Day, Elderly man's Day, Victory Day and others.

2) Museum-Reserve is the chief of Sviyazhsky secondary school and within the framework agreement on patronage, holds special events for pupils: group and individual lessons in museum exhibitions, classes in printmaking Center Museum, organizes trips to other cities with historical heritage and so on.

3) through a public organization "Sviyazhsk Dwellers" created by local people to protect their interests in the growth of the tourist flow. At the meetings of this organization, with the involvement of other parties, were discussed issues of tourist services, security, urban planning and so on. The creation of a children's playground and construction of dovecote on Sviyazhsk was funded with the help of this organization,

issues related to the organization of the local beach, conditions for mooring boats of local fishermen, landscaping and many other local issues were solved with the help of this organization.

4) interaction with the local art colony is mainly done through the museum, which works to promote the collections of local artists, to organize exhibitions, to publish literature, to present and promote of creativity Sviyazhsk artists.

#### *3.2.6.3. Raising the awareness of the local community*

In order to save such an item as the Assumption Cathedral and to achieve public consent it is necessary to establish a system of permanent informing the local community about the activities of the Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve, the development projects and presentation of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List, and projects for the development of social infrastructure in the buffer zone. The Museum-Reserve is planning its activities as an organization open to the public. The system of raising awareness of the local community about the plans of development includes both passive forms (giving information, organization of exhibitions and other events) and active ones (discussions, reports, participation of local residents in the activities of the museum and in joint projects).

#### *3.2.7. Popularization and promotion of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List*

The following system of measures for the promotion and advancement of the historical and cultural heritage monuments of Sviyazhsk are envisaged:

1. Arrangement and publication of scientific and reference works about the Assumption Cathedral and historical and cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk.

2. Regular scientific conferences, seminars, round table talks on issues of historical and cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk.

3. To create the Museum of Orthodox culture, to organize exhibitions on religious topics with demonstration of different items of the church art of Sviyazhsk kept in other museums of Tatarstan and Russia with the



purpose of popularization of museum items and collections. In the framework of the children's Museum center to familiarize the younger generation with traditions of the Orthodox Church.

4. Creation of educational films and multimedia products.

5. Creation of historical and cultural geoinformation systems.

Within the development of the museum and educational activities, it is assumed to organize special cycles of educational programs explaining the Outstanding Universal Value and significance of the Assumption Cathedral. The museum work would also include the following:

- preparation and presentation of exhibitions using the methods of museum reconstruction;
- conducting different celebratory and commemorative events;
- development of remote educational resources in the form of virtual Internet projects;
- conducting practical work with the participants of Summer School of Archaeology (the members being schoolchildren and students mostly).

There will also be classes on modernization of excursion work, conducting guide training courses, and also courses to improve guide skills. According to the administration plan a permanent museum information support of different events held in the territory of Sviyazhsk are envisaged: press conferences, presentations, round tables talks. Constant work on preparation of announcements and releases, special reports, analytical reviews and publications for print and electronic

media, production of multimedia products on the subject, scientific publications on the website of the Museum-Reserve and in social networks are provided for by the administration plan. In addition, since the main part of the population is working in the museum and monastery, the local residents get first-hand information about ongoing and planned activities related to the preservation of cultural heritage through work activities.

Cooperation in scientific and educational sphere in popularization and promotion of the property nominated for the inscription on the World Heritage List provides a broad range of activities and projects at the regional, interregional and international levels. It will develop further in the following areas:

- organization and participation in partner research work, exhibition, educational, cultural and presentation projects;
- initiation and participation in partner grant projects and programs aimed at preservation, development and popularization of the site;
- development of official relations with partners on the basis of cooperation agreements and other forms of partnership agreements;
- formation of a long-term program of exchanging information with Russian and international partners on the matters connected with the history of Sviyazhsk (annual conferences).

Wide partner network will ensure more effective dissemination of information among its participants and will contribute to the solution of problems of popularization and promotion of the Assumption Cathedral.



### **3.3. Achievement of the social consensus regarding preservation, use and sustainable development of the Assumption Cathedral**

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To implement this objective it is necessary to:

1. Interact with the local population and improve the conditions for the development of the local community.
2. Interact with the stakeholders.
3. Provide partnership and activity coordination to reach the public agreement.

#### **3.3.1. Interacting with the local community and improving the conditions for the development of the local community.**

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A small amount of local dwellers is involved quite actively in the activity in Sviyazhsk now. Opened in 2009, the State museum “Ostrovgrad Sviyazhsk” which has become a museum-reserve in 2015, is a main employer on the island now. Before the foundation of the museum there were 40 unemployed people on the territory of the island. In recent years, all local dwellers managed to get the job, mostly due to the museum.

Those locals who wished became trained guides and now work in museum and tourist service. Due to the tourist flow increase caused by the museum activity, a part of the population was employed in cafés, souvenir shops and workshops.

The Museum supports various festivals where the local population takes parts. These are the Day of the Elder People, the Day of Knowledge (September, 1), the end of the school year celebration and many others. The Museum was a co-organizer of the celebrations of Sviyazhsk school anniversary in 2014. According to a contract, Sviyazhsk school can have lessons in the Museum rooms. In addition, the schoolchildren work in the Centre of Prints that was opened in the Museum.

It is agreed that all big events in the town take part in the conference centre of the Sviyazhsk museum.

The local population actively takes part in the traditional folk festivals like Christmastide (Svyatki), Shrovetide (Maslenitsa) both as the organizers and as the participants.

The preparation for the Assumption Cathedral nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage List has contributed to the accommodation problem on the island. In accordance with the special state program over 80 Sviyazhsk families moved to new homes mostly from the monastery territories, where communal apartments were built in the Soviet times. They also moved out of other buildings that were the culture heritage sites as well and were unfit for the permanent living. For those people new houses were built and they were included in the building plan of Sviyazhsk.

On the one hand, the house building on the territory of Sviyazhsk allowed to keep the local population and to provide it with the modern housing. On the other hand, it has partly solved the problem of the multiple losses in the civil building of the town, as well as the problem of the filling the town wasteland where the houses existed up to the middle of the XX century. It is proposed to relocate (by agreement) residents living in buildings that are the monuments of cultural heritage, to the comfortable apartments in Zelenodolsk and other settlements, as well as in the houses of the restored historic buildings on the island.

An important form was the determination of the interaction with the owners of private houses. It was expressed in the decision at the legislative level of regulatory measures aimed at preserving the authenticity of Sviyazhsk building, limiting altitude, architectural shape and building materials. For the new



construction in Sviyazhsk “model” projects of houses were developed and proposed, and they are based on the historical patterns of the territory.

### *3.3.2. Interaction with the stakeholders, partnership and activity coordination for reaching the public consensus.*

In managing the Assumption Cathedral there is the interaction between all the stakeholders, primarily the government at the local level, represented by the Executive Committee of Sviyazhsk rural settlement, Sviyazhsk Assumption Monastery of Tatarstan Archdiocese of Russian Orthodox Church and the Museum-Reserve “Ostrov-grad Sviyazhsk”.

A draft Memorandum on Mutual Understanding and cooperation in questions of preservation, management and popularization of the Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk have been prepared with the aim of harmonization of interests of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, the Museum-Reserve and the Tatarstan archdiocese. The abovementioned draft presupposes that the parties:

- will contribute to preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Property by providing an efficient control of the following parameters:
- the temperature-humidity regime inside the Property;
- anthropogenic load;
- accessibility of the Property for scientific research work of specialists;
- follow the regime of access of separate citizens and tour groups to the Assumption Cathedral and the Assumption monastery d/d May till October fixed by the Agreement d/d 26 May 2014 on the question of the use of religious objects in Sviyazhsk, and after it expires, will contribute to establishment of the regime of access which will fully permit to provide the preservation of the Property and its unique wall paintings;

- respect rights of believers and support the necessity of preservation of historical religious function of the Assumption Cathedral taking into consideration interests of museum activity and inadmissibility of negative impact on the Property during acts of worship;
- take measure for providing the Property with staff employees having the necessary qualification in preservation, management and popularization of the cultural heritage as well as regularly informing the mentioned employees with up-to-date conservation and museum practices;
- will cooperate in question of popularization of the Property on the Russian and international levels, promote revealing the exceptional spiritual and cultural potential of the Property, including:
- holding workshops, round tables and conferences dedicated to preservation, management and popularization of the Property and its spiritual value;
- preparation of methodical materials on questions of preservation, management and popularization of the Property;
- exchange of information in the sphere of preservation, management and popularization of the Property;
- work jointly in the activity of the Coordination Committee and agree to consider its recommendations and decisions as mandatory;
- plan to strengthen cooperation and interaction in questions of preservation, management and popularization of the Property by passing additional agreements to develop the Memorandum. (The draft of the Memorandum – The Annex).



To provide the control and protection of the Assumption Cathedral in addition to provisions stated in the Memorandum and according to the legislation of Russian Federation an is signed between by the Authorized Body (which according to the legislation of the Russian Federation, is the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan), and the user – the Assumption Monastery, which defines the rights of the user. The user is obliged to:

- keep the cathedral in good technical, sanitary and fire condition, and provide cleaning of the church and the surrounding area, keep the territory in a good state;
- conduct the religious rites in the Assumption Cathedral for agreed and set number of days in the period from May 1 to September 30 without the use of an open flame;
- use special sensors installed on the site premises that capture the state of temperature and humidity conditions and fire alarm system; to conduct a daily accounting and control of temperature and humidity conditions, to carry out necessary adjustments, provide annual reports on the technical condition to the authorized body;
- provide the annual engineering and technology research of the constructions state and to provide a report to the authority;
- provide the protection of the property and cultural and museum values during cultural and tourist events in accordance with applicable law;
- provide round the clock protection of the site;
- appoint the people in charge with responsibilities for operation, daily observations and providing order during the religious ceremonies at the site and the cultural and tourist activities;

- in case of necessity to perform work to keep the cathedral in good technical, sanitary and fire condition, as well as to maintain the site in a comfortable condition necessary but the work is planned in the technical condition inspection report of any acts of the current examination, the user must apply to the authorized body for permission for work and to perform the work under the terms of a permit;
- to carry out the work on the preservation of the cathedral and the development of adjoining territory, provided by the technical condition act, which is integral to the security obligations and current inspection reports;
- to provide the works with projects, estimates, research documents and photographs in the cases and within the time limits provided by the technical inspection report and (or) a report of the current inspection.

