



Photo 1-1. Historic centre of Sheki

HISTORIC CENTRE OF SHEKI

WITH THE KHAN'S PALACE

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Executive Summary

1. State Party

Azerbaijan

2. State, Province or Region

Sheki district, Sheki city

3. Name of property

Historic centre of Sheki with the Khan's Palace

4. Geographical Coordinates to the Nearest Second

| No | Latitude | Longitude |
|----|-----------|-----------|
| 1. | 41°12'367 | 47°11'729 |
| 2 | 41°12'233 | 47°12'063 |
| 3 | 41°12'100 | 47°11'933 |
| 4 | 41°11'888 | 47°11'908 |
| 5 | 41°11'777 | 47°11'673 |
| 6 | 41°12'004 | 47°11'473 |
| 7 | 41°12'007 | 47°11'255 |
| 8 | 41°12'073 | 47°11'012 |
| 9 | 41°11'989 | 47°10'884 |
| 10 | 41°11'972 | 47°10'858 |
| 11 | 41°12'046 | 47°10'786 |
| 12 | 41°12'128 | 47°10'834 |
| 13 | 41°12'112 | 47°10'926 |
| 14 | 41°12'261 | 47°10'921 |
| 15 | 41°12'300 | 47°11'080 |
| 16 | 41°12'374 | 47°11'054 |
| 17 | 41°12'409 | 47°11'093 |
| 18 | 41°12'483 | 47°10'958 |
| 19 | 41°12'546 | 47°11'023 |
| 20 | 41°12'443 | 47°11'320 |
| 21 | 41°12'324 | 47°11'466 |
| 22 | 41°12'405 | 47°11'559 |

5. Textual description of the boundary of the nominated property:

Historical town planning with citadel and Khans Palace, the main shopping street with public buildings, shops and workshops of craftsmen, silk production factories and cooperatives and individual residential houses built since 18th up to the beginning of 20th century are concentrated on the mentioned territory. The territory of 120,5 hectares covers 15 mehelles and runs along the right bank of the Gurjana river through the territory of Manchali and Ganjali mehelles on U. Hacibeyov street and then Molla Veli Vidadi street passing outside the ramparts from the north-east and passes I. Hakam and F. Khoyski streets stops short of the Deyirman river and then descends to the central highway on Salimov street. Further, the boundaries of protection zone descends to the Mehelle Dabbaghkhana along the right

Bank of the Deyirman river and Safaraliyev and Mammadov streets and ascends again to the mouth of the river bed of the Gurjana river.

The territory of the Buffer zone is architectural conservation area approved by the Council of Ministers of Azerbaijan in 1968 and is 146 hectares. In order to avoid the negative impact on the historic centre, construction process is regulated on the area of 232 hectares. The town is surrounded by the mountains on three sides and they play an important role in its perception and that is why, landscape (which is 72 km²) regulation was developed.

6. A4 size map of the nominated property, showing boundaries and buffer zones:

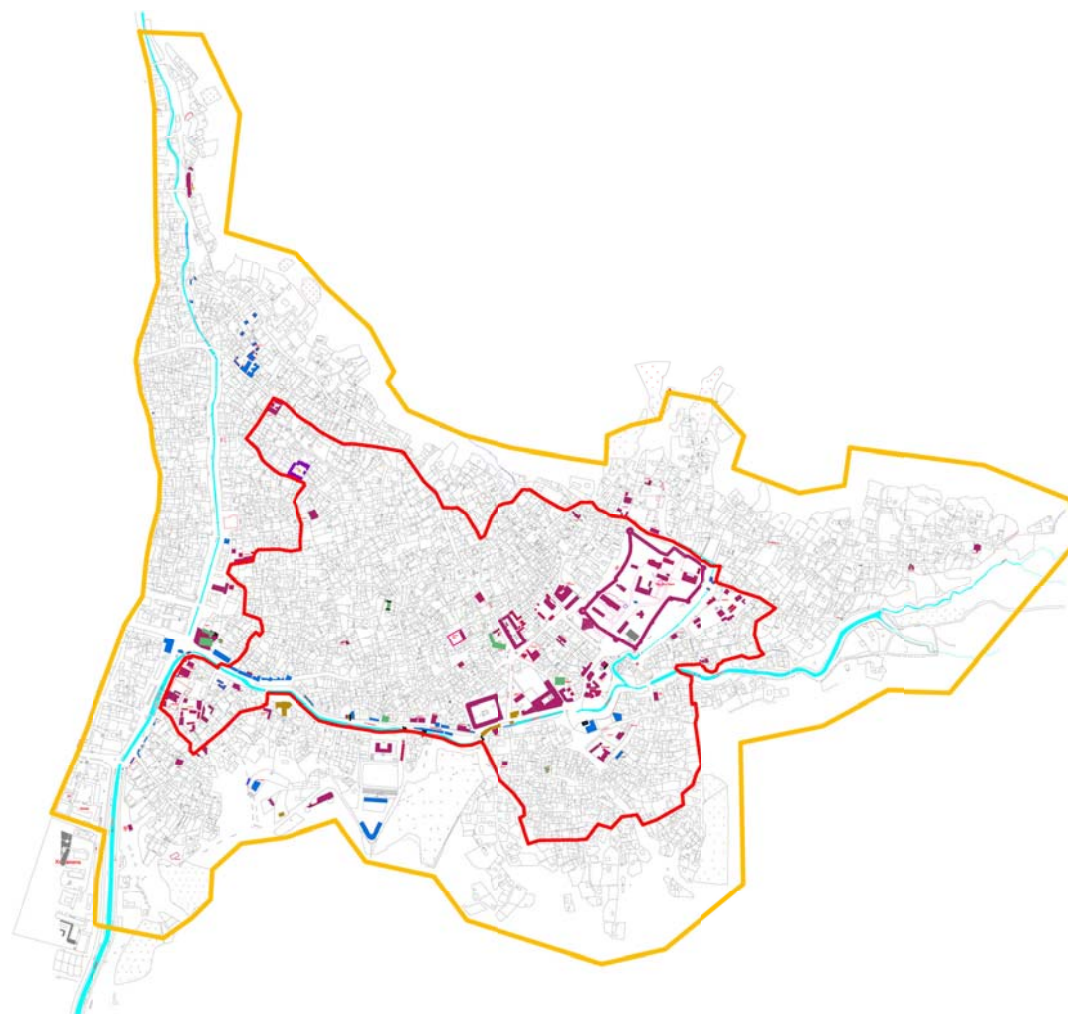


Figure 1-1. Boundaries Nominated Area

7. Criteria under which property is nominated (itemize criteria)

(ii), (iii), (iv), (v)

8. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

a) Brief synthesis

The historic town of Sheki, located in the northern part of modern Azerbaijan, has ancient origins as part of the Caucasian Albania, dating from the 6th century BCE. The current historic center results from the reconstruction, after a mud flood in 1772, on higher ground in a mountain valley east of the previous site. Due to the natural limitations of the valley, the historic area has retained its overall urban form, but has expanded within the original building lots, following traditional typological patterns. The traditional buildings with their typical high saddle roofs, deep verandas and gardens constitute the consistent and characteristic visual integrity of the historic urban landscape, within the spectacular setting of the protected mountain slopes.

Being in contact with important trade routes, the region of Sheki has been subject to a variety of cultural influences. Christianity was here introduced as early as the 1st century CE, and Islam in the 7th century. During its history it has been under various governments, including the Safavids and Qajars until the 18th century, followed by the Russian rule in the 19th century. These different cultures have also influenced the features of architecture, of which the Khan's Palace is an outstanding example, also reflected in many of the interiors of wealthy merchant houses (e.g. bukharas, fire places).

In 1743, Sheki was established as the first and the most powerful of a series of Khanates in Caucasus, representing a new administrative system in the region. As a trading center, in contact with Asia and Europe, the principal economy of Sheki, from the ancient times, has been based on silkworm breeding, trading of cocoons, and the development of various crafts, which still continue in the region. These activities were favored due its particularly suitable climatic conditions. At the same time, the morphology of the urban fabric and its growth patterns were a direct result of the topography of the site, and the economic developments and related activities.

b) JUSTIFICATION FOR CRITERIA

Criterion (ii):

The present-day Historic Center of Sheki exhibits an important interchange of multiple cultural influences, which have their origin in history over two millennia. The current urban form, which dates back to the new construction after the flood of 1772, continued earlier building traditions responding to the local climatic conditions, and the requirements of the traditional economy and crafts activities. These developed in close contact with the Silk Roads trading system, and particularly under the Safavid and Qajar influences of the Persian Empire, and the later impact of Russian rule. As the major cultural and commercial center in the region, Sheki in turn influenced a wider territory of Caucasus and beyond.

Criterion (iii):

The Historic Centre of Sheki bears exceptional testimony to the feudal system of the Caucasian khanates, which developed from 1743 to 1819, and was also expressed, in the architecture of the Khan's palaces, interiors of wealthy merchant houses, and the fortification. Sheki has long tradition in silkworm breeding, as well as related handicrafts, textiles, carpets, woodwork, copper and brass work. Such activities still continue in the region. It has been particularly important for the export of cocoons to many countries, including Europe, until the early 20th century. Sheki has also been a major center for the production of embroidery, using special techniques especially developed in this region.

Criterion (iv):

The Historic Centre of Sheki is an outstanding example of an architectural ensemble, which has maintained its traditional urban form from its construction in the late 18th century and is naturally limited by its geographical location in the mountain valley. Its focal point is the Khan's Palace within a fortified enclosure. The main axes are associated with public buildings, such as mosques, caravanserais, and hammams, as well as silk factories and shops. The expansion of residential units has taken place within the original building lots, following traditional typological patterns, and characterized by high saddle roofs, deep verandas (eivans), and gardens. Together these constitute an exceptionally well-preserved historic urban landscape, within the spectacular setting of the protected mountain slopes.

Criterion (v):

The Historic Center of Sheki has developed organically in close interaction with the natural conditions and climate of the mountain valley. The region, in fact, provides exceptionally favorable conditions for cultivation of mulberry trees. Consequently, the traditional economy of Sheki has always been based on silkworm breeding and production of cocoons. This activity and related crafts and trades also formed the basis for the urban morphology and building typology. Even though this economic basis still partly exists, its continuation is at risk under the impact of changes in the global trade.

c) STATEMENT OF INTEGRITY

The historic centre of Sheki has retained its overall integrity since its first construction due to constraints of the site in the mountain valley. It contains all the elements that justify its OUV. Together with its buffer zone, the settlement forms a coherent ensemble that has also retained its visual integrity intact.

d). STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

The historic centre of Sheki has retained its overall historical authenticity. The buildings of Sheki have been gradually built following traditional typological patterns of growth. Therefore, with few exceptions, most of the recent constructions also respect such traditional continuity. While some of the buildings are in need of repair, restoration and rehabilitation activities have been undertaken respecting the historical and architectural character of the place.

e). REQUIREMENTS FOR PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

The historic centre of Sheki has been indicated in the general urban master plan of the city as a conservation area, which is under the protection and management of the Ministry of Culture.

9. Name and contact information of official local institution/agency

1. Ministry of Culture and Tourism,

Adress: House of Government, Baku AZ1000, Azerbaijan

Tel/Fax +994124981980

2.“Azerberpa” SRDI

Adress: Moscaw aveny 73a, Baku, AZ1012, Azerbaijan

Tel/Fax +994124318309

MAIN DOCUMENT



Photo 1-2. Main street of Sheki

WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION

1.IDENFICATION OF THE PROPERTY



Photo 1-3. Upper karavansaray

I. Identification of the Property

1a. Country

Azerbaijan



Figure 1-3. Azerbaijan on the region

1b. State, Province or Region

Sheki city on the map of Azerbaijan

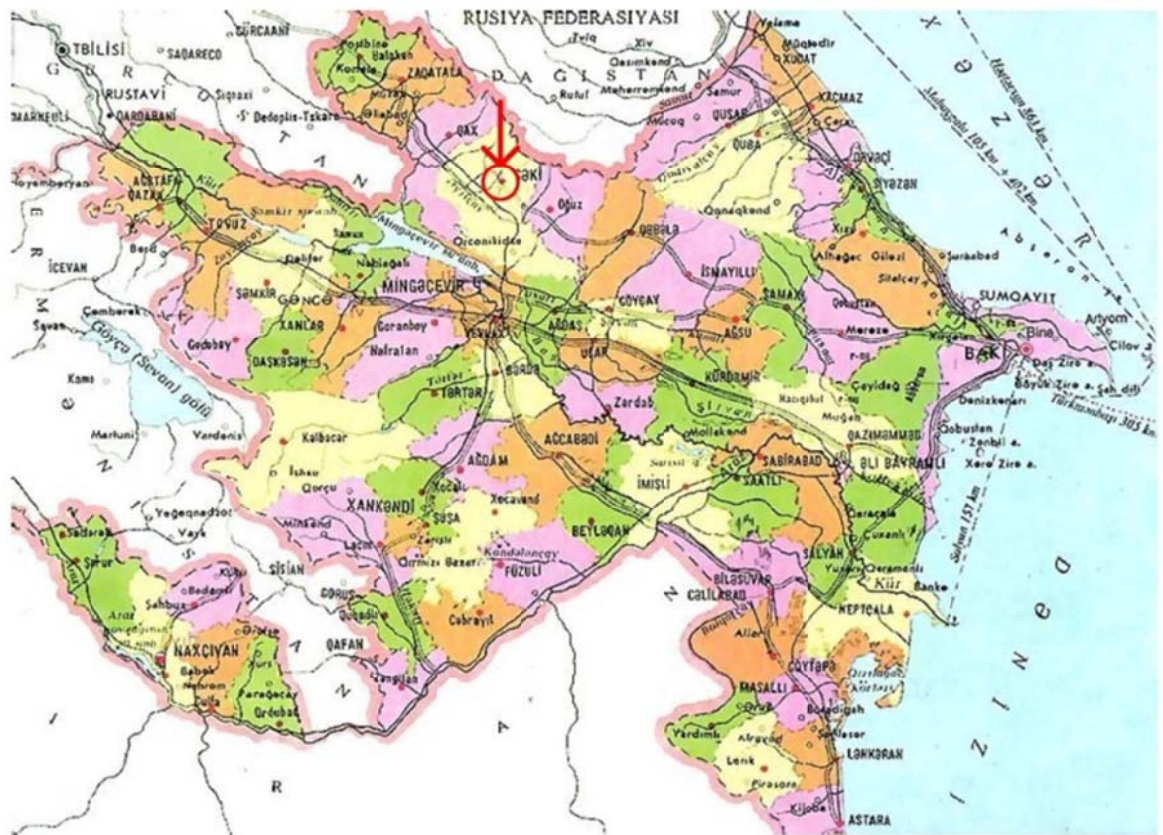


Figure 1-4. Sheki city in the Azerbaijan

Sheki city with historical center

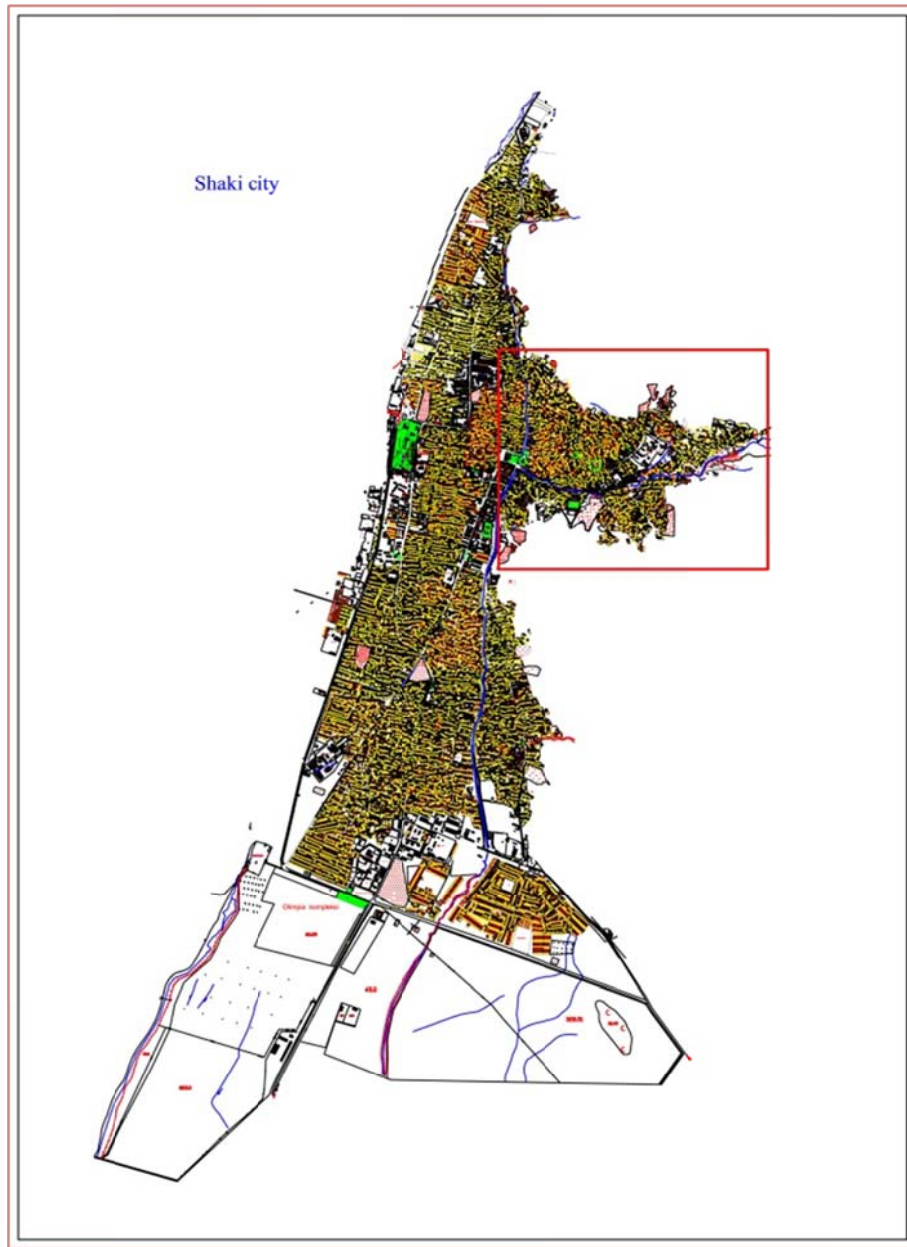


Figure 1-5. Sheki city

1c. Name of Property

Historic centre of Sheki with the Khan's Palace

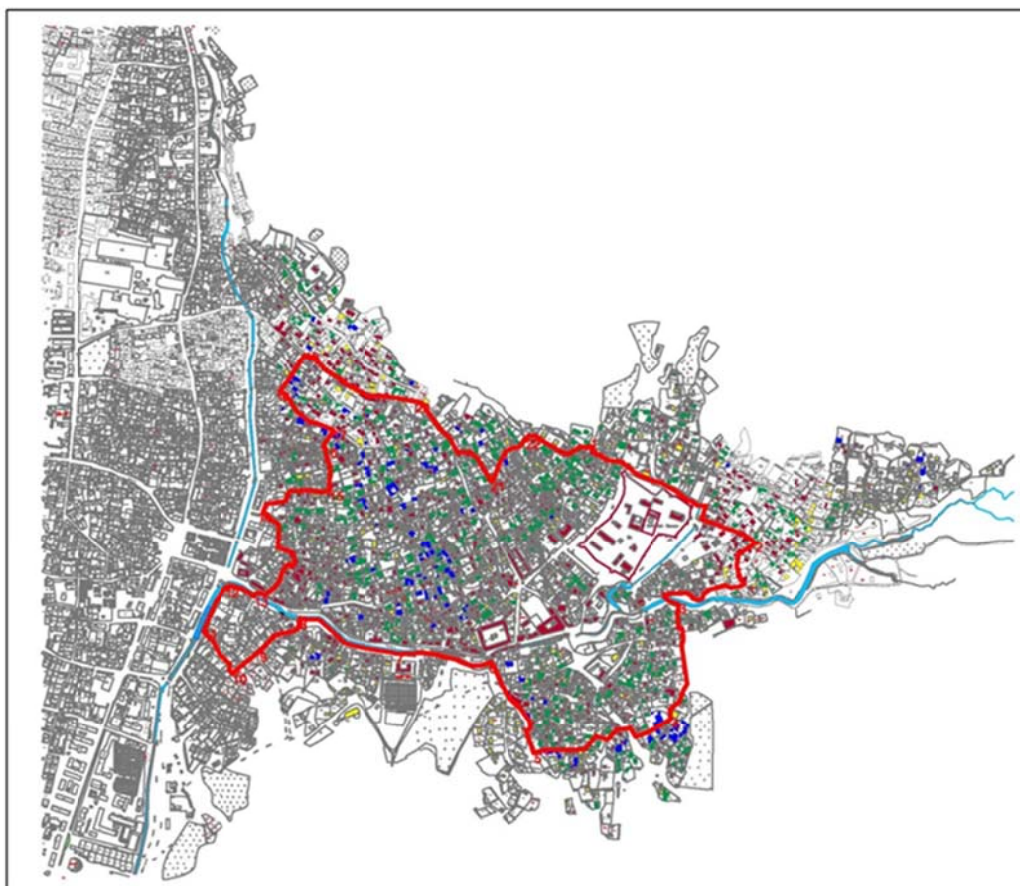


Figure 1-6. Nominated area

1d. Geographical coordinates to the nearest second

| No | Latitude | Longitude |
|----|-----------|-----------|
| 1. | 41°12'367 | 47°11'729 |
| 2 | 41°12'233 | 47°12'063 |
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1e. Maps and plans, showing the boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