The project documentation is worked out on the basis of requests agreed by the Authorized Body and developed by the User.

The User performs work and provides documentation of these activities at its own expense.

Technical condition inspection report is drawn up on the initiative of the Authorized Body or of the User but not less than once every five years.

The User has the right to:

- proceed with the work after obtaining the authority permission;
- perform the cathedral conservation work with the help of the people who have the license for conservation works implementation in the cultural heritage sites;
- carry out the work within the terms stipulated by the technical condition inspection report, the current examination reports, the regulations of the Authority body;



- provide the safety of the cathedral to prevent the third parties from causing or threatening to damage the monuments, or its territories (if there is the territory). In case the User (on its own fault) doesn't have permits to work, it shall not relieve him from responsibility for performance time failure;
- if the User did not begin the work within the date of work expiration that is specified in the technical conditions inspection report or in the current inspection report, the Authority body is able to indicate the new time of performance.

The user must:

- provide access of members of the Authorized body in the cathedral premises.

Without the agreement of the Authorized body:

- not to change the exterior and (or) interior architecture of the cathedral and (or) its planning structure;
- not to replace historic material of constructions, architectural and artistic elements, door and window filling of the cathedral;
- not to carry out excavation that is not related to the work, provided by the Authorized body;
- not to set up new construction works;
- not to change the purpose of the Cathedral.
- not to carry out the work that may change the protected monuments of the cathedral.
- In case of damage of the architectural and artistic elements of the interior, and (or) items of decorative and applied arts, and (or) painting and (or) sculptures that are listed in the attached inventory, the User is obliged to repair the damage within the period prescribed by the Authorized body.

- to provide the organized access of citizens, legal entities, public organizations and educational institutions to the premises of the cultural heritage site in coordination with the Authorized body.

The priests appointed to the Assumption Cathedral notify the Authorized body about holding a big religious event in advance. Tatarstan Archdiocese of the Russian Orthodox Church may organize a visit of delegations of the clergy accompanied by the appointed clergy of the Assumption Cathedral or other plenipotentiary representatives of Tatarstan archdiocese of the Russian Orthodox Church, to the Assumption Cathedral with the obligatory prior notification of the authority. The premises of the Assumption Cathedral are used for the religious service only by the Tatarstan Archdiocese of the Russian Orthodox Church and cannot be given to any other religious organizations.

State Budget Institution of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan "State Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve "Ostrovgrad Sviyazhsk" and Kazan Archdiocese of the Russian Orthodox Church conduct by prior agreement joint activities of religious and cultural nature in the Assumption Cathedral. It is not allowed to hold an event of political character in the Assumption Cathedral.

There are also other monastery buildings on the territory of the Assumption Monastery, where the Assumption Cathedral is situated. Management plan supposes their use for religious purposes. Archimandrite housing, the Assumption Monastery school; St. Sergius church, frater (convent housing № 12), the fence of the convent and other monuments – are the religious sites of cultural heritage of federal importance. In order to maximize disclosure of spiritual and religious potential the objects are given to Tatarstan Archdiocese for free use.



**St Nickolas church.** A religious site of cultural heritage of federal importance. In order to maximize disclosure of spiritual and religious potential the site is given to Tatarstan Archdiocese for free use. Disposal of Federal Property Management Agency in the Republic of Tatarstan from 04.30.2014, № 140-p “On the transfer of a religious organization for free use ...”, the contract of uncompensated use from 09.17.2014, the № 02/141

**The Gate Church of the Assumption monastery (Nadvratnaya).** A religious site of cultural heritage of federal importance. In order to maximize disclosure of spiritual and religious potential the site is given to Tatarstan Archdiocese for free use (Monastery fence with the church). Disposal of Federal Property Management Agency in the Republic of Tatarstan d/d 04.30.2014, № 140-p “On the transfer of a religious organization for free use ...”, the contract of uncompensated use d/d 09.17.2014, the № 02/141.

**Fraternal housing of the Assumption Monastery (Bratskiy).** A religious site of cultural heritage of federal importance. In order to maximize disclosure of spiritual and religious potential the site is given to Tatarstan Archdiocese for free use. Project security obligations entered the Federal Property Management Agency of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan in the Republic of Tatarstan d/d 09.17.2014, an order issued on 09.17.2014, № 278-p to transfer for free use.

The walls of the Assumption monastery. A religious site of cultural heritage of federal importance. In order to maximize disclosure of spiritual and religious potential the site is given to Tatarstan Archdiocese for free use (Monastery fence with the church). Disposal of Federal Property Management Agency in the Republic of Tatarstan d/d 04.30.2014, № 140-p “On the transfer of a religious organization for free use ...”, the contract of uncompensated use d/d 09.17.2014, the № 02/141.

Several more facilities on the territory of Sviyazhsk were given to the Russian Orthodox Church.

The John the Baptist convent complex including wooden Trinity church, St. Sergiu's church, a chapel in the yard of the monastery, Sister housing and fencing, the Cathedral of the Mother of God “Joy of All who sorrow” – are the religious facilities of cultural heritage of the federal and republican importance. In order to maximize disclosure of spiritual and religious potential, the sites were given to Tatarstan archdiocese for free use.

**Constantine and Helen Church.** A religious site of cultural heritage of federal importance. In order to maximize disclosure of spiritual and religious potential the site is given to Tatarstan Archdiocese for free use.

There is close interaction with the Sviyazhsk executive committee in regards of compliance with the legislation on the protection of cultural heritage and preventing illegal construction and illegal archaeological excavation. The budgeting of Sviyazhsk rural settlement is provided largely through tax deductions from the Sviyazhsk Museum activity. An important area of cooperation between the local authorities and the museum is the work on the improvement of the town and conducting mass events, both local and external.

One of the important objectives of the Management plan was to define the forms of participation of the population of cities and regions in the preservation, conservation of Sviyazhsk and its becoming a museum. Since 2010 by the end of each year, a Book of remembrance is published to name the philanthropists directing funds for the preservation of Sviyazhsk. 5 volumes are already published, and more than 38,000 donors are included.

Ongoing activities for the active involvement of the local population for the tourists and pilgrims service, as well as the



great and fruitful work of the “Renaissance of the historical and cultural monuments of the Republic of Tatarstan” foundation for involving not only the local community and the citizens of the republic, but also the inhabitants of the whole of the Russian Federation, the Orthodox, living in different countries of the world, business structures, industrial and commercial enterprises allow to focus on the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value, the effective conservation, and use of the material and spiritual Assumption Cathedral.

An important part of the Management plan is to attract the local community is the implementation of the dialogue principles, cohabitation, popularization of traditions and values in culture, education and science, in the policy of federal, republican and local authorities. It is aimed on implementation of measures proposed by the UN in 2001 on bringing closer cultures and correction of incorrect cultural values, stereotypes and perceptions.

Active participation of scientists, researchers, graduate students for research, preparation of monographs and other scientific products, new methods, including non-destructive methods, conferences, seminars, etc. is an important aspect of the Management Plan. Further publication of materials, the introduction of measures of promoting the object, involving not only scientists of Tatarstan and the Russian Federation as a whole, but other countries as well, is proposed in the separate plan.

The attraction of pupils, students, volunteers not only from nearby cities: Kazan, Zelenodolsk, Cheboksary, Yoshkar-Ola, Ulyanovsk, etc., is important in terms of administrative action. At the same time, the modernization of educational programs of higher education institutions is focused on popularizing and explaining of the principles of preservation of the world and national heritage.

### *3.3.3. The Coordination Committee on matters of preservation, management and popularization of the Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk*

The provision on the Coordination Committee on matters of preservation, managements of popularization of the Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk has been developed with the aim of organizing the dialogue of the key stakeholders and taking into consideration necessity of preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral.

According to the above mentioned provision, the Coordination Committee is established for providing interaction of executive bodies of the state power, bodies of local self-government, scientific-research and public organizations as well as other stakeholders taking parts in measures on preservation, research, popularization of the

Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk and on management of the property.

The main objective of the Coordination Committee is joining the efforts of all stakeholders and provision of sustainable development of the Property and its surroundings in compliance with the UNESCO principles.

The tasks of the Coordination Committee are as follows:

- monitoring of the implementation of the Plan of management the Property and developing proposals on its updating;
- informational and consultative support to the state executive bodies when adopting decisions concerning the Property as well as when preparing regulatory and legal acts related to the Property;



- participation In holding international conferences, workshops, symposiums, establishment of organization of work of working groups in different aspects of preservation, management and popularization of the Property;
  - development and improvement of scientific research, developments and methods of preservation, management and popularization of the Property;
  - development and running the data base of the Property including publications of results of interdisciplinary investigations carried out on the Property;
  - raising the awareness of the population about the Property, promotion of its popularization.
- The draft of the provision on the Coordination Committee is represented in the Annex to the Management Plan.



## 4. Implementation of the management plan for the site nominated to the World Heritage List

### 4.1. Site control and monitoring requirements

#### 4.1.1. General Principles of Control and Monitoring

Management of the Assumption Cathedral involves the introduction of a continuous monitoring system by an agreed uniform metrics. Such monitoring is an essential tool for providing effective management in order to maintain perfect conservation state of the nominated property, along with other monuments and museum exhibitions, representing the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral.

The problems of monitoring are:

1. Providing the appropriate administration of the site nominated to the World Heritage List; effective implementation of the management plan; active involvement of the local community in addressing problems of the Assumption Cathedral management; proper coordination and interaction between the stakeholders.

2. Collection of information necessary for the management plan implementation and integration of the management plans into the plan for social and economic development of the Zelenodolsk region and the Republic of Tatarstan.

3. Potential risks assessment for the site nominated to the World Heritage List and for its surrounding historical landscape and natural environment.

4. The conservation assessment of an Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral and forecast of its capacity to resist possible threats and outlined reverses.

5. Assessment of changes in the local community under the influence of the Management plan of the site nominated to the World Heritage List, identification of

positive and negative factors affecting the development of the local community, raising public awareness of the Site significance and value. Monitoring allows to respond to any changes in attitude to the site nominated to the World Heritage List and to conduct preventive work on eliminating potential threats in order to preserve Outstanding Universal Value (basic monitoring indicators are given in the materials to the nomination file).