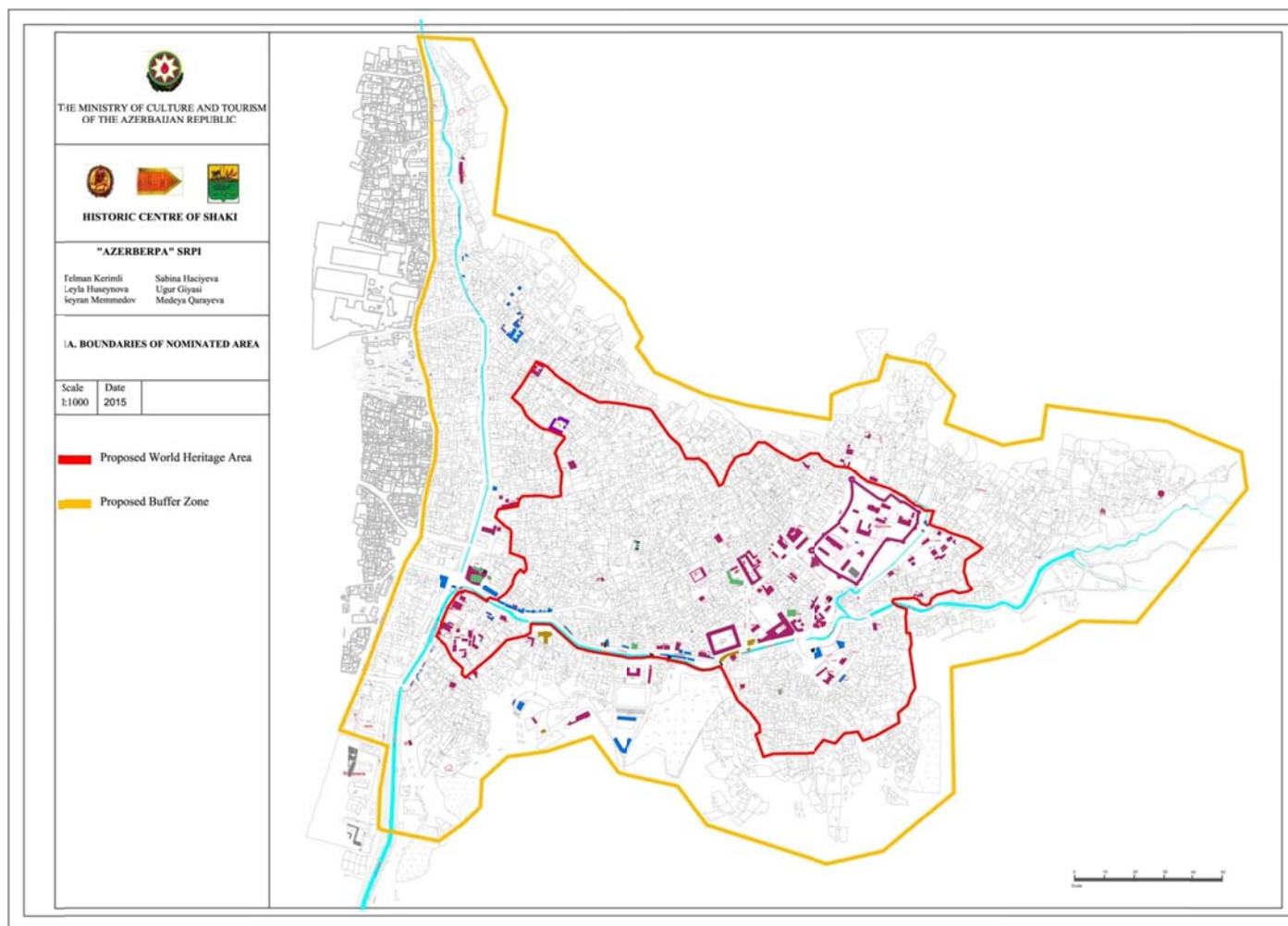


Figure 1-7. Area of nominated property and buffer zone

1f. Area of nominated property (ha) and proposed buffer zone (ha)

a) Area of nominated property-120.5ha

b) Buffer zone-146ha

2. DESCRIPTION



Photo 2-1. The yard of upper karavansaray

2a. Description of property

Sheki is a historic town in the North-Western region of Azerbaijan, founded in 7th century B.C. Due to its location on the caravan routes and favourable natural conditions for the development of sericulture and handicraft, the town was rapidly developing and in 3-6 centuries became the center of sericulture in the Caucasus, a large city on the caravan route from Tiflis to Derbent. Thus, the principal economy of Sheki, from the ancient times, has been based on silkworm breeding, trading of cocoons, and the development of various crafts, which still continue in the region. In 1743, Sheki Khanate was established and it was an important stage in the development of the town. Sheki Khanate was the most powerful of a series of Khanates in Caucasus, representing a new administrative system in the region. As a capital town, Sheki received a powerful impulse for development, construction of buildings and structures.

The historical region of Sheki was located to the West of the present town at the southern foot of the Great Caucasus range on the spurs of the mountain river Kish, on relatively flat place. It was a feudal town, surrounded by walls, with a moat around them, with the gates, mosques, shops, with developed production of sericulture and handicrafts. However, as a result of the flooding of Kish river in 1772 the town was completely destroyed, and part of the survived residents moved to the other side of the foot of the southern slope of the Caucasian ridge, in the closest village of Nukha. Nukha was developing as a new center of Sheki khanate, the caravans were staying here and the sectors traditional for the region such as trade, sericulture and handicraft were developing.

The town has interesting town plan: the Gurjana river flowing from the east to the west and divides it into two parts – the northern highland and southern located in the valley. In connection with establishing the trade center the town was developing on one northern side of the river.



Figure 2.1. Sheki city in XIX century



Figure 2.2. Sheki city in the beginning of XX century

Sheki fortress which is located in the upper northeast raised part of the town and is a khan citadel was planning center. It was built in 1790 by Huseyn-khan and citadel has two gates - Ganja and Shirvan. Buildings on its territory - the Palace of Sheki Khans with its adjoining garden, round temple and several auxiliary buildings –against the backdrop of the surrounding mountain forest landscape create a complete architectural ensemble. Stone walls of the fortress with the overall length of 1300 meters are protected by protrusive towers and loopholed. The terrain has identified the broken nature of the configuration of fortress walls.

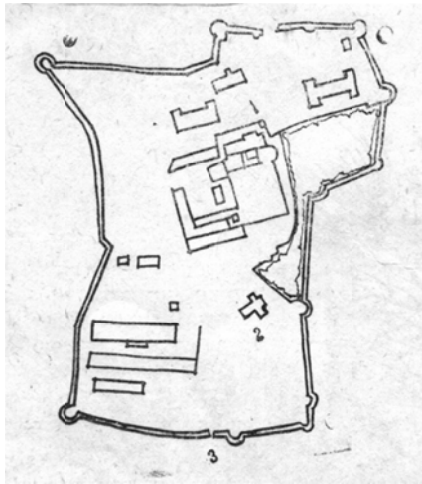


Figure 2.3. Sheki fortress in the middle of XIX century



Photo 2.2. Sheki fortress

There was a highway from the fortress along the Gurjana river, which became the primary trading and market street and characteristic element of the urban structure. This highway was underlining the importance of the fortress Palace of the Sheki Khans, as the main dominant of the town.

The placement of the shopping center on the highway was no coincidence. The town was linked by caravan routes to shopping centers of Azerbaijani khanates and other countries converged on the trade route.

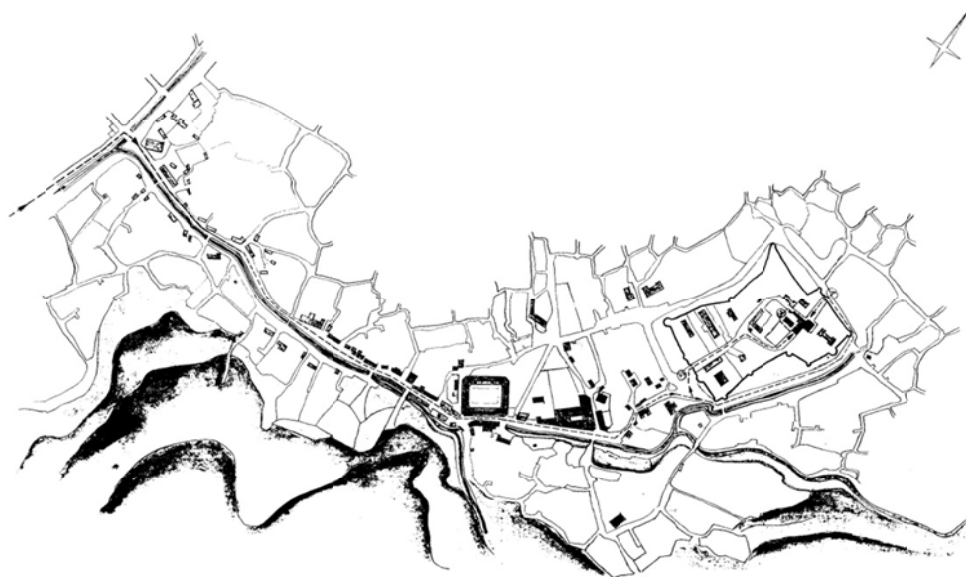


Figure 2.4. Sheki shopping highway

There were trade, handicraft and uptown around the fortress which was the core of spontaneous urban development. This characteristic floor-plan diagram of the Eastern feudal towns of Sheki unites the lack of pronounced urban boundaries. Trade and craft areas adjacent to the urban core of the fortress and trade routes were gradually moving into the residential areas of the urban center and further becoming less densely populated parts of the suburbs with their large plots of land.

Formation of image of traditional Sheki manor house. The buildings of Sheki on the new place were built in accordance with centuries-old traditions without any plan, on steep terrain and as a result of it, the streets were narrow and crooked, with lots of blind streets.

Closed lay-out of the manor house which isolating it from the outside world characteristic for the Middle Ages is usual for the houses of Sheki. The house certainly had a plot with a garden, which was reflected in the general character of the town planning. So, mulberry leaves plants were dominating in the orchards and they served as food for silkworms. Houses and yards were enclosed by high fences. Houses were built of mud bricks and covered with a pitched roof, the local greasy smeared with clay and later tile. The houses not only of ordinary citizens but also more affluent part of the population, as well as the rulers of the town were built of adobe bricks carved from a mixture of clay and dry grass.

Construction of the residential part of Sheki is determined by a beautiful natural environment, good linking of the residential buildings with the natural environment, the greenery as one of the leading components in residential buildings of the town. The main reason of the picturesque residential areas of

Sheki are the features of its lay-out, organically bound with nature. Despite the natural construction of the town, it has architectural integrity. The reason for this was, firstly, the simultaneity of its construction in a new place, and secondly a single scale of the buildings in the dense greenery of the gardens.

Household and climatic peculiarities influenced on highly interesting type of the residential house. The dwelling houses reflected the peculiarities of development of the nature of economy of this silk industry region. Local natural and climatic peculiarities and construction materials had an influence on formation of traditional residential house in Sheki. Most often the house is located in the heart of the site and is elongated building of two rooms with deep veranda – “eyvan” facing the south or south-east and covered by high-pitched roof. Traditional houses with their meter thick outer walls, typical pitched roofs, deep verandas and gardens form a coherent and distinctive visual integrity of historic urban landscape in a picturesque protected mountain slopes. High-mountain areas and its high seismicity determined the nature of a constructive solution of the housing, where the walls are of raw brick supporting structure with wood-frame system, like frame-built.

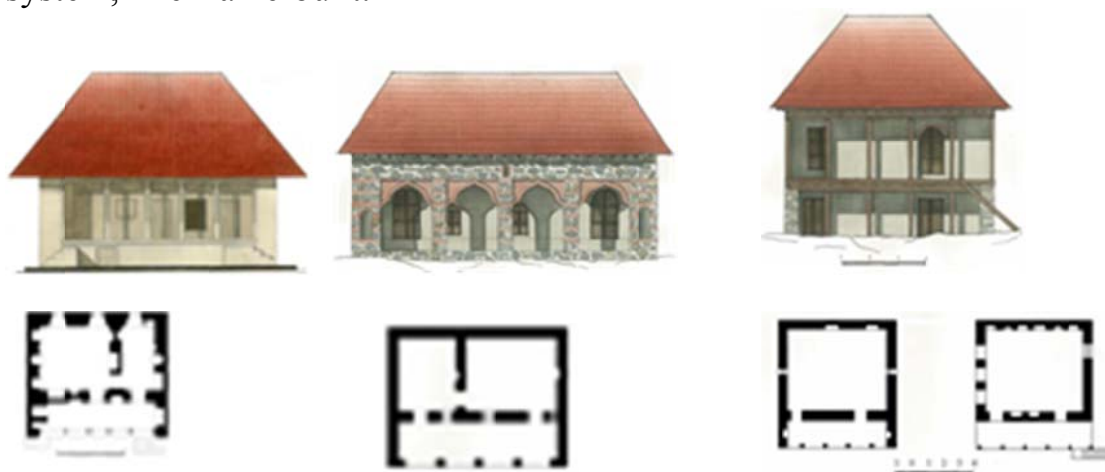


Figure 2.5. The development of residential house

Houses could be increased by increasing the number of rooms and floors, the layout and key features of the house remained unchanged, and the principle of antis building retained. Two-storey and single-storey houses often have the same layout. The facades are built of bricks of old residential buildings and plastered with ocher-coloured solution coupled with bright white, made of carbonic calcium gypsum solution framings of embrasures, corners, fielded panels and other components.

However, such houses are found in nearby regions with similar natural and climatic conditions. They were built under the Shirvanshahs and the Safavids. Sheki houses are of decorative design. The large number of craftsmen had a positive impact on the artistic elements of the facades, interiors and gates.



Photo 2.3. Shabaka in Sheki Khan Palace



Photo 2.4. Metal forging details



Photo 2.5. “Takkulbab” handles of darvaza

The columns of “eyvan” have a special place in decoration of the houses. These columns are often decorated with carved elements. High attic roof Sheki houses have cornices with decoration even in ordinary houses and they reach the highest level of decoration and applied art in the house of Shekikhanovs and the Palace of Sheki khans. The windows in more wealthy houses are decorated with “shabaka”. The interiors of residential houses mainly glitter by abundance of niches of different shape, size and functionalities and all the household utensils are kept there. The fireplaces “bukhars” is of special interest from the point of view of decoration. Each house has the fireplaces “bukhars”. The decorative design of the fireplaces depends on their location, designation and welfare of the house-owner. The fireplaces used for domestic needs have simple decoration and they are used for cooking. The fireplaces in the front rooms are used only for heating of the premises and the fireplaces of the wealthy people are decorated by paintings or gage carvings.



Photo 2.6. Balkonies in residential house



Photo 2.7. Bukhara in Alidjanbeyov house

The gates “darvaza” are also of great importance in the architectural look of the residential house. Being in form of various arches, they were decorated by wooden carved ornaments, metal forging products - “takkulbab” handles, loops, battening plates and etc.

Development of the town during the period of prosperity of Sheki khanate. A few years following the establishment of Sheki khanate due to its independence, location of the town on the caravan routes, rapid development of sericulture and handicrafts and therefore high economic status, Sheki was already a rich town. From Khan's citadel and surrounding area Yukhari Bash the building passes through the Gurjana river to the West. A kind of trade center was built on the main street, on the North coast of the Gurjana river, caravan sheds, mosques, baths, shops and stores were also built there.

The population has also increased. However, the natural landscape was limiting the town's expansion, because the mountains surrounded the town on three sides, connecting on the spurs of the Gurjana and Deyirman rivers. These rivers were the sources of water supply and irrigation of the town. Subsequently, new town center with the square and Juma mosque was organized at the confluence of these rivers.

Residential houses of Sheki residents were built on the streets perpendicular to the main highways and directly connected with it. The town had an opportunity to develop only within the boundaries existing at that time dividing the existing courtyard areas by the new houses which are being built for the next generations.



Photo 2.8. Mammadov Gambar's residential house

As time goes by and the welfare of the population increases, the river rock and later on the body brick were used in the house construction. The surface of the walls of residential and public buildings is covered with a brick pattern by laying bricks in a different direction. The main role in decoration of facades belongs to a variety of architectural details, among which arches have an important role. The newer buildings were built of cobblestone, alternated with rows of red brick, performing the role of anti-seismic zone, which provides additional stability to the building. The walls of the houses, courtyards and fences were built by combining grey cobblestone and brick built and yards and fences. This technique is deprived of the monotony of gray - blue surface of the cobblestone walls. Pitched roofs are covered with tiles.



Photo 2.9. Dadanov's residential house (children's community)

The prevailing type of residential manor house is so logical and thought-out for Sheki that all the above-mentioned principles are maintained even in palaces.

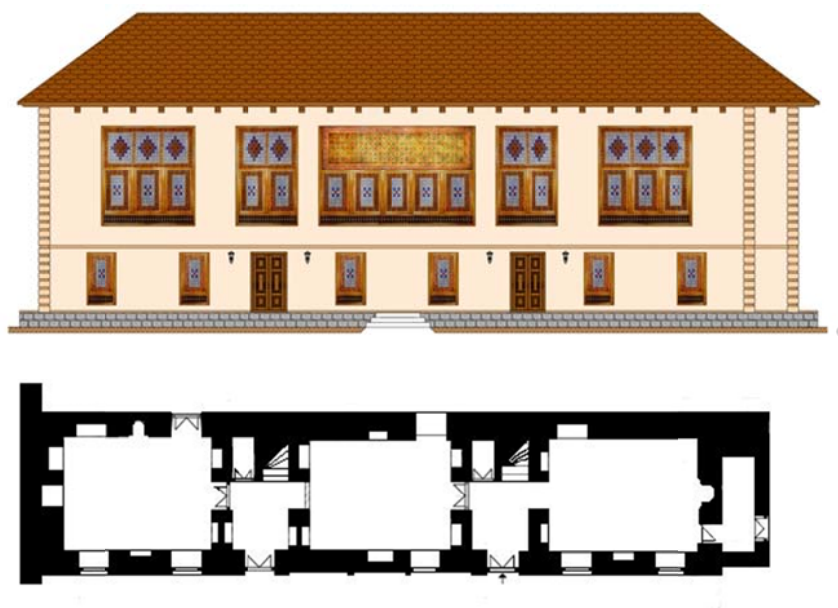


Figure 2.6. Shekikhanov's house

In addition, the style of residential house of Sheki had an impact on formation of all the main types of buildings, including religious buildings (mosques) and civil (bath-houses and caravan sheds). The bright example are the mosques built on the basis of characteristics of the residential house (antis of the premises, availability of “eyvan” or doorway, high pitched roofs, etc.).

Planning structure of the **religious buildings** is often elongated rectangle with an open gallery of the portico and there is a prayer hall behind it and it is divided by stone or wooden supporting pillars for the possibility of covering a large span. The slab of the mosques is flat on wooden beams; the pitched roof is covered with tiled floors. Minarets have important place in the composition of mosques, they are distinguished by 25-40 m vertical lines against the rich greenery of the gardens and low-rise residential houses. As a rule, minarets are free-standing buildings and they are located on the site at a distance of 8-15 m from the mosques. However, there are mosques where minarets are included into the main volume of a building.

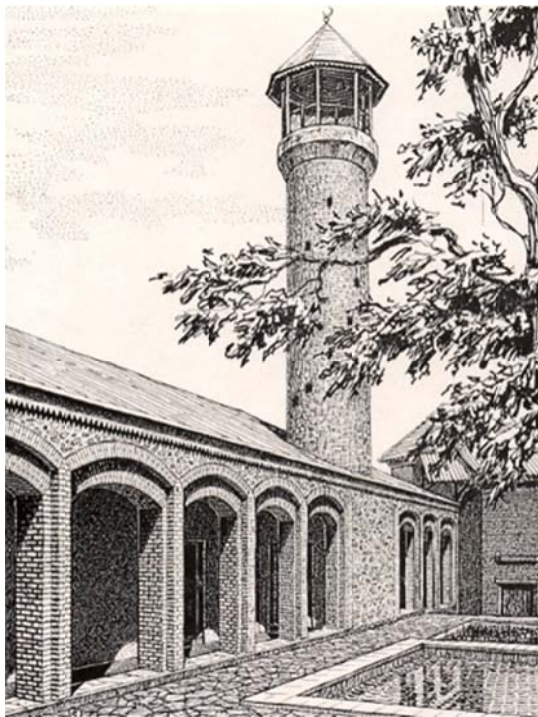


Figure 2.7 Khan mosque



Photo 2.10. Juma mosque

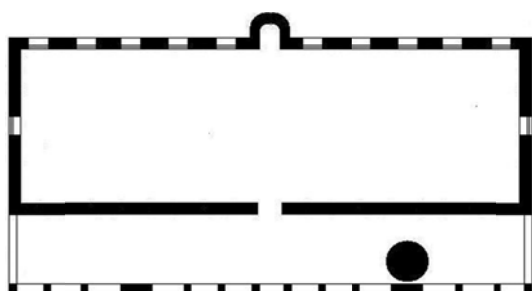


Figure 2.8. Plan of Khan mosque

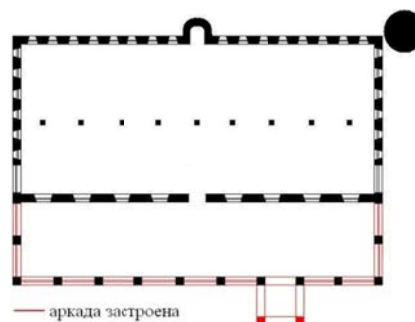


Figure 2.9. Plan of Juma mosque

Bath-houses of Sheki have the same traditional structure of bath-houses of the medieval period. Facades with vertical divisions of the windows and the entrance portal are made and decorated with bricks. The bath-houses are covered by a pitched roof with tiled floors. Bath-houses maintained their heating system under the brick floors that was made of ceramic pipes.