In case of any circumstances of insuperable force concerning the condition of the Assumption Cathedral it is also necessary to report on the negative impact and its consequences to UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

Monitoring and quality control of implementing the Management plan of the Assumption Cathedral provides the establishment of a new department within Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve.

The tasks of the department are:

- monitoring of implementation of all activities stated in the Management plan,
- compliance to the interests in the field of preservation of Outstanding Universal Value of the site nominated to the World Heritage List
- monitoring of the conflict situations;
- amendments to the activities in the Management plan considering the changes of the situation around the Assumption Cathedral.

The substantial part of protecting the site nominated to the World Heritage List and its further managing is the work of the Museum-Reserve with contracting organizations and personnel operating at the Assumption Cathedral and in the buffer zone.



Special requirements to the applicants and technical specifications should be defined while conducting tenders for implementation of works, in particular, their experience in similar projects, considering qualification of employees and methods of work implementation.

The technical specification should define, classify and evaluate the effects of the planned works on the project. This approach minimizes the risk of the effects of the proposed works on the territory of the Assumption Cathedral.

Experts in the field of cultural heritage preservation should inform of coming tenders and of admission to implementation of works.

Besides signing the official documents, instructions and briefings should be held for contractors on the implementation of work on the Assumption Cathedral.

Adjustments might be brought to the management plan of the nominated site «The Assumption Cathedral of the island Sviyazhsk» depending on the results of monitoring and evaluation of the annual plans implementation”.

#### *4.1.2. Control over the management of the Assumption Cathedral use, conservation and preservation*

In order to prevent negative effects and for the solution of complex site management tasks a special monitoring system is developed. It involves the monitoring of the Assumption Cathedral condition, that of the frescoes and the process of their conservation, preservation and musefication. It also monitors the number of visitors and their possible impact on these sites, as well as other sites of the cultural and natural heritage of Sviyazhsk.

Analysis of the influence for each component and for the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral is carried out. Particular attention is paid to monitoring the presence of strain on the walls, ceilings and foundations. To evaluate the quality control the system of indicators that allows to trace not only the parameters but also the deadlines of the events was developed. It is based on the period of short-term, long-

term actions and activities set to 2020 and for the next 20 years.

Responsibility for management, conservation and preservation of the objects are assigned to the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan and Sviyazhsk Museum-Reserve. The developed system of indicators includes objective monitoring of the site physical parameters on the basis of measuring equipment and devices data (continuous and periodic), as well as monitoring and verification with the involvement of experts. This information is used for making necessary decisions.

The main indicator for the estimation of environmental factors affecting the condition of the Assumption Cathedral, in addition to meteorological observations is monitoring the fluctuation of canal pound water in Sviyazhsk Bay of Kuibyshev reservoir.

#### *4.1.3. Control of raising awareness of the local community*

Awareness increase control of local community and achievement of public consent concerning preservation, use and sustainable development of the Assumption Cathedral and components of its Outstanding Universal Value.

The management plan provides the system of continuous informing the local community on preservation of the Assumption Cathedral, the attributes and characteristics emphasizing its Outstanding Universal Value. The system of awareness increase on the Museum-Reserve



functioning includes various forms, both passive: information transfer, organization of exhibitions, as well as cultural and educational events, and active ones: involving locals, participation in the activities of the museum, joint projects, reports and public discussions.

The following quantitative indicators aimed to increase awareness of the local community are used to assess different types of work:

- number of events held (as a result of distribution of information, involvement of the local community to participate in holidays, exhibitions, competitions, etc.);
- number of the implemented educational programs (seminars explaining the Outstanding Universal Value of the site, significance of the buffer zone, regulations and norms of the land use and urban planning, the principles of

site management; interaction with school students and field museum lectures, etc.);

- amount of promotional and informational materials distributed (development of information boards, publications in mass media, and sites);
- number of Museum-Reserve presentations (holding days of the museum and remarkable museum events, site promotion activities);
- number of implemented programs and projects aimed at involvement of local population in activities for preservation and use of the site.

The important field in the Management Plan implementation is the involvement of local community representatives in the work of Coordination Board, joint discussion of projects and initiatives concerning preservation and site promotion.

#### *4.1.4. Control of the popularization and promotion of the Property nominated to the World Heritage List*

Research involving the deep analysis and evidence-based interpretation of the received results obtained by Museum-Reserve experts, other independent researchers, academic scientific institutions and the university centers should contribute to the promotion of the Assumption Cathedral as the site of Outstanding Universal Value. Of pivotal importance is scientific and educational activity of the Museum-Reserve.

The latter is achieved through the development of educational programs, modernization of excursion work, carrying out various guides training courses, their qualification development and further training, preparing presentation and exhibition programs, the organization and carrying out traditional holidays (including, religious), development of holiday programs involving methods of museum reconstruction, development of distance learning resources in the form of virtual Internet projects.

The management plan envisages annual congresses, seminars, panel talks, continuous information support of events, press conferences, presentations, round tables discussions, announcements and post-releases, thematic reports, analytics and general publications for printing and electronic mass media, release of thematic multimedia products, publications in museum and scientific publications, on the web site of the Museum-Reserve and in social networks.

Considering the international status of the heritage sites, and also the need to promote UNESCO activities, information on implementation of the Management plan is covered not only in the Republic mass media, but also in the federal and international periodicals. The UNESCO logo will be used while preparing the information materials and exhibitions related to the heritage site revealing its Outstanding Universal Value and the management plan implementation



in strict compliance with the approved rules and the principles of UNESCO logo application.

The main indicators of promoting research, museum and educational activity of the Museum-Reserve are the quantitative characteristics including the

number of certain types of publications, the number of reference of the heritage site in the Internet publications and other mass media, the number of scientific publications (monographs, references to the RSCI, Scopus and Web of Science).

#### *4.1.5. Funds management control*

The number of museum items of the main and secondary funds, their types – archeological, numismatics, ethnography, painting, etc., indicates the museum funds management; it is also represented by the scope of collections and museum items, preserving quality and ensuring their safety with introduction of modern systems (the temperature and humidity, light modes,

microbiological and entomological safety; the analysis of condition control data in museum storages; purchase of the necessary fund equipment; introduction of uniform condition monitoring system and application of the museum items and some other defined in the legal documents of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tatarstan).

#### *4.1.6. Risk management control*

The administrative sectors such as fire safety, vandalism, theft and inadvertent damage concerning terms and preparedness evaluation indicators and risk management are regulated by legislative instruments and documents of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tatarstan, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tatarstan and also by terms of providing the museums, funds of expositions and rooms of the Museum-Reserve, along with the Assumption Cathedral, of monastery religious purpose property with necessary fire-fighting equipment and modern means of protection.

The shore erosion control on the territory of Sviyazhsk and monitoring hydrological features of the Kuibyshev reservoir is carried out constantly. As subterranean waters are hydraulically connected with the reservoir, monitoring and prevention of the landslide phenomena expansion, recording the weather data, in particular extreme weather conditions are also carried out. The prompt response to geologic dislocation and natural disasters are very important indicators of site safety.

Specific objectives, deadlines, indicators and parameters of quality control can be adjusted to changing terms.

#### *4.1.7. Buffer zone management control*

Buffer zone management control is accomplished through the interaction with local authorities, district administrations, monuments protection authorities, natural supervision bodies and public organizations.

The control is focused on natural component of the buffer zone including a biodiversity and a landscape, and anthropogenic parameters, such as construction development, pollutants impacting the environment etc.



#### 4.2. The Property management organizational plan

Deming model is used to improve site control process so as to maintain its Outstanding Universal Value which allows to subsequently implement continuous improvement of the cycle «Plan - action - testing – correction» in the process of the site management. This cycle is repeated continuously during the implementation of the management Plan.

Site management procedure (cyclic sequence of activities):

1. Monitoring, data collection. Accumulation of information (on the plan implementation, changes occurring in the external environment, conflict situations and threats to the site, emerging new initiatives and projects) during the year in the Plan monitoring department of the museum management on the basis of the information prepared by specialized subdivisions of the museum.

2. Analytical work. Analysis of the situation - emerging problem areas and new risks in relation to the site, conflict situations between stakeholders. Preparation of problematic issues by the management Plan monitoring department for presentation and discussion in the Museum-Reserve or Coordination Committee.

3. Coordination Committee Meeting, decision making. Topical issues are submitted in the discussion of Coordination Committee (causes of events, and other necessary actions etc.) which are out of the competence of the Museum-Reserve, related to several stakeholders in the territory; new projects and initiatives on the site and historic landscape preservation and development are discussed. Coordination Committee makes decisions and gives recommendations, prepares appeals if necessary.

4. A report on the results of the management plan implementation. Prior to

the meeting of the Coordination Committee the Museum-Reserve prepares an annual report (on the year results) on the management plan implementation, results of monitoring, fulfillment of decisions and recommendations adopted by the Coordination Committee. Factsheets (reports) of stakeholders' representatives on the activities in relation to the site and implementation of decisions and recommendations of Coordinating Committee are requested and provided. The site management plan implementation is assessed, the necessary adjustments are discussed.

5. Measures adjustment. By the situation analyses results and discussion with stakeholders' amendments to the Action Plan of the site management plan are introduced.

The establishment of adaptive mechanisms of strategic level is important due to variability of environment as they identify at an early stage possible threats in relation to the site and their application / threats treatment.

The planning strategy will be used in technical aspect while implementing the Management plan. According to the latter, the results of the previous stage taking into account the changing external and internal environment in relation to the site adjustments for the following stage of the Management plan will be introduced.

The idea of communicative planning in the conditions of the social and economic environment consists in stakeholders' involvement in the process of the site management plan implementation for the preventive measures in the disputable situations concerning the site and the surrounding territory. The Coordination Committee will become a tool in the discussion and decision-making process.

The principles of public consent lay the basis for leveling multidirectional interests concerning cultural values. At the same time



the developed conflicts should be resolved only according to the Russian and international legislation and in favor of preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the site.

To settle related to the site controversial issues conditioned by the Russian Federation legislation there was developed a procedure to solve conflict in accordance with modern scientific theories in the field of the conflict management taking into account site uniqueness.