Since Sheki has been the town of craft and trade from olden times, a great number of markets and caravan sheds were built here. The majority of them were located along the central highway of the town. The highway was the main shopping belt of the town: the rows of the shopping stalls were located on both side from the shopping belt and the owners of the shopping stalls were offering local handicraft and weaving factory products.



Photo 2-11. Agvanlar bath house

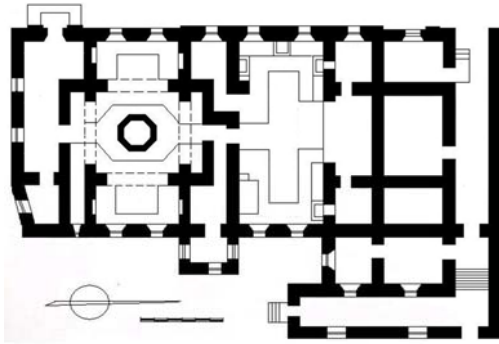


Figure 2.10. Plan of Agvanlar bath-house

Caravan sheds of Sheki were built in full compliance with their functional designation and local traditions. Their general scheme is a landscaped yard surrounded by the same scheme carrells as single room of antis residential house. Corner premises are quadrate or octagonal depending on design of the corner of the yard. Since both caravan sheds are located on the main trade line, they had also the rooms for various trade transactions in addition to the recreation rooms. The Caravan sheds of Sheki are the largest on the territory of Transcaucasia. There were five big caravan sheds in Sheki in XVIII-XIX centuries and only two of them - Yukhari Caravan Shed and Ashagi Caravan Shed were preserved up to now.



Photo 2.12. Upper caravansaray

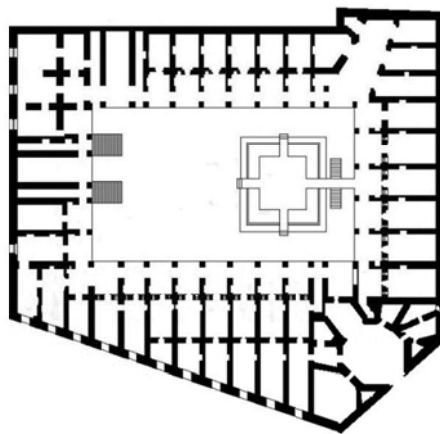


Figure 2.11. Plan of Upper caravasaray

Influence of Qajar architecture. There was a special peculiarity in the architecture of Sheki under the influence of Qajar dynasty ruling in Iran. It, first of all, applies to the palace of Mamed Hasan Khan who specially invited an architect from Iran who decorated interiors with paintings which gave a special glamour to the palace. With the overthrow of the last Khan of Sheki in 1805 and the appointment by the Russian government Jafargulu Khan Khoyski, a descendant of the Qajar as a head of khanate resulted in even more widespread of Qajar architecture in Sheki.

It is just during this period the walls and the ceilings of the houses of wealthy merchants were decorated with bright pictures and mirrors, “eyvans” and the ceilings are decorated with large murals – “shabaka”. The fireplaces – “bukhars” are decorated with carving on gage and small niches on the sides where art craft products were placed: decorative dishware, carved wooden moulds,

ceramics and etc.



Photo 2.13. Decorative painting in Sheki Khan Palace

The influence of Qajar architecture is evident not only in the Palace buildings and houses, but also in mosques and bath-houses, where walls are also painted with floral ornaments. However, this influence has its specific in Sheki since the ornamentation characteristic for the Qajar architecture in Sheki is intertwined with centuries of local culture. Murals in houses and palaces of Sheki are reflection of the rich folk art of Azerbaijan. Such motifs can be found in carpets, embroideries and silk painting.

The development of applied art and craft. Increase in production of silk and craft leads to growing number of workshops and shops. In addition to growing and sale of silk cocoon, production of silk and availability of markets, i.e. visiting merchants promotes more intensive increase of such traditional types of craft such as weaving the silk carpets, sewing the national shawls “kalagayi” (included into the list of the World Heritage) and different types of embroidery.



Photo 2.14. Silk carpet of Sheki



Photo 2.15. Silk shawls “kalagayi”

Sheki was the center of various types of Oriental embroideries. The local or imported velvet and cloth of red, black and dark blue colours were the basis for the chain stitch embroidery. Embroidery was made with bright silk threads against the dark background. Chain-stitch embellished female garments, large pillow cases, bath rugs and counterpanes.

“Tekelduz” embroidery differs from similar embroideries throughout the East by the patterns and performance techniques. One of the most ancient of all the types of embroidery is golden embroidery “gulabatin”. For golden embroidery gold or silver threads were used. Silk and woolen coloured threads of soft pastel shades in combination with golden ones were used for satin stitch embroidery. Satin stitch embroidery was used when sewing garments, wall decorations, face coverlet and etc. “Bird’s eye” is embroidery in white or colour silk. Quilting decorated is used in arakhchyn (skull-cap), shabkulakh (night cap), prayer rugs and woolen garments. At the beginning of 19th century there were 22 shops where horse clothes were embroidered, 50 shops for shoes embroidery, 16 shops for “pushtu” embroidery and many others.



Photo 2.16. "Tekelduz" embroidery



Photo 2.17. "Gulabatin" embroidery



Photo 2.18. "Bird's eye" embroidery



Photo 2.19. Sheki's pottery

Embroidery was the main type of applied art in Sheki, the value of which continues unabated today. The craftswomen participate in international fairs and exhibitions, win awards and medals.

Stamping specially carved out of wood was historically used for colouring the shawls "kalagayi" and the craftswomen were manually painting the patterns with the vegetable dyes on the finished silk shawls. Variety of patterns depends on the imagination of the craftswoman, although in fact there are certain traditional canons.

Not only silk fabrics but also copper casting was produced in Sheki. Sheki woodwork ("shabaka") where the wooden patterns gathered from shallow profiled reaches method of threading, without glue and nails were particularly good. Multicolored glazed provided "sabaka" with unique oriental flavour. The existence of trade relations with Europe via the Silk Road enabled to bring glass for "sabaka" from Venice. Venetian glasses with 2 mm thickness in the adornments of the Palace and the House of Shekikhanovs are still preserved. Tanning and dressing of cotton fabrics have the most importance among the other crafts. Embroidery with coloured silk on the cloth was very famous in Sheki. Pottery, jewelry, weapon

production, batik printing, carpet-making, and other types of handicraft are developed. Today craftsmen in Sheki are working on 44 kinds of crafts.



Photo 2.20. Brassware



Photo 2.21. Shabaka master

Further development of the planning structure of the town. Complex layout and great number of quarters of various sizes have been formed in the town for many years. Larger quarters were located on a relatively smooth relief in the lower part, the smaller ones were located on the steep slopes of the upper part.

With growth of economy the work force from nearby regions was flocking to Sheki. New quarters – Mehelle “Ganjali”, “Gileyli” established by the name of the persons coming from Ganja and Iran. Population growth created new production directions necessary for the residents of the town. The mills are built for growing needs of the population. The quarters – mehelle are divided by the character of the craft - Mehelle - “deyirmanlar” (mills), “Ipak mehelle” (silk quarter), “duluzlar” (pot maker), “naldenler” (horseshoe makers), and also by the place of the town – “kocholyu” (displaced persons), “arhustu” (over the channel), “Chaggal deresi” (the valley of common jackal) and etc. There are 28 mehelle in Sheki today.

Unlike the well-established rules of feudal Eastern town, the public buildings, mosques, baths-houses, shops were located on the main highway, not around the areas available in each quarter. The bazaars were both in the courtyards of caravan sheds and spontaneously emerging in the areas.

Today, the residential part of the town is a picturesque array of greenery with the houses peeking out from the trees to peek out behind tree houses. The natural landscape is used as a unifying factor, by which the whole urban development combined into one unit. The town residential development merges with the nature - woodland, the landscape as it dominates the whole building. The abundance of greenery and ancient streets covered with cobblestones, activate the connection between the town and nature. Clearly legible main highway, scale of secondary streets, the prevailing type of urban dwelling house with the characteristic local features, the manor type of building, taking into consideration of relief of the terrain determines the integrity of perception of the urban organism.



Photo 2.22. View of Sheki city

There are fortress walls, the Palace of Sheki khans, the House of Sheki khans, 5 mosques, 2 freestanding minarets, the round temple, 2 caravan sheds, 3 bath-houses, bridges, residential houses, shops, barns, mills, etc. in the historical part of the town.

There are many picturesque monuments on the streets branching from the main highway.

The remains of earthenware water pipe are the monument of town planning of Sheki. The water was flowing from the mountain rivers through earthenware pipes which was interrupted by distribution wells “taximgez” and ended in a large number of the water-supply points. In order to show the high quality of these pipes, we note that even with a well-developed modern town water supply, the parts of the earthenware water pipes are used along with modern lines.

The Palace of Sheki Khans. One of the most significant buildings is the Palace of Sheki Khans which was built in 1797 during the reign of Mammad (Mahomed) Hasan Khan and was a large ensemble, which included in addition to the building of the Palace many quarters, the harem, baths, a mosque, pantries, stables, barns and other service premises located on the territory of the citadel. The Palace was built by the Persian architect Haji Zainal Abdul according to the ideas and descriptions of the Khan.



Photo 2.23. Sheki Khan Palace

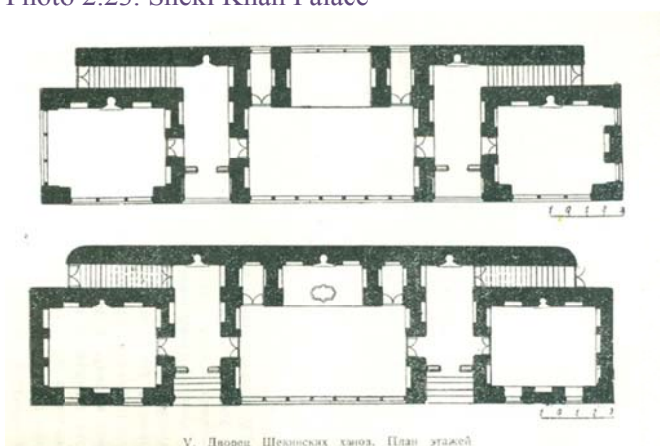


Figure 2.12. Plan of Sheki Khan Palace

The palace is a two-story building constructed on the basis of the traditional developed residential building with its inherent single-row living rooms but verandas are replaced here with stained-glass windows-shabaka.

The layout of the floors is similar and it is a simple alternation of three large premises with hallways located in a row. In the centre of the first and second floors there were state rooms of the Palace - the halls with deep niches at a back wall. According to the engravings Khan was sitting on the throne in the Central broad niche called "shahneshin"

Architectural design and decorative division of the main facade of the Palace reflect the internal layout of the building with rooms and hallways. Solid windows of the central part of the facade are covered with geometrical wooden pattern “shabaka” fill-in-coloured stained glass windows. The entrance of the doorways and balconies of the second floor are contrasting against the background of the open work. The combination of coloured “shabaka” with mirrorlike stalactites doorways as well as solid band ornamentation covering the remaining surface of the walls is a characteristic feature of the decorative design of the Sheki Khans Palace.



Photo 2.24. Façade of the Palace

Interiors of the monument, famous for its frescos are of special interest. Paintings are placed in the halls of both floors and two outer rooms of the second floor. Floral motifs are nominated in the paintings: floral bouquets in vases, pomegranate trees with fruits, cypresses, garlands of roses and irises. Frescos depicting the scenes of battles and hunting are of special interest. All the images are planar like in miniatures. Decoration of the ceilings, “bukhars” and the beauty of the coloured panels made of “shabaka” and filled with coloured murano glass should be particularly noted.



Photo 2.25. Sheki khan Palace. The hall on the first floor

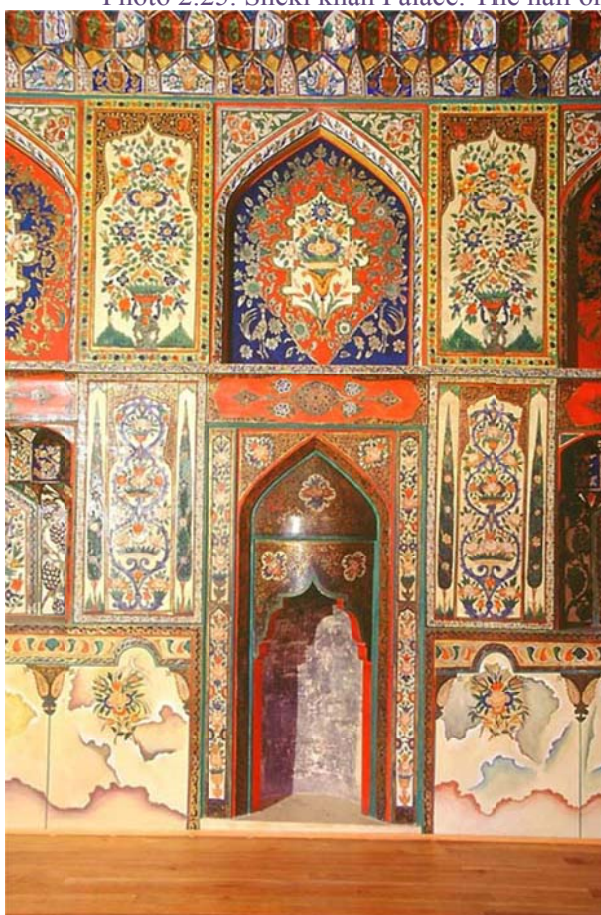


Photo 2.26. Sheki khan Palace. Bukhara on the second floor.



Photo 2.27. Sheki khan Palace. The ceiling on the first floor



Photo 2.28. Sheki Khan Palace. Decorative painted plates under the roof

Palace of Sheki Khans demonstrates the high art of Azerbaijani artists who managed to realize the centuries-old tradition of folk art in creation of this architectural pearl.

House of Shekikhanovs is a great example of Sheki residential house of "imaret" type. Rich decorative finishing of the hall of the second floor turns it into

a monument, which is intermediate link between residential buildings and palaces of the region. Unlike most of the houses of Sheki, House of Shekikhanovs does not have “eyvan”. It is replaced by large windows - “shabaka” which in summer time turns the rooms into open spaces facing the garden. The house is built of sun-dried earth bricks with by half-timbered frameworks laid deep in the walls thickness and the subsequent plaster of facades which is inherent for the early residential housing of Sheki.

The main artistic value of the house is finishing its inner surfaces. The rich paintings of traditional niches, stalactite belt supporting shelves - “ref”, exquisitely decorated ceiling with intricate floral patterns - make it one of the most valuable examples of the residential architecture of Azerbaijan.



Photo 2.29. Shekikhanov's house . The hall on the second floor



Photo 2.30. Shekikhanov's house. Bukhara on the second floor.

Abolishment of Khan power and accession to Russia (or New stage of industrial development of the town). In 1813 there was accession of Sheki khanate to Russia. In 1819 Khan power was completely abolished and Sheki khanate was transformed into province. Management of the town was transferred by the Russian government to the military commander. A new era in the history of the town begins. The town continues its life with the new Russian administration. The commandant's office is located on the territory of the citadel.

The economy of the town consists of agriculture, sericulture, trade and craftsmanship. Society for dissemination and strengthening of sericulture of Russian was established in Sheki in 1827 and as a result, a number of buildings were built – offices, factories and shops. The Companies from Italy and France built the factories here, they brought the machines and started their own business. Silk was exported not only to the cities of Transcaucasia, Iran, Russia but also to France, Italy, Sweden and Turkey. If 7805 pounds of silk threads were exported from Sheki in 1834, in 1842 this figure was equal to 11289.



Photo 2.31. Sale of silk

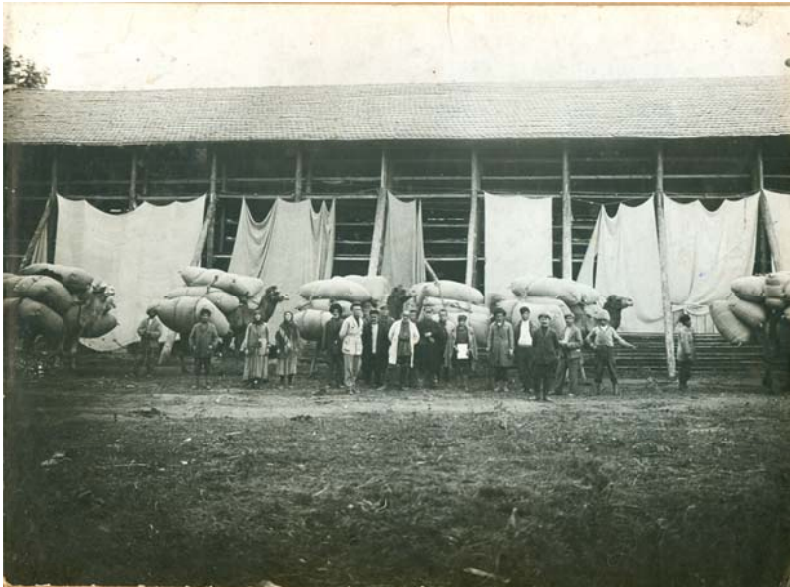


Photo 2.32. Immersion silk caravans

There was increase in demand for silk threads in the middle of 19th century and the European countries were developing the technology for processing of raw silk and production of silk threads and open silkworm cultivation plants in Italy and France. However, due to the diseases in sericulture the European countries have to compensate the loss by importing of raw silk from Asian countries. That is why, more and more new factories and workshops were opening in Sheki every year, the farmers were raising silkworms on their plots of land and these silkworms were sold to the factories for processing and manufacturing the silk threads. However, the peak of silkworm production was at the beginning of 20th century. In 1901 there were 127 small and large cooperatives and factories in Sheki with 3505 workers and they manufactured products for 1192000 roubles. Further on,

the number of artisan enterprises was reducing and in 1915 there were 107 enterprises in Sheki with 6650 workers and they manufactured products for 9753740 roubles. Sheki was the biggest centre of sericulture of Russia.

The new stage of industrial development of the town marked by parallel expansion of the town, its borders slightly expanded within the bound of possibility.

Due to the limited landscape, it is growing to the north-west towards Dodu village along the Deyirman-arkhy river and passes through to the other bank of the river. New buildings are built in the old courtyards or in newly developed areas. The old houses of mud brick are rebuilt in stone houses.



Photo 2.33. Residential house

With the development of silk industry the trade relations, craftsmanship, which entails the need to increase the existing and construction of new public buildings are developing. Within this period there were about 100 retail shops, 5 caravan sheds, 4 mills, 8 dead-end bazaars and craft workshops in the town. Agriculture is continuing to develop in the outskirts of the town. The caravans were taking silk, rice, tobacco, wheat, honey, fruits and live cattle from Sheki and bringing paints, calico and soap to the town. Clothes, wood, oil, salt, gunpowder, ropes and etc. were brought from Iran and Russia.

Along with the residential houses, workshops and shops, the factories, cooperatives, schools and bridges are also built in the town. Streets are being improved at the expense of wealthy merchants, owners of workshops and factories. In addition to silk, tobacco growing and production was established in Sheki and

several factories were producing rustic tobacco for the smoking pipes.

By the middle of the 19th century, with the development of trade relations and relations with the European countries the traditional methods of house construction are significantly changed. Planning solution forms a complex composition in one or two rows of rooms but with mandatory access to “eyvan”, sometimes facing on both sides.

At the same time three-storey types of residential houses are formed and spread. The ground floor of these houses is used as shop or housing for workers in tobacco or silk production.

The main street is built by the largest residential buildings. Traditional residential building also increases the number and size of the rooms increase, the front and household sides as well as winter and summer sides can be seen. However, the traditional characteristics-walls made of traditional material, the availability of deep “eyvan” on each floor, the fact that the building faces the courtyard, high roofs, attics, which are used for breeding silkworms or for drying fruits, tobacco; a large courtyard with abundance of fruit trees remain. Two-storey houses belonged to the wealthiest part of the population, who built their homes in the upper, more prestigious part of the town.



Figure 2.13. Residential houses in the end of XIX century

There is a desire to build on the red line, although at that time there was no strict regulation of the red lines of the streets. The windows were installed on the facades facing the street and there is a trend for plastic and spatial design.

The new rulers of the town in 1890s build new facilities for military needs: the commandants office, barracks, prison, in the most prestigious and favourable location of the town within the citadel, on the site of premises of the Palace of Sheki Khans. These premises were originally built of mud brick, destroyed and

abandoned over time.

In 1838, for the purposes of security from the liberation movements of the mountain people, some towers of the fortress were rebuilt; bastions were attached to the corners and the walls were raised.

There were rows of shopping stalls and workshops of craftsmen located in separate buildings and on the ground floors of the caravan sheds. Arched premises were built of traditional materials and covered with tiled roofs. The barns were on the main trade route and they differ by sizes of premises. The basement rooms of caravan sheds were also used as barns.



Photo 2.34. Handicraft shops on the caravansaray's first floor

The plants on manufacturing the silk threads were built with development of sericulture. The plants differed from housing accommodation by construction and simplicity of facades decoration. They had halls with equipment later - the halls with dyeing rooms, they had also the courtyards with the barns. In the upper part of the town there were many mills providing the town with the bread and these mills were built on the Deyirman river.