It is the management mechanism influencing the conflicts settlement in the social and economic relations, including issues of territorial and socio-economic planning.

The efficiency of the Management plan implementation is defined by the indicators of projects implementation and actions in the priority areas and corresponding tasks of the operated changes concerning the site. Expert evaluation is the basic indicator of the site management changes which implies positive dynamics in bringing the site into ideal condition.

The site management infers continuous supervision system, evaluation of the site and its environment condition, and the assessment of the site management process.

### ***4.3. Resource provision of the Management Plan of the Property nominated into the World Heritage List***

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#### ***4.3.1. Staff acquisition***

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The execution of the management plan implies the formation of the personnel policy of the Museum-Reserve, which defines the required professional level, as well as the organizational structure and the required number of experts to perform the tasks of conservation, research, promotion and management of the object, nominated to the World Heritage List.

The basic principle of personnel policy is the creation of conditions for the continuous education of the specialists involved in the activities concerning the object. Training and retraining of personnel for the implementation

of the management plan will be carried out in two ways:

- Rising the general cultural level and spreading information about the ideas of conservation of the World Heritage of UNESCO, knowledge about the Assumption cathedral, explanation of the Outstanding Universal Value;
- Special training (internships, exchange programs, conferences, obtaining additional education, specialization) in the key areas of activity (the preservation and conservation of objects, landscape management, tourism management, the prevention of major risks).

#### ***4.3.2. Financial resources***

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Financing the Museum- reserve by subsidies for performance of the state services (work performance) is carried out for a calendar year with dividing into quarters. Financing to provide state services (works) is available in the following main directions:

- Works on storage, studying, ensuring safety and security of the objects of

cultural heritage located in the territory of the Museum- reserve;

- Works on ensuring safety and the integrity of a historical and architectural complex, cultural and historical environment and landscapes, which are a part of the Museum- reserve;



**Table 5.**

Bodies, responsible for monitoring the property nominated into the World Heritage List “The Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk”, and main supervising organizations

Directions of monitoring	Periodicity	The place of keeping the records
Monitoring of the condition and the use of the objects of the cultural heritage complex	Once a year	<p>The state budget institution of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan “State historical-architectural and art Museum-Reserve “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk» Moscovskaya str., 6, 420250, s. Sviyazhsk, Zelenodolsk District, the Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation.</p> <p>State budget organization “Center of Cultural Heritage of Tatarstan” Pushkin str., 66/33, 420107, Kazan, the Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation</p> <p>Institute of History named after Sh. Mardzhani of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan (Director - Rafael Khakimov) Entrance 5, Kremlin Kazan, 420014 Republic of Tatarstan Russian Federation Tel: +7(843) 2928482, Fax: +7(843) 2928482</p>
Monitoring of the condition and use of the natural heritage objects	Once a year	<p>Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan (Minister - Artem Sidorov) 75 Pavlukhin Street Kazan, 420059 Republic of Tatarstan Russian Federation Tel: +7(843) 2676859 Fax: +7(843) 2676822</p>
Main supervising organizations		<p>The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation Maly Gnezdnikovsky lane, 7/6, build.1,2, 125993, GSP-3, Moscow, Russian Federation</p> <p>The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan Pushkin Street, 66/33, 420015, Kazan, the Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation</p> <p>State budget organization “Center of Cultural Heritage of Tatarstan” Pushkin str., 66/33, 420107, Kazan, the Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation</p>



- maintenance of museums and other infrastructural objects of the Museum-reserve;
- Salary of employees of the Museum-reserve.

However, full implementation of the management plan depends on the state policy for additional financial support of the Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve for execution of the tasks of preservation of Outstanding Universal Value of the object. For these reasons was created the Fund of revival of

historical and cultural monuments of the Republic of Tatarstan under Patronage of the First President of RT.

Additional sources are:

- Means of the regional budget;
- Trust funds from the Federal budget;
- Revenues from the paid services (works) rendered by the Museum-Reserve;
- Grants of non-governmental organizations.

#### *4.3.3. Partnership network as a resource*

The presence of an affiliate network is a condition of effective implementation management plan of the Assumption Cathedral in all its fields.

It foresaw widening the network of partners at local, regional, Russian (national) and international levels in the following areas:

- academic community;
- educational facilities;
- small, medium and big business (the tourist organizations, the industrial enterprises, the organizations of an infrastructure complex);

- mass communication;
- organs of state and municipal management at different levels;
- representatives of civil society (non-governmental and public organizations);
- members of local community.

The affiliate network is an important resource of implementation management plan by nominated World Heritage Site, as well as providing forms of the cooperation on preservation and presentation of the sites.

#### *4.4. Perspectives of the Assumption Cathedral preservation and development*

Prospects of preservation and development of the Assumption Cathedral and long-term management plans are related to the main objective to maintain the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, its integrity and authenticity to transfer their control to the society in general and to ensure a positive contribution to sustainable development.

Common elements of effective management system to ensure these perspectives are the following:

- a) a clear common understanding of the objects by all stakeholders;
- b) a cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and feedback;
- c) monitoring and assessment of the trend impacts, changes and proposed measures;
- d) involvement of partners and stakeholders;
- e) the allocation of necessary resources;
- f) capacity-building;
- g) accountability, clear description of the control system functioning.



## 5. System of measures on implementation of the World Heritage Property management plan

### 5.1. Plan of implementation of the Objective 1.

*Measures for preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral (to section 3.1 of the management Plan)*

Id No	The name of the project, activities	Budget and source	Performers	Time Frame
<b>1. The preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral</b>				
1.1.	A study of the Cathedral building, its foundations by non-destructive methods	Federal budget, Republican budget	SBI "Centre of cultural heritage of the Tatarstan Republic", The Institute of archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Tatarstan Republic	2015-2017
1.2.	The site study of the Assumption monastery by the non-destructive methods (geo-, aero and space methods, magnetic inspection and carrying out archeological excavations	The Republican budget	The Institute of archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan	2015–2018
1.3.	Assessment of the current state and the development of measures for the conservation of the Assumption Cathedral through an integrated and multidisciplinary historical, archaeological and natural scientific research with new data according to the time of construction, materials, technologies used in their creation	The Federal budget, The Republican budget	Research divisions of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan and Kazan (Volga region) Federal University	2015–2020
1.3.1	The study of monumental painting to clarify its characteristics and identify potential threats and risks of the paint layer conditions	The Federal budget, The Republican budget	Research divisions Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan and Kazan (Volga region) Federal University	2015–2016



1.3.2	A study of the Cathedral building to determine potential threats and risks and define the best conditions for the preservation of monumental painting	The Federal budget, The Republican budget	Research divisions of the Academy of Sciences of the Tatarstan Republic and Kazan (Volga region) Federal University	2015–2016
1.3.3.	Researching of the temperature and humidity in the Cathedral	The Federal budget, Republican budget	Research divisions of Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan by attracting the experts	2015–2017.
1.3.4.	A study of the frescoes of the Cathedral, including: - the analysis of paints by the method of scanning electron microscopy with laser microprobe, - chemical studies of coloring pigments, - microbiological and genetic analysis of biotic, - analysis of organic components of paints and gesso by chromatography method, - the study of the dye layer by the method of non-destructive x-ray fluorescence analysis, - determining the age of wooden structural elements by the method of radiocarbon Dating (analysis), - the timing of application of frescoes through the study of organic gesso by the method of accelerator mass spectrometry, - dendrochronological analysis of wood.	The Federal budget, Republican budget	Research divisions of Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan with experts and Kazan (Volga region) Federal University by attracting the experts	2015–2020.
1.4.	The introduction of a computerized mapping of the monumental painting of the Church building and its environment	Republican budget	Kazan (Volga region) Federal University, The Institute of archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan	2017-2020.
1.5.	Monitoring the status of Cathedral, the state of his painting and creation of an information database	Republican budget	Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve with experts	2015-2030.



1.6.	The comprehensive historical research, including: the identification and study of new archival materials and sources; architectural, source study, historiography, art history, cultural studies and comparative analysis	Republican budget	Research divisions of Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan with experts and Kazan (Volga region) Federal University, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015-2030 rr.
<b>2. Conservation and preservation of Assumption Cathedral</b>				
2.1.	: Works on the conservation of the cathedral building and its reinforcement - works on building footings improvement - works on walls and roofing system improvement - works on interior framings improvement		Khalikov Institute of Archaeology	2015-2018
2.2.	Conservation of the monumental painting of the cathedral and works on its conservation and maintenance		Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan	2015-2017
2.3.	Implementation of the underfloor heating system enabling to establish aimed temperature and humidity conditions		Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, The State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk”	2017-2020
2.4.	The cathedral’s liturgical activity establishment (the number of potential church services and their conditions)		Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Tatarstan archdiocese of the Russian Orthodox Church	2016
2.5.	Registration and storage of the study samples, development of extracted samples data bank and of preservation and conservation works data bank		Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, The State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk”	2015-2030



3. Movable property safe custody				
3.1.	Establishing of the Christian Orthodox Culture Museum (aimed at setting the stage for tourists and excursionists to visit the cathedral)	The republican budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, The State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve "Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk", Monastery Assumption	2016-2020
3.2.	Completion of the conservation workshops within the State Historical and Architectural Museum "Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk" (conservation of oil painting and tempera, pottery, wood and metal handicrafts, paper goods, archaeological objects from the wet layer).	The republican budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, the State Historical and Architectural Museum "Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk"	2015-2018
3.3.	Conservation of the finds acquired from the cathedral study and archeological studies	The republican budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, the State Historical and Architectural Museum "Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk", Institute of Archaeology named after A. Khalikov	2015-2035
4. Preservation of historical and cultural environment				
4.1.	Implementation of functional zoning of the island-town Sviyazhsk and the establishment of clear usage modes of each functional area	Republican budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan  Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015-2016
4.2.	Approval of the reconstruction procedure of houses and building new houses on vacant places of the island (based on "approved "model" projects)	Republican budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Ministry of Construction, Architecture, Housing and Communal Services of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015-2017