Photo 2.35. Silk manufacture number 3



Photo 2.36. Interior of the manufacture

All the buildings were built of the river stone and brick with ceramic tile lining. The spurs of the Gurjana river were built of local stone and brick, which protected the population from floods in the rainy period. The schools and hospital were built in the town. In 1874, a boulevard was built near the walls of the fortress. New mosques, madrassa were built in the town since the population was continuing to confess Islam despite the Russian administration.

Development of Sheki following establishment of the Soviet Power. On 5th May 1920 the Soviet Power was established in Sheki. Following the establishment of the Soviet Power in Azerbaijan, all major residential and public buildings of Sheki were nationalized. Wealthy owners of large apartment buildings were ousted from their houses; schools, kindergartens and offices were located in these houses. Hospitals, school and prison were located in the former barracks on the territory of the fortress.

Silk factory was also nationalized. All the factories, workshops on silk production and processing were merged into a single enterprise “Azeripek”. One more factory was built in 1928 and in 1931 the enterprise on silk production and processing was built and spinning machines for silk production were established there. This resulted in a large influx of labour force and artisans from all over Azerbaijan.

New houses for the new employees were built on the territories of old Mehelle and the other side of the Deyirman river with a narrow strip from the north to the south due to the close proximity to the Kish river which has mudflow danger. Distinctive feature of the houses built was the fact that they did not lose the characteristic features of the houses in Sheki and traditions in planning, design and decoration of facades were observed.

The development of the town since the middle of XX century. The period since 1960 is characterized by construction of residential and public buildings of the typical Soviet architecture taking into consideration planning and cost saving of construction. Multi-storey residential and public houses were built within this period. The five-storey building of the dormitory is built on the shopping street and 2-storey residential brick houses were built for the workers of the plant on the right side of the Deyirman river at the place where the workshops of craftsmen were located. In 1968 the Council of Ministers of Azerbaijan SSR adopted the Resolution on conservation and improvement of historical-architectural reserve "Yukhary Bash" in the upper part of Nukha town. This historical-architectural reserve is protected by the state. Despite the resolution in the late 1970s 5-storey building of the town party committee was built near Juma mosque and Abu Salam bath-house, later followed the house of celebrations and repair shops.

Development of the town today. Unfortunately town image is undergoing certain negative changes over the recent year due to insufficient historical protection. New buildings are built in the historical environment which damages to initial historical image of the town. These new buildings do not correspond to the historical buildings by scale and style, they are wrong located right in the buffer zone of the monument and etc.

The development of tourism has its influences on the development. There are several new hotels in the town and they do not always correspond to the style and scales of historical trends. The number of craftsmen workshops and shops

meeting the demand of tourists increases.

“Azeripek” plant (buffer zone) is operating today and producing silk threads, manufacturing and dyeing the fabric, sewing and decorating the shawls and weaving silk carpets. A total of 90% of the products of the plant are sold abroad. Due to mechanization of production, there are 590 employees working at the plant and the annual turnover of the plant is 4 mln. AZN. In addition to the silk production plant, there are also several private workshops in Sheki and the farmers grow silkworms.

2b. History and Development

Sheki is one of the most ancient towns of Azerbaijan. In medieval sources the name of the city is found in various forms: Shake, Sheki, Shakki, Shakka, Shekin. It is believed that the word "Sheki" is associated with the name of the Sakas tribes that were roaming in the 7th century B.C. from the shores of the Black Sea to the South Caucasus and from there to the Asia Minor through Derbent. The lands in the South Caucasus, where they settled and lived for several centuries have historically been named Sakasena. Sheki was one of the settlements of Sakas and Sheki. "Saka" - "Shaka" was the basis in the formation of the word "Sheki".



Unfortunately, we do not have enough information regarding the date of the town foundation. However, the fragmentary information that is found in the ancient sources, the results of archaeological excavations in the vicinity of the town, allow approximately determine the history of the town and the date of its foundation - the period of the first millennium B.C. Therefore, the age of Sheki is 2700 years.

According to archaeological sources, as far back as the III-V centuries

Figure 2-14. Caucasian Albania in the II B.C.-VIIC.

B.C. the residents of the area were cultivating silkworms and making threads. The fact that the town was located on the Silk Road promoted its development.

In the IVth -VIIIth century B.C., this territory was part of Caucasian Albania, which emerged at the end of the IVth century B.C. as Albanian tribal alliance, which started to acquire the features of the state formation.

In the first century B.C., the Sakas tribes together with Albanian troops were fighting against the Roman conquerors, destroyed troops of the Roman military leader Pompey near Sheki.

Starting from the 1st century Christianity came to the territory of Caucasian Albania. It was preached by Apostle St. Elisha, which led to the construction of the first church in the Caucasus - temple in Kish village near Sheki. Sheki has become one of the largest cities of Caucasian Albania. At the beginning of the IVth century, Christianity became the official religion of the Albanian state.

In the ancient period Sheki played an important role in the political and economic life of the country and was part of the left-bank of Caucasian Albania. From the ancient period this part of Caucasian Albania was known for its high culture and developed craft. According to the seventh century, the left-bank of Caucasian Albania consisted of 11 regions, and among them the region of Sheki was one of the two largest and most politically important. A historical region of Sheki which occupied the territory on the "North-West of Albania, in the foothills of the Caucasus, North-West region of Gabala, it borders on the West and South-West to the historic area Cambisena in the North-East with the Line, in the South-East with Gabala" (the territory of present Sheki, Gakh and Zagatala regions of Azerbaijan) [174,96 S.;177, p. 254]. In VIIIth century Sheki region became ecclesiastical-administrative unit - episcopate, the head of which was represented at all Church councils [175, p.7].

Like most cities, Sheki was surrounded by fort walls. The caravan routes were passing here the temples and churches were built and the towns were growing. Precious (coral, pearls) and semiprecious stones which at that time were imported mainly from Iran and Byzantium are evidence of trade with the Middle East. Lead, copper, tin, gold-embroidered and patterned fabrics of Egyptian and Syrian handicraft workers, glass vessels of Alexandria and other things were exported to the East through the Caucasus.

In the medieval period the left-bank of Caucasian Albania, including Sheki region experienced predatory invasion of numerous nomadic tribes that ravaged the country and delayed the development of its economy and culture. Sheki was also repeatedly in the area of 150-year Arab-Khazar war.



Figure 2-15. Azerbaijan in 9-10th centuries

In the V-th century the feudals of Sasani subjugated Albania and as a result, Sheki region (mahal) became the part of Sasani state. The town was ruled by vicarious rulers of Sasani Shahs - their closest relatives and the town was their residence.

During the Arab invasion Sheki was one of the towns of

Azerbaijan which had significant political and economic importance. In 656 Sheki was captured by the troops of the Arabian Emir Salman Ibni Rabia, and 706 - Merian Ibni Muhammad and ruthlessly destroyed by them.

In 813 when Government of Aran Shahs was created in Aran, Sheki moved to their submission. In 985 -1030 years the town was subjugated by Shaddad dynasty appeared in Barda.

An agreement was concluded on the terms of payment of taxes and obligations of vassalage with the rulers of Sheki [32,P. 14]. During the Arab Caliphate, province of Sheki was part of Arran, which is confirmed by numerous reports of Arab authors. Al-Istakhri and Ibn-Haukal mentioned it among the towns of Arran [83, p.63]. In the IXth century, due to the weakening of the Caliphate, the town acquired the status of independent ownership. In the late 80s of the tenth century Al-Muqaddasi enumerates Gabala and Sheki among the towns of Arran and reports that the most residents of Sheki are Christians, but the Muslims also live here and their mosque is located on the market square of Muslims" [83,p.63].

According to the Arab authors of IX - Xth centuries, there were many caravan routes in the Central Caucasus and Barda was the main focal point. These caravan routes linked the countries of the Caucasus not only with each other but also with the States of Asia and Europe: Syria, Iraq, Asia Minor, Maverannakhr and also with the Khazars, Slavs, Scandinavians.

Sericulture imported from China widely spread in Azerbaijan and promoted the growth and development of Sheki. Located on the Great Silk Road, the ancient

Sheki was a major trading center and famous manufacturer of finest silk special and wonderful silk carpets. This path was the main track of civilization, leaving imprints on the urban, architectural, economic and cultural heritage of many towns, in particular Sheki.



Figure 2-16. The Great Silk Road

Following the spread of Islam in Azerbaijan Arab conquerors were not strictly against Christians, even at the end of the tenth century Christian population constituted the majority in Sheki. Therefore, there were two religions and cultures, Islamic and Christian in the region in the Middle Ages.

In IX-XI centuries Saki as the Principality was a part of Shirvanshahs' state

Since 30-ies of the eleventh century invasion of the Turks-Seljuks in Central Caucasus began and as a result of it, the policy of the Byzantine Empire on strengthening in the region and inclusion of the latter in the sphere of influence of Christianity was defeated.

In 1118, the town was captured by the Seljuks. During the Seljuk flows new tribes of Oghuz Turks settled in Azerbaijan. The Oghuz Turks and Azeri Turks who converted to Islam and had common roots mixed with each other in a short time.

In the XIII century the countries of Caucasus had an imminence of Mongol invasion. Passing through Iran, the Mongols in 1220 invaded Azerbaijan. At this time, despite the never-ending wars, the caravan continued its march and the rulers usually tried to provide security for the merchants. Silk and silk fabrics were of greatest importance among the exported goods which were worth its weight in gold.

From the beginning of XIII century silk weaving in the cities of the Caucasus was so developed that during the Mongol invasions, the urban population of Azerbaijan paid off silk fabrics to invaders. Until the end of XIV century silk and silk fabrics, carpets, spices and other goods from the countries of the Caucasus and Western Asia were exported via Baku and Derbent to Astrakhan and the Golden Horde, Russia and Europe. Silk was exported in large quantities to Italy and France.



Figure 2-17. Exported Sheki's silk at the end of XIX century



Figure 2-18. Map of Azerbaijan in 13-14th centuries

After falling of Hulakis dynasty in the first half of the XIV century, Shirvanshah state along with Sheki gained its independence and Orlat generation seized power. In 1396 the town was captured and devastated by the Mongols, the son of Timur Leng Miranshah.