4.3.	Work on landscaping site finishing of Sviyazhsk territory in accordance with the historically conditioned traditional principles	Republican budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Ministry of Construction, Architecture, Housing and Communal Services of the Republic of Tatarstan, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsk municipal unit	2015-2018
4.4.	Development of space-planning projects of villages development in the buffer zone of the Assumption Cathedral	Republican budget	Ministry of Construction, Architecture, Housing and Communal Services of the Republic of Tatarstan	2016-2019
4.5.	Preservation of natural landscapes in the buffer zone of the Assumption Cathedral	Republican budget	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan, nature reserve «Sviyazhskij»	2015-2035
4.6.	Preservation of archaeological sites in the buffer zone of the Assumption Cathedral	Republican budget	Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan	2015-2035
<b>5. Measures to reduce the risk of accidents and removal of threats concerning the Assumption Cathedral</b>				
5.1.	Regular inspection of the existing bank protection and creation of new one in the case of threat	Republican budget	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan, Ministry of Civil Defense and Emergency Situations of the Republic of Tatarstan	2015-2020
5.2.	Introduction of new fire protection systems in museums, the fund storage and places of public attendance (gas, water and powder fire-fighting)	Republican budget	Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015-2017
5.3.	Implementation of anti-erosion measures (slopes, ravines, banks) in the buffer zone	Republican budget	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan	2015-2035
5.4.	Preventing of crimes on the territory of nominated World Heritage Site and its buffer zone	Republican budget	Ministry of Interior for the Republic of Tatarstan	2015-2035

**5.2. Plan of implementation of the Objective 2.**

*Measures for creating conditions for sustainable development of the territory (to section 3.2 of the management Plan)*

№	Name of the project, action	Budget and source	Performers	Time frames
<b>6. The organization of effective exploitation of the site nominated to the World Heritage List</b>				
6.1.	Implementation of the resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan on the protection zones statement of remarkable site "The Town -Island of Sviyazhsk" (borders of a buffer zone), the adoption of all restrictions on cadastral plans and communication of the information about the named restrictions to the parties concerned	Republic budget, municipal budgets	The Council of Ministers of Tatarstan, Zelenodolsky area, Verkhneuslonsky local authorities, Municipality "Innopolis"	2015-2035 . Permanently
6.2.	Carrying out the necessary procedures connected with transformation of the state budget institution of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan "State historical-architectural and art Museum "Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk» to the Museum-Reserve	Republic budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve, Zelenodolsky area	2015-2016 .
6.3.	The system of administrative actions implementation for the organization of museum service of visitors modern structure		Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015-2016 .
6.3.1.	Organization of the Archaeological museum	Republic budget	Ministry of Culture the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015-2018 .
6.3.2.	Organization of the Civil War Museum	Republic budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015-2018 .



6.3.3.	Organization of the Orthodox Culture Museum	Republic budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2016-2020 .
6.3.4.	The organization of museum expositions "Sviyazhsk is the district town»	Republic budget	Ministry of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2017-2022 .
6.3.5.	Organization of the Volga River Museum	Republic budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2019-2025 .
6.3.6.	Museumification of other Sviyazhsk historical buildings and objects	Republic budget	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2020-2035 .
<b>7. Ensuring of a sustainable development of the tourist sector</b>				
7.1.	Elaboration of a new concept of tourist development of Sviyazhsk and the neighboring territories of the Republic of Tatarstan	Republican budget	The Ministry of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, State Committee on Tourism of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2016-2017
7.2.	Conducting of a market research of the target audience for the development of tourism at the World Heritage Site	Republican budget	The Ministry of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, State Committee on Tourism of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2016-2018
7.3	Carrying out a research of the maximum recreational and anthropogenic pressure allowed at the World Heritage Site and within its buffer zone	Republican budget	The Ministry of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, State Committee on Tourism of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	Conducting – 2016, Zccomplishment, judging by the common practice – 2017-2018



7.4.	Development of a long-term project «the Heritage of the Volga river» as a nationwide and international cultural program, throwing further light on the historical part of the largest European river	Republican budget, the funds of the private investors of the program	The Ministry of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, State Committee on Tourism of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2017-2019
7.5.	Organization of a new parking area in the mainland, at the beginning of a dam (within 2-3 km from the island)	Republican budget, the funds of the private investors of the program	The Ministry of Transport and Roads of the Republic of Tatarstan	2017-2020 years
7.6.	Ensuring the Museum-Reserve with electric transport to transfer the passengers to the island from the parking lot and around Sviyazhsk as well	Republican budget	The Ministry of culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, State Committee on Tourism of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2016-2020
<b>8. Protection of the natural environment</b>				
8.1.	Taking steps on recycling	Republican budget	The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan, municipality of Sviyazhsk, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015-2017
8.2.	Upgrade of the utilities, wastewater treatment systems and sanitation	Republican budget	The Ministry of Construction, Architecture, Housing and Communal Services of the Republic of Tatarstan, municipality of Sviyazhsk	2015-2018
8.3.	Monitoring of the current condition of the natural environment	Republican budget	Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve with the council of experts	2015-2035
8.4.	Environmental education of the local population	Republican budget	Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve, The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan	2015-2035; Permanently



9. Socio-economic development of the country				
9.1.	The adjustment plans of territorial development of Zelenodolsk, Verkhniy Uslo region of the Republic of Tatarstan and municipality "Innopolis" taking into account conditions of the buffer zone of the Assumption Cathedral	Budget of the Republic, municipal budgets	Ministry of Construction, Architecture and Housing and Communal Services of the Republic of Tatarstan, Zelenodolsk region, Verkhniy Uslo region, Municipality "Innopolis"	Development in 2015 Actualization in 2018.
9.2.	Infrastructure development of Sviyazhsk to meet the needs of visitors to the nominated site		Ministry of Construction, Architecture and Housing and Communal Services of the Republic of Tatarstan, Municipality Sviyazhsk	2015-2016 years.
9.3.	The formation of new conditions of employment in Sviyazhsk	Budget of the Republic, the budgets of municipalities, private investors	Budget of the republic	2015-2035 years.
9.4.	Formation of the urban environment of Sviyazhsk: buildings management, active implementation of developed in the traditional style of "model" houses, decorating of disharmonious buildings	Budget of the Republic, private investors	Ministry of Construction, Architecture and Housing and Communal Services of the Republic of Tatarstan, The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, locals, vacationers	2015-2020 years.
9.5.	Incentives to attract permanent residence in Sviyazhsk of museum workers and creative intellectuals	Budget of the Republic, private investors	The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan	Development of the program in 2015 Implementation: 2016-2020 years.



10. Community development.				
10.1.	Development of a program to raise awareness of the local community about the Outstanding Universal Value and the Management Plan of the Site, the rules of land use and management	Budget of the Republic	Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2016-2018 years.
10.2.	Conducting public opinion poll of Sviyazhsk, Zelenodolsk and Verkhniy Uslo regions and the municipality "Innopolis" living within the buffer zone of the nominated site	Budget of the Republic	Sviyazhsky museum, Zelenodolsk and Verkhniy Uslo regions, municipality "Innopolis "	2016-2018 years.
10.3.	Community participation in the Coordination Committee	Budget of the Republic	Regional Foundation of Revival of Historical and Cultural Monuments of Republic of Tatarstan , Municipality Sviyazhsk	2015-2020 years.
11. Promotion and popularization of the site, nominated to the World Heritage List				
11.1.	Scientific and promotional work on popularization of the Assumption Cathedral	Republican budget, Investor's funds	Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan, Kazan (Volga region) Federal University, Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, State Committee on Tourism of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve, scientists and public men	2015-2035
11.2.	Activities on promotion of the Assumption Cathedral's historical, cultural, artistic and religious value.	Investor's funds	Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Tatarstan mitropolitane, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve, scientists and public men	2015 – 2035



### 5.3. Plan of implementation of the Objective 3.

*Measures on reaching social consensus concerning conservation, exploitation and sustainable development of Assumption Cathedral (to section 3.3 of the management Plan)*

№	Projects name, events listing	Budget and source	Executors	Time frame
<b>12. Community council work</b>				
12.1	Organization of Coordination Committee work, carrying out expert services, final conclusions.		Regional Foundation of Revival of Historical and Cultural Monuments of Republic of Tatarstan	2015 – 2030
<b>13. Interaction with the parties concerned.</b>				
13.1	Making agreement on a partnership with the parties concerned in the frame of objectives realization plan (municipal governing bodies, interested institutions and establishments, business entities, religious and public organizations).		Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015 – 2030
13.2	Execution of the contracts for works and services necessary to Assumption Cathedral, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve –(with organizations, establishments, individuals)		Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	2015 – 2030



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### Annex 1.

*Laws and regulations applicable to the nominated World Heritage Site  
“The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk”*

Act title	Objectives	Impact on the WHS
<b>Federal acts in the field of cultural and natural heritage protection and in the field of culture</b>		
Fundamentals of the legislation of the Russian Federation on culture (app. by the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation d/d 09.10.1992 under No. 3612-1)	It promotes and protects the constitutional right of citizens of the Russian Federation to cultural activities. It creates legal safeguards for the free cultural activities of associations of citizens, peoples and other ethnic communities of the Russian Federation. It defines principles and relation laws of the subjects of cultural activity. It defines principles of the state cultural policy, law principles of state support for culture and guarantees of non-interference of the state in the creative process	It defines the legal framework for conservation and development of culture in the Russian Federation
Federal Law “On cultural heritage sites (historical and cultural monuments) of the Russian Federation” d/d 25.06.2002 under No. 73-FZ	It regulates relations in the field of preservation, use, popularization and state protection of cultural heritage (monuments of history and culture) of the peoples of the Russian Federation and is aimed at the realization of the constitutional right of everyone to have access to cultural values and the constitutional responsibilities of each care for the preservation of historical and cultural heritage, and preserve monuments of history and culture, as well as for the implementation of the rights of peoples and other ethnic communities in the Russian Federation to preserve and develop their cultural and national identity, protection, conservation and preservation of historical and cultural environment, the protection and preservation of sources of information about the origin and development of culture	It defines the powers of public authorities of the Russian Federation, bodies of state power of the subjects of the Russian Federation, municipal authorities of the Russian Federation; financing activities for the conservation, popularization and state protection of cultural heritage sites; the formation and maintenance of a unified state register of cultural heritage (monuments of history and culture) of the peoples of the Russian Federation; the purpose and implementation of the State historical and cultural examination of cultural heritage sites; objectives and types of protection of cultural heritage sites; kinds of conservation of cultural heritage; features of ownership, use and management of cultural heritage included in the register; Grounds for the right of use of cultural heritage sites included in the register



Federal Law "On the Museum Fund of the Russian Federation and museums in the Russian Federation" d/d 26.05.1996 under No. 54-FZ	It determines a particular legal status of the Museum Fund of the Russian Federation, as well as the features of creation and legal status of museums in Russia	It determines the legal status of a particular type of museum - Museum-Reserve; the goal of creating Museum-Reserves, some of which are referred to preservation of cultural heritage sites and access to them by citizens, preservation, study and promotion of these monuments
Federal law "On non-profit organizations" d/d 12.01.1996 under No. 7-FZ	It defines the legal status, order of establishment, activity, reorganisation and liquidation of nonprofit organizations as legal entities, the formation and use of the property of non-profit organizations, the rights and obligations of their founders (participants), the basics of management non-profit organizations and the possible forms of support by public authorities and bodies of local government.	It defines a legal regime for a budgetary institution (Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve)
Federal Law "On Environmental Protection" d/d 10.01.2002 under No. 7-FZ	It defines the legal framework of the state policy in the field of environmental protection to ensure balanced solution of socio-economic tasks, preservation of favourable environment, biodiversity and natural resources in order to meet the needs of present and future generations, strengthening the rule of law in the field of environmental protection and ecological safety; it regulates relations in the sphere of interaction between society and nature, arising from the implementation of economic and other activities related to the impact on the environment	It defines the legal framework of environmental protection and conservation of the natural heritage
Federal Law "On Specially Protected Natural Territories" dated 14.03.1995 under No. 33-FZ	It regulates relations in the field of organization, protection and use of specially protected areas to conserve unique and typical natural complexes and objects of cultural heritage natural formations, flora and fauna and their genetic fund, study of natural processes in the biosphere and change control of her condition, environmental education	It defines the right regime of specially protected natural area, located in the buffer zone of the World Heritage site - the State Nature Reserve of Regional Importance "Sviyazhsky"



Land Code of the Russian Federation d/d 25.10.2001 under No. 136-FZ	It regulates land relations in the Russian Federation with the application of the principle of differentiation of the rules of civil law and the rules of the land legislation concerning the regulation of relations in land use, as well as the principle of state regulation of land privatization	It determines interaction between the participants of land relations, including those in the buffer zone of the World Heritage site; it introduces a special legal regime on the lands from the category of specially protected territories and sites
<b>Federal acts in the field of legal regulation of the parties concerned in preservation and use of the World Heritage site</b>		
The Civil Code of the Russian Federation	It sets recognition of the equality of participants in relations regulated by them, inviolability of property, freedom of contract, inadmissibility of arbitrary interference by anyone in private affairs, need for smooth implementation of the civil rights, ensures redress for a violated right, their legal protection	It determines the relationship of civil turnover in the Russian Federation
Housing Code of the Russian Federation d/d 29.12.2004 under No. 188-FZ	It is based on the need of provision to citizens of the right to housing, its security, inviolability and non-arbitrary deprivation of housing, on need for smooth implementation arising from the relations regulated by the housing legislation, rights, and recognition of the equality of participants controlled by housing law relations of possession, use and disposal of premises, on the need for conservation of violated housing rights, their judicial protection, conservation of the housing stock and the use of premises for other purposes.	It defines relations of owners of residential premises, including those within the boundaries of the World Heritage site and its buffer zone
Town Planning Code of the Russian Federation d/d 29.12.2004 under No. 190-FZ	It regulates relations in territorial planning, urban zoning, territory planning, architectural design, the relationship for the construction of capital construction projects, their reconstruction, major repairs as well as maintenance of buildings, structures	It defines relations of the parties involved in development within the boundaries of settlements in the buffer zone. Need to integrate and design security zones with special conditions of use is envisaged.



The Criminal Code of the Russian Federation d/d 13.06.1996 under No. 63-FZ	It provides protection of the rights and freedoms of man and citizen, property, public order and public safety, the environment, the constitutional order of the Russian Federation from criminal encroachments, ensuring peace and security of mankind, as well as crime prevention. It sets the foundation and principles of criminal responsibility, determines what dangerous to individuals, society or the state acts are recognized as crimes and establishes penalties and other measures of criminal law for crimes	It sets responsibility for guilty acts aimed at the destruction or damage of the World Heritage site, including the natural component of the buffer zone
Russian Federation Code of Administrative Offences d/d 30.12.2001 under No. 195-FZ	Provides protection of the individual, protection of the rights and freedoms of man and citizen, protection of public health, sanitary and epidemiological welfare of the population, protection of public morals, the environment, the established order of the state authorities, public order and public safety, property, protection of the legitimate economic interests of individuals and legal persons, society and the state of the administrative offences, as well as prevention of administrative offenses	It sets responsibility for guilty acts aimed at the destruction or damage to the World Heritage site, including the natural component of the buffer zone that shall not be prosecuted
Water Code of the Russian Federation dated 3.06.2006 under No. 74-FZ	It contains rules regulating relations of use and protection of water bodies	It sets the mode of economic and other activities along the river banks as well as within the buffer zone of the World Heritage site
Federal Law "On General Principles of Local Government in the Russian Federation" d/d 6.10.2003 under No. 131-FZ	It establishes general legal, territorial, organizational and economic principles of local government organization in the Russian Federation; it determines the state guarantees for its implementation	It defines the powers of local authorities on whose territory the World Heritage Site is located to develop their territory



Regional laws and regulations		
Law of the Republic of Tatarstan "On culture" d/d 3.07.1998 under No. 1705	It provides and protects citizens' constitutional right to cultural activity in the Republic of Tatarstan; it regulates relations for the creation, distribution, development and preservation of cultural values; it promotes the development of the Tatar national culture, the culture of the multinational people of the Republic of Tatarstan, its integration into the world culture; it defines principles of state policy in the field of culture.	It defines the legal framework for conservation and development of culture in the Republic of Tatarstan
Law of the Republic of Tatarstan "On cultural heritage sites in the Republic of Tatarstan" d/d 1.04.2005 under No. 60-W RT	It regulates relations in the field of public protection, conservation, use and promotion of cultural heritage in the Republic of Tatarstan, including relationships to identify and record cultural heritage, preserve cultural heritage, as well as to monitor the conservation and use of cultural heritage in the Republic of Tatarstan	It defines the powers of the state authorities of the Republic of Tatarstan in the field of preservation, use, popularization and state protection of cultural heritage sites (monuments of history and culture) of the peoples of the Russian Federation
Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan on regarding the site "The town-island of Sviyazhsk" a cultural heritage site of regional (republican) importance d/d 16.07.2009 under No. 497	It ensures conservation and protection by the state of the town development planning and development of the historical territory.	It defines the boundaries of the site and the procedure for supervision of compliance with the law on preservation of cultural heritage in the territory



Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan on approval of the boundaries of security zones of the cultural heritage site of regional (republican) importance, site "The town-island of Sviyazhsk" d/d 2.07.2015 under No. 481	It sets borders of the buffer zone of the site "The Town-Island of Sviyazhsk" that coincide with the boundaries of the buffer zone of the World Heritage site.	It defines the boundaries of the zone of protection and safeguarding of its individual parts.
Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan on establishment of the Museum-Reserve "The town-island of Sviyazhsk" d/d 24.08.2015 under No. 618	It indicates main directions of the development of Sviyazhsky Museum-Reserve	It identifies the need for incurring amendments to the Charter of the State Budgetary Institution of Culture "State Historical-Architectural and Art Museum "The town-island of Sviyazhsk"
Order of the President of the Republic of Tatarstan on the approval of the Charter of the non-profit organization "National Foundation for the revival of historical and cultural monuments of the Republic d/d Tatarstan" of 4.03. 2010	It regulates the activity of the Fund aimed at promoting the revival and development of the Bulgar Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve, the State Historical and Architectural Museum "The Town-Island of Sviyazhsk" and other historical and cultural monuments located on the territory of the Republic of Tatarstan, preservation and development of historical, cultural and spiritual traditions of the multinational people of the Republic of Tatarstan, national and cultural identity and traditions of the Tatars and representatives of other peoples living in the territory of the Republic of Tatarstan	It defines the legal framework coordinating organization for the conservation and use of the World Heritage site



Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan on the creation of the complex project "Cultural Heritage – the town-island of Sviyazhsk and ancient Bulgar" d/d 9.12. 2010 under No. 1018	It approves basic measures for the conservation of the cultural heritage of Sviyazhsk and ancient Bulgar.	It contains a list of measures for the implementation of the project indicating the volume, sources of financing, as well as target values
Land Code of the Republic of Tatarstan d/d 10.07.1998 under No. 1736	It regulates the operation of the rules of the land legislation in the Republic of Tatarstan	It determines interaction between the participants of land relations, including those in the buffer zone of the World Heritage site; introduces a special legal regime on the lands in the category of specially protected territories and sites
Town Planning Code of the Republic of Tatarstan d/d 22.02.2001 under No. 643	It regulates relations in the area of the settlement system, urban planning, construction, improvement of urban and rural settlements, development of engineering, transport and social infrastructure, environmental management, conservation of historical and cultural heritage and environmental protection in order to ensure favourable living conditions for the people of the Republic of Tatarstan	It defines relations of the subjects of development within the boundaries of settlements in the buffer zone. Need to integrate and design security zones with special conditions of use is envisaged



Order of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan on the approval of the provisions of the nature of use of the area attractions, restrictions on the use of the territory and the requirements of economic activities, design and construction on the site "The town-island of Svíazhsk" d/d 07.08.2009	It defines basic restrictions on building and land use in Svíazhsk that will help preserve the historic appearance of the place.	It contains requirements for the use of the historical territory and defines restrictions on the use of the territory.
Code of the Republic of Tatarstan "On Administrative Offences" d/d 19.12. 2006 under No. 80 ZRT	It aims to protect the rights and freedoms of a person and citizen, secures the rule of law, and prevents administrative violations in the Republic of Tatarstan	It establishes liability for certain types of offenses, as well as measures to prevent administrative violations in the buffer zone of the World Heritage site
Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan on the formation of the National Nature Reserve of regional significance of comprehensive profile "Svíazhsky" d/d 4.02.1998 under No. 49	It regulates the activity of specially protected natural territory - the State Nature Reserve of regional importance "Svíazhsky"	It defines goals, objectives, security regimes and activities of a specially protected natural area, located in the buffer zone of the World Heritage site



## Annex 2.

Indicating system for feasibility study of The World Heritage Site “The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk” Management Plan

Id No	Strategic targets	Ascertainable indices	Unit of measurement
<b>1. Investigation of world heritage site</b>			
1.1.		The number of interdisciplinary study aspects (archeological, historical, architectural, geological, engineering, juridical, ecological, etc.	aspect, unit
1.2.		The number of revealed, investigated and described heritage sites	site, unit
1.3.		A territory on which the archeological study was conducted	area, ha
1.4.		A territory of the buffer zone on which historical-cultural study was conducted including preparation and legalization of documentation for revealed during the study cultural heritage sites	area, ha
1.5.		Scope of conducted work constituting topographic survey of land parcels occupied by revealed sites and by their security zones	area, ha
1.6.		Percent of categorized cultural heritage sites(historical and cultural monuments) on the territory of world heritage site and buffer zone of all amount of cultural heritage sites as architectural and historical monuments of local significance	%
<b>2. Assumption Cathedral excavation and conservation work</b>			
2.1.		Integrated surveys of cathedral’s monumental painting	the area of paintings explored, sq m
2.2.		Percent of explored sections of monumental painting’s common area	% (index should not exceed fixed limits)
2.3.		The area of conservation work conducted on the sections of cathedral’s monumental painting	sq m



2.4.		A territory of cathedral and its surroundings, on which historical-cultural and archeological study was conducted, including preparation and legalization of documentation for revealed during the study cultural heritage sites	area, sq m
2.5.		A territory of cathedral and its surroundings, on which historical-cultural and archeological study with non-invasive procedure was conducted	area, sq m
<b>3.</b>	<b>Preservation of World heritage site and its buffer zone</b>		
3.1.		Arrangements constituting supporting preservation of prominent universal value's attributes(material and nonmaterial)	the number of arrangements
3.2.		Percent of cultural heritage sites with satisfactory condition in total amount of cultural heritage sites(historical and cultural monuments)of buffer zone	%
3.3.		Percent of natural heritage sites with satisfactory condition in total amount of natural heritage sites of buffer zone	%
3.4.		The number of accomplished protective obligations of cultural heritage sites which are in use of other entities(not a reserve-museum)	unit
<b>4.</b>	<b>Turning the site into a museum on the territory of the World Heritage Site and its buffer zone</b>		
4.1.		The number of architectural objects and archeological objects «in situ» turned into museums	unit
4.2.		The number of depository items in funds of a reserve-museum	unit
4.3.		Percent of exposed depository items in total amount of items keeping in funds	%
4.4.		The number of virtual exhibit items in expository area of the reserve-museum	unit
<b>5.</b>	<b>Town-planning adjustment of World heritage site's preservation</b>		
5.1.		The number of documents of spacial planning, planning design and town-planning zonation, in which territories of world heritage site and its save area are taken into account	documents, unit



5.2.		The number of environmental building-up's objects with hold arrangements constituting putting buildings in traditional and historical view	objects, unit
5.3.		Percent of cultural heritage sites with cartographical territories, included in cultural heritage sites' unified national register and considered in the documents of special planning	%
<b>6.</b>	<b>Legal protection</b>		
6.1.		The number of laws, regulations and resolutions providing world heritage site and its buffer zone's protection	documents, unit
<b>7.</b>	<b>Safety and security arrangements in case of emergencies</b>		
7.1.		The number of safety program activities	activities, total number
7.2.		The number of studies and practices of reserve-museum staff	practices, number
7.3.		The number of safety program's facilities	facilities, unit
<b>8.</b>	<b>Access provision for historical and cultural monuments and museum exhibition area on World heritage site</b>		
8.1.		Percent of disabled people evaluating positively access provision level of top-priority cultural heritage sites and tourism services related to cultural heritage sites, in the total number of disabled people having visited the site	%
<b>9.</b>	<b>World heritage site monitoring</b>		
		The number of monitoring types	types, unit
		Percent of territory of World heritage site's surroundings (Sviyazhsk area), on which monitoring of cultural heritage sites and landscape's condition was conducted	%
<b>10.</b>	<b>World heritage site's presentation and forming it's touristic attraction</b>		
10.1.		Percent of included in tour itineraries cultural heritage sites of buffer zone, in the total number of cultural heritage sites	%
10.2.		The number of visitors of the World heritage site	ths

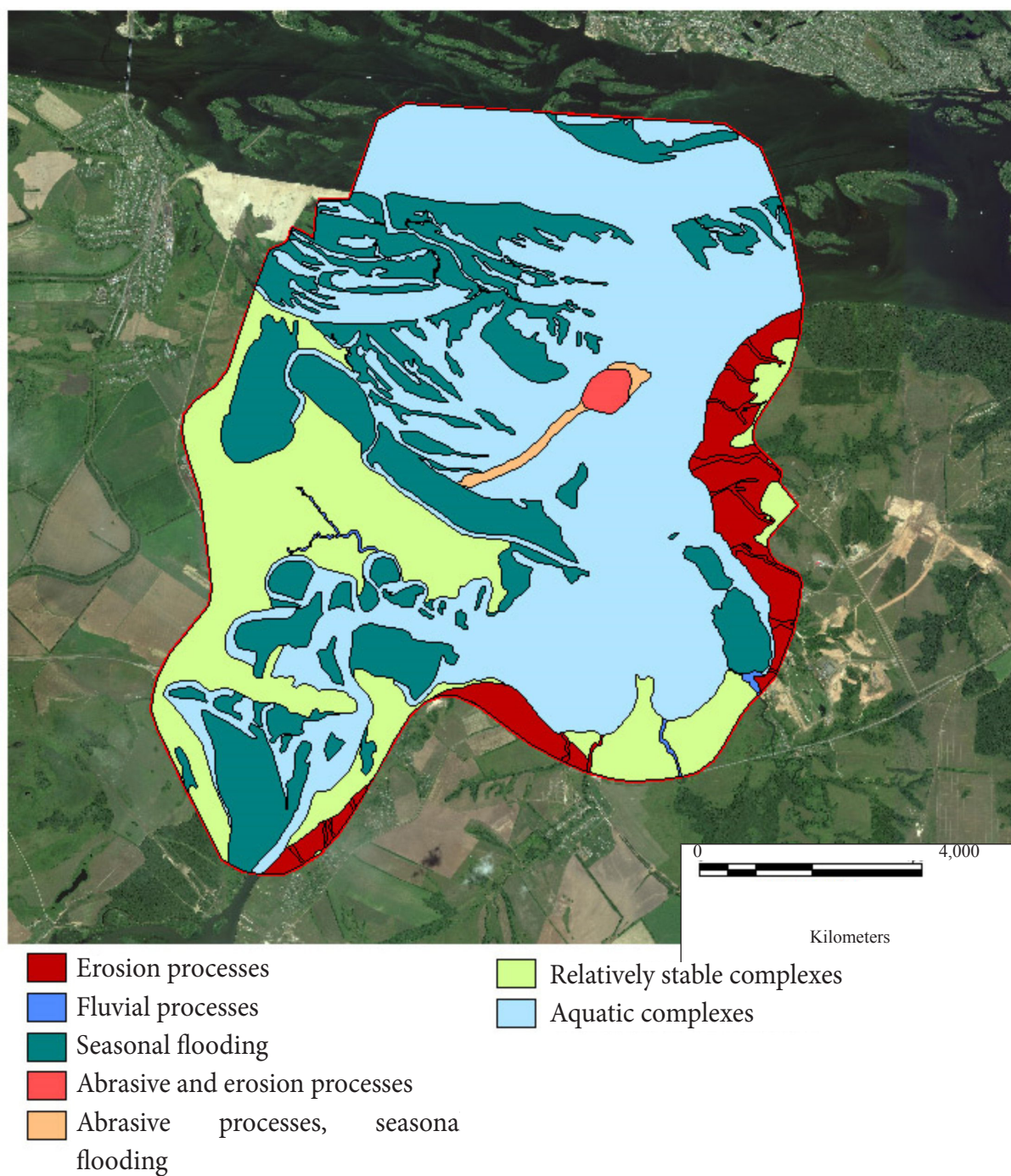


10.3.		Percent of tourists having visited World heritage site, in the total number of Republic of Tatarstan's tourists	%
<b>11.</b>	<b>World heritage site's promotion</b>		
11.1.		Total number of publications about World heritage site	publications, unit
11.2.		The number of references about World heritage site in the Internet and in other mass media	references, unit
11.3.		The number of scientific publications(monographs)	publications, unit
11.4.		The number of links in Russian Science Citation Index and in the indexes of Skopus and Web of Science	links, unit
<b>12.</b>	<b>World heritage site's positive effect on local community development</b>		
12.1.		The number of local citizens engaged in services agencies and infrastructure facilities related to World heritage site's function, in total number of working population	%
12.2.		Percent of local citizens evaluating positively vicinity to the World heritage site, in the total number of local citizens	%
<b>13.</b>	<b>Public consent attainment</b>		
13.1.		The number of problems being contemplated in a panel session of Community Council	problems, unit



### Annex 3.

*Dangerous and adverse natural processes in the buffer zone of the World Heritage Site “The Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk”*





#### **Annex 4.**

#### **PROJECT**

### *Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation on the Conservation, Management and Promotion of the Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk*

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Kazan

«\_\_\_» \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, hereinafter referred to as the Ministry, represented by Minister A. Sibagatullin acting under the Provisions, Tatarstan Archdiocese of the Russian Orthodox Church, hereinafter referred to as the Archdiocese, represented by Metropolitan of Kazan and Tatarstan Theophanes (I. Ashurkov) acting under the Charter, the State Institution of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan “State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve “Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk”, hereinafter referred to as the Museum-Reserve, represented by A. Silkin acting under the Charter, hereinafter referred to as the Parties:

- recognizing that the Outstanding Universal Value of the Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk, hereinafter referred to as the Site, is confirmed by it being a unique exclusive center of religious life, a place of preservation of the centuries-old Christian culture, religious traditions, and specific spirit of the territory, an outstanding architectural monument, a rare depository of fresco and icon painting, and a place of religious and ethnic communication that in the longer term may be included in UNESCO World Heritage List;

- considering the exceptional role of the Site in the spread of Orthodoxy in the region, its spiritual significance as a symbol of Orthodox religious philosophy and spiritual revival;

- motivated by joint efforts on promotion of the Site on the Russian and international levels and providing the implementation of the recommendations of UNESCO for the conservation, management and promotion of the Site;

- taking into account the Agreement on the Use of Religious Facilities at Sviyazhsk d/d May 26, 2014 and the Cooperation Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan and the Tatarstan Archdiocese of the Russian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) d/d November 25, 2015 No 703-c;

- came to an understanding as follows:

1. The Parties shall promote the conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Site by ensuring effective control of the following parameters:

- temperature and humidity conditions inside the Site;

- anthropogenic load;

- accessibility of the Site for experts to carry out research and development.

2. The Parties shall follow the modes of access of individuals and tour groups to the Assumption Cathedral and to the territory of the Assumption Monastery in the period from May to October established by the Agreement on the Use of Religious Facilities in Sviyazhsk d/d May 26, 2014, and after its termination shall promote the introduction of the access regime that shall fully ensure the preservation of the Site and its unique frescos.



3. The Parties shall respect the rights of believers and support the need to preserve the historic religious function of the Assumption Cathedral in the interests of the museum's activities and shall prevent negative impact on the Site during religious services.

4. The Parties shall take measures to provide the Site with staff members who have required qualifications in the field of conservation, management and promotion of cultural heritage, as well as regularly introduce these employees to up-to-date conservation and museum practices.

5. The Parties shall cooperate on the issues of promotion of the Site on Russian and international levels, promote awareness of the exceptional spiritual and cultural potential of the Site by means of:

- seminars, round tables and conferences on the conservation, management and promotion of the Site and its spiritual value;

- preparation of teaching materials for the conservation, management and promotion of the Site;

- information exchange in the field of conservation, management and promotion of the Site.

6. The Parties shall jointly participate in the activities of the Coordination Committee and agree to consider its decisions and recommendations as binding.

7. The Parties shall plan to strengthen collaboration and cooperation on the conservation, management and promotion of the Site through adoption of additional agreements in order to improve the present Memorandum.



## **Annex 5.**

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PROJECT

APPROVE

Minister of Culture  
of the Republic of Tatarstan

\_\_\_\_\_ A. Sibagatullin

«\_\_\_\_\_» \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

### **Regulations on the Coordination Committee for the Conservation, Management and Promotion of the Assumption Cathedral of the Town-Island of Sviyazhsk**

#### **General Provisions**

- 1.1. The Coordination Committee for the conservation, management and promotion of the Assumption Cathedral of the town-island Sviyazhsk, hereinafter to be referred to as the Coordination Committee, shall be established to ensure interaction between the executive authorities, local governments, research and public institutions and other parties involved in the activities for the conservation, research, promotion of the Assumption Cathedral of the town-island of Sviyazhsk, hereinafter to be referred to as the Site, and the Site management.
- 1.2. The Coordination Committee shall be established under the State Institution of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan "The State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve "Ostrov-Grad Sviyazhsk", hereinafter to be referred to as the Museum-Reserve.
- 1.3. The Coordination Committee in its activity shall be guided by international agreements in the sphere of World Heritage conservation, decisions of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, the current Russian legislation, regulations of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan and the Museum-Reserve, as well as the present Regulations.
- 1.4. The Coordination Committee within its competence implements coordination, information and analytical work concerning the Site, shall contribute to harmonization of the interests of all the parties and solve problems arising under the Management Plan of the Site.
- 1.5. The Coordination Committee shall carry out its activities in cooperation with the international institutions: UNESCO World Heritage Committee and UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the International Committee on Monuments and Sites Conservation (ICOMOS), the International Centre for the Study of Conservation and Restoration of the Cultural Property (ICCROM), the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, the executive authorities, Russian and foreign scientific and public institutions specializing in the sphere of heritage conservation.



### **The Main Goal and Objectives of the Coordination Committee**

- 2.1. The main goal of the Coordination Committee shall be to unite the efforts of all the parties and to ensure sustainable development of the Site and its environment in accordance with the principles of UNESCO.
- 2.2. The objectives of the Coordination Committee shall be:
- to monitor the implementation of the Management Plan of the Site and form proposals for its actualization;
  - provide information and advisory assistance to state bodies of the executive authorities in decision-making in relation to the Site, as well as in preparation of regulatory legal acts related with the Site;
  - participate in international conferences, seminars, symposia, setting up and organization of the working groups on various aspects of conservation, management and promotion of the Site;
  - develop and improve research, projects and methods of conservation, management and promotion of the Site;
  - establish and maintain the Site database including publication of the results of interdisciplinary research carried out at the Site;
  - increase public awareness of the Site, facilitate its promotion.

### **Rights and Obligations**

- 3.1. In order to implement its functions the Coordination Committee shall have the right to:
- request from the executive bodies of state authorities and local self-government materials and information on the issues within the competence of the Coordination Committee;
  - involve experts and specialists in the field of conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage sites, including international ones and on a voluntary basis, in the work of the Coordination Committee;
  - set up working groups and boards on specific issues on conservation, management and promotion of the Site involving experts and specialists;
  - make recommendations to all the parties on the issues within the competence of the Coordination Committee.
- 3.2. The Coordination Committee shall be guided by the principles and issue papers of UNESCO on the World Heritage issues, as well as by relevant regulations of the Russian legislation.

### **Order of Formation**

- 4.1. The members of the Coordination Committee shall be approved by an order of the Director of the Museum-Reserve at the suggestion of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan, the Archdiocese of the Republic of Tatarstan and the parties – executive authorities of the Republic of Tatarstan, local authorities, public organizations, research institutions and the local community.
- 4.2. The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and the Russian Foreign Ministry shall send representatives to be included in the Coordination Committee by consent.



- 4.3. Representatives of international organizations may be invited to the Coordination Committee in an advisory capacity.
- 4.4. The Coordination Committee shall consist of a chairman, a deputy chairman, an executive secretary and members of the Coordination Committee.
- 4.5. The Chairman of the Coordination Committee shall be appointed by the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan in agreement with the Archdiocese of the Republic of Tatarstan. The Chairman of the Coordination Committee, being its member, shall direct the activities of the Coordination Committee, hold meeting of the Coordination Committee, perform representative functions, coordinate the work of the Presidium of the Coordination Committee, sign protocols, addresses and other documents on behalf of the Coordination Committee, and control the implementation of decisions of the Coordination Committee.
- 4.6. The Deputy Chairman of the Coordination Committee shall be appointed by the Archdiocese of the Republic of Tatarstan with the advice and consent of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan. The Deputy Chairman of the Coordination Committee in the absence, or on behalf of the Chairman of the Coordination Committee, shall exercise the powers and shall be ex officio a member of the Presidium of the Coordination Committee.
- 4.7. The Executive Secretary of the Coordination Committee shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Coordination Committee from the staff of the Museum-Reserve.
- The Executive Secretary of the Coordination Committee:
- shall organize current activities of the Coordination Committee;
  - shall organize and supervise implementation of the orders of the Chairman of the Coordination Committee;
  - shall agree with the Chairman of the Coordination Committee on the draft plans of his/her work, and the place and agenda of the meeting of the Coordination Committee and the list of those invited to the meetings;
  - shall inform the members of the Coordination Committee on the time, place and agenda of the meetings, as well as on the approved plan of work of the Coordination Committee;
  - shall provide in cooperation with the members of the Coordination Committee the preparation of information and analytical materials for the meeting on the issues included in the agenda;
  - shall ensure the maintenance of the database of the Site;
  - shall perform record keeping of the Coordination Committee.
- 4.8. Members of the Coordination Committee at the first meeting shall choose the Presidium of the Coordination Committee (no more than 8 people) which is composed of the Chairman of the Coordination Committee, the Deputy Chairman of the Coordination Committee, one representative of the executive bodies of the Republic of Tatarstan, the local self-government, the Archdiocese of the Republic of Tatarstan, public organizations, research institutions, and the local community. The Presidium of the Coordination Committee shall prepare proposals for the agenda of the meetings of the Coordination Committee, nominate new members of the Coordination Committee, as well as experts to study specific issues at the meetings of the Coordination Committee. The Presidium of the Coordination Committee shall form as part of the Coordination Committee boards and working groups.



- The term of office and the order of rotation of the members of the Presidium of the Coordination Committee shall be set by the decision of the Coordination Committee.
- 4.9. Members of the Coordination Committee shall participate in the events organized by the Coordination Committee, as well as in the preparation of materials on the issues; they shall learn the documents related to the issues involved, give their opinion on the issues, comments and suggestions on the draft decisions and minutes of the meeting of the Coordination Committee. The members of the Coordination Committee shall have the right to propose candidates to the Presidium of the Coordination Committee and participate in the work of boards and working groups of the Coordination Committee.
- 4.10. Meetings of the Coordination Committee shall be held at least every three months. No later than 10 days before the meeting of the Coordination Committee, the meeting of the Presidium of the Coordination Committee shall be held. Meetings of the boards and working groups of the Coordination Committee shall be held as needed.
- 4.11. Meetings of the Coordination Committee shall be considered valid if attended by more than 1/3 of its members. Meetings of the Presidium of the Coordination Committee shall be considered valid if attended by more than half of its members.
- 4.12. The decisions of the Coordination Committee shall be issued in the form of reports, recommendations and conclusions, which are respectively signed by the Chairman of the Coordination Committee, the Deputy Chairman of the Coordination Committee, in cases specified by paragraph 4.5. hereof.
- 4.13. The decisions of the Coordination Committee shall be taken by a majority vote of the members of the Coordination Committee and taking into account the written position of the absent members shall be filed properly, including in electronic form at the e-mail address of the Executive Secretary of the Coordination Committee or the Presidium of the Coordination Committee before the meeting.
- 4.14. Each member of the Coordination Committee shall have the right to one vote (including the position expressed in written form). In case of equal number of “for” and “against” votes of the proposed solutions, the vote of the Chairman of the Coordination Committee shall be decisive.
- 4.15. Organizational and technical support of the Coordination Committee shall be accomplished by the Museum-Reserve.