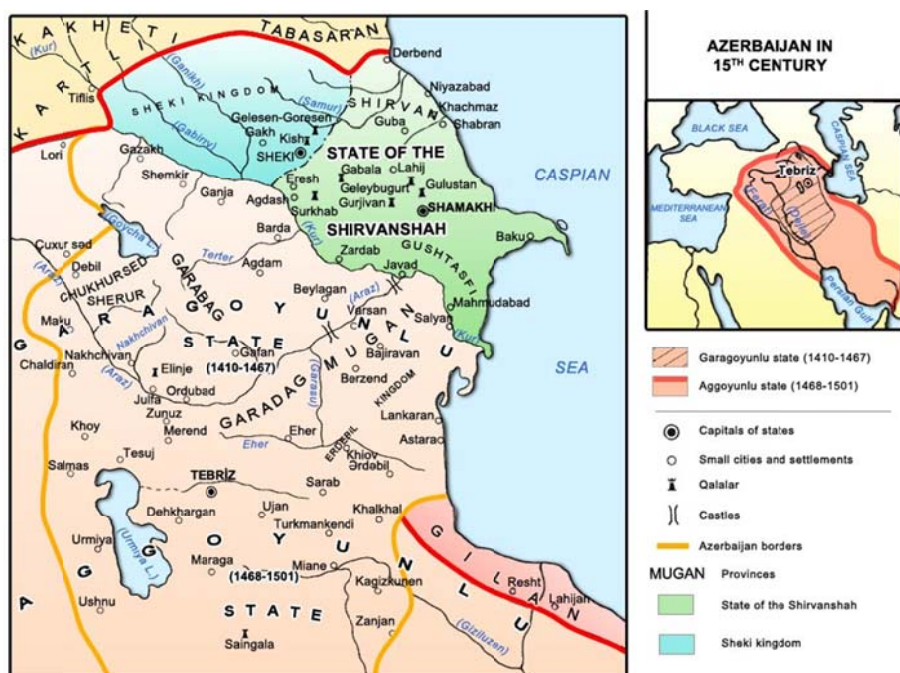


Figure 2-19. Map of Azerbaijan in 15th century

In 1551, Shah Tehmasib put an end to independence of Sheki. Sheki was united with Safavid dynasty. The rise of Safavid state resulted in substantial self-governance of Sheki which was nominally was part of Safavid state. The Turkish traveller E. Celebi visited Sheki in 1647, he wrote: Sheki has a fortress with two



Figure 2-20. Azerbaijanian khanate (18-19th centuries)

most powerful feudal states of Azerbaijan and consisted of not only the lands of Sheki region but also the lands of Gabala (Qutqashen) and Arash Sultanates. Independent Sheki khanate had been ruled by the dynasty of Chalabi for 64 years - until the inclusion of Azerbaijan to Russia in 1806.

Agriculture (mainly sericulture) was the basis of economy of Sheki, handicraft industry was also developed. Sericulture was also developed in Shirvan and Nakhchivan but favorable conditions for growing of mulberry and natural resources of Sheki promoted special development of this sector.

The town of Sheki was located on the spurs of the mountain river Kish. For centuries the river flooded the city with its own turbulent flows. In 1772 as a result of heavy rain, the river Kish overflowed and finally destroyed the town. Part of survived inhabitants had left the town, the other part had to go to the other

side of the river Kish, to the foot of the mountains, to the villages of Nukha, Dodu and Kish. Woodland to the North of the village of Nukha were the summer settlements of Sheki khans before the flood and these places are still called Khan yaylagi (summer village of Khan). By the end of the 18th century, the population

entry gates – “Ganja” and “Shirvan”, 7 mosques, 3000 houses and the population of 25-30 thousand people. He also noted the wide and rapid spread of sericulture here.

The period from 40s of XVIII century was very important in the history of Sheki when local feudal Haji Celebi Gurban oğlu became the head of the national-liberation movement against Nadir Shah Afshar. Haji Calabi Gurban oğlu declared himself Shah of Sheki and organized the first independent khanate in Azerbaijan - Sheki khanate. During the reign of Haji Calabi (1743-1755) Sheki khanate was among the

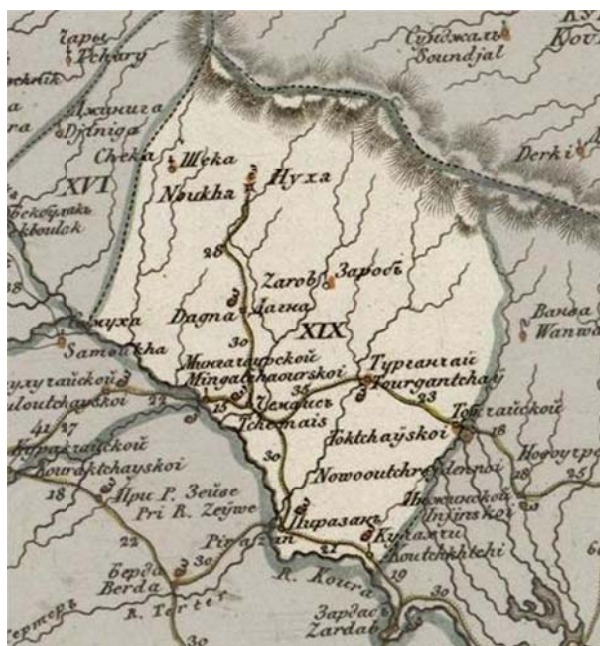


Figure 2-21. Map of Sheki Khanate 1823

of Nukha, together with immigrants from Sheki was only 6 thousand people. The period of Renaissance started in Nukha. The town of Nukha is mentioned in the ancient sources, along with the town of Sheki. One of the ancient authors Ptolemy noted the town “Niga”. It is believed that the geographical name "Nukha" appears in the literature only in XVIII century, However, Abbas Kuli Aga Bakikhanov also believed that the present Nukha is the town Niga which

existed in the past and located North of the Kura River. If Bakikhanov’s view is correct, the village is as ancient as the vanished town of Sheki [82, p. 83]. The archaeological excavations on the territory of the modern town of Sheki (village of Nukha) revealed the graves relating to the IV-II century B.C. Discovered fragments of glazed pottery and brick, relating to the VIII-X centuries gave rise to the conclusion that until the early middle ages there were settlements on the territory of the village of Nukha and since VIII century small town Nukha (Nukhpata, Niga, Nakhy and Naji) existed and developed here. The old name Sheki was restored by a decree of the Supreme Council of the Azerbaijan Republic on March 15, 1968.

The areas of town expansion were determined by the natural conditions. New houses were built along the Gurjana river. The Kish river prevented the town development in the western direction, it was often flooded destroying everything on the path. In the north the town was set against the spurs of the Great Caucasus range, in the North-East the town was limited by Aslan mountain. Construction of the town on both sides of Gurjana river was launched and it is a kind of axis of the town. Relief and location on the

hillside influenced the structure of the streets and squares. Wind streets, narrow streets and dead-end off streets provide characteristic beautiful picture to the town plan.



At the new place the buildings of Sheki were built of raw brick and covered with sun-dried brick (mixture of dry grass and clay). The houses of raw brick out of the clay mass were built not only for ordinary residents but also for wealthy persons and also rulers of the town. Types of these homes maintained their traditionalism established by many generations. Over time and with increased prosperity, a sense of constancy appeared at a new place when the river stone and later burnt brick were used in the construction of houses.

Figure 2-22. Map of Sheki city. 1852

Development of Sheki was not so substantial following resettlement. The river demolished not only the town buildings but also the gardens of mulberry which were the basis of sericulture. Over the time and development of agriculture, sericulture and development of trade related with sericulture, handicraft and the town started growing. From the centre of the old village Nukha – Yuxari Bash with Nukha fortress which was built here and located in the upper northeast elevated part of the town and having the form of khan's citadel, the settlement is moved to the West along the Gurjana river.

The residential and commercial and handicraft quarters composed of business and community centers of Sheki were located here. There is a dense network of narrow streets, off streets and dead-end streets from the main thoroughfare and the tops of the trees intertwine over them. Newly built shops, caravan sarays, baths and even a mosque retain the principles of layout-antis, and traditional flavour of the houses of mud brick, river rock and brick with steep roof covered with red tiles.

A few years later thanks to independence of

Sheki khanate, location of the town on the caravan routes and therefore higher economic status, Sheki was already a rich town. There were about 100 retail shops, 5 caravanserais, 4 mills, 8 dead-end bazaars and craft workshops in the town. The caravans were taking silk, rice, tobacco, wheat, honey, fruits and live cattle from



Photo 2-37. Central street of Sheki 1946

Sheki and bringing paints, calico and soap to the town. Clothes, wood, oil, salt, gunpowder, ropes and etc. were brought from Iran and Russia.

Sheki khanate was ruled by the sons and grandsons of Haji Chalabi Khan Mahammadhuseyn Khan (1759-1780), Mahammadhasan Khan (1783-1795).

During this period Khan's Palace is built on the territory of citadel which was a considerable architectural ensemble, including numerous private quarters, the premises of the harem, bath, mosque, barns and other services. The trade center, caravanserais, workshops, shops and Juma mosque are built on the main street on the Gurjana riverbank. There are also new quarters, public centers and two-storey houses. The natural landscape enriches the appearance of Sheki, and from an expressive background to its architecture. A lot of verdure and the old streets, made of cobblestone, intensify connection between the city and nature.

The last descendant of Chalabi Khan, Salim Khan became the head of the Khanate in 1795. During his reign, he acknowledged the patronage of the Russian empire, wishing to save the Khanate from Persian occupation.

However, in 1805 Salim Khan who opposed the Russian administration was overthrown and all his posterity deprived of

the right to the khanate. The Russian government approved Jafargulu Khan Khoyski as a head of the Khanate. He was a descendant of the Qajars, who quarreled with his relatives, refused from Iranian subordination and moved to Russia. In the early 19th century Sheki was a usual feudal town. The houses were built without any plan on steep terrain and as a result the streets were narrow and curved with a great number of dead-end streets. The houses and courtyards were protected by high fences. The wealthy residents had two-storey houses built of the river stone and brick and the poor residents had one-storeyed houses, covered by hay.

In 1819 the last Khan of Sheki Ismail Khan died suddenly and Khan's power was finally abolished. The town management was transferred by the Russian government to the military commandant.

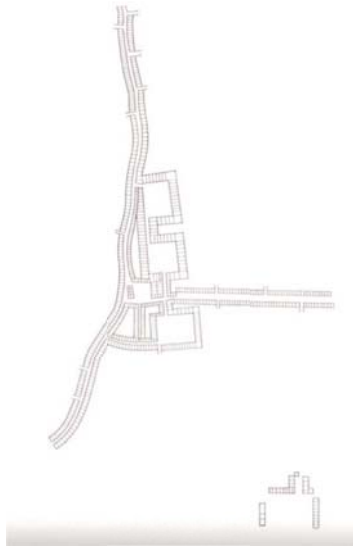


Figure 2-23, Map of the central square (1841)



Figure 2-24. Karavansaray .Map 1843

Which is not exist now

A total of 369 shops and one caravanserai burnt as a result of fire in 1834. The architect was invited to the town and he developed the design of the new buildings, streets and areas on the place of the burnt buildings. In 1836 there were 2791 residential houses in Sheki, the majority of them were built during of khanate. The population was 12586 persons. There were 24 buildings meeting the requirements of the Russian military men as well as post office and military hospital on the territory of the fortress. In 1827 the Khan mosque was rebuilt as the church of the garrison. The town was provided with drinking water through existing water pipeline made of pottery pipes which have been existing and operating up to now.

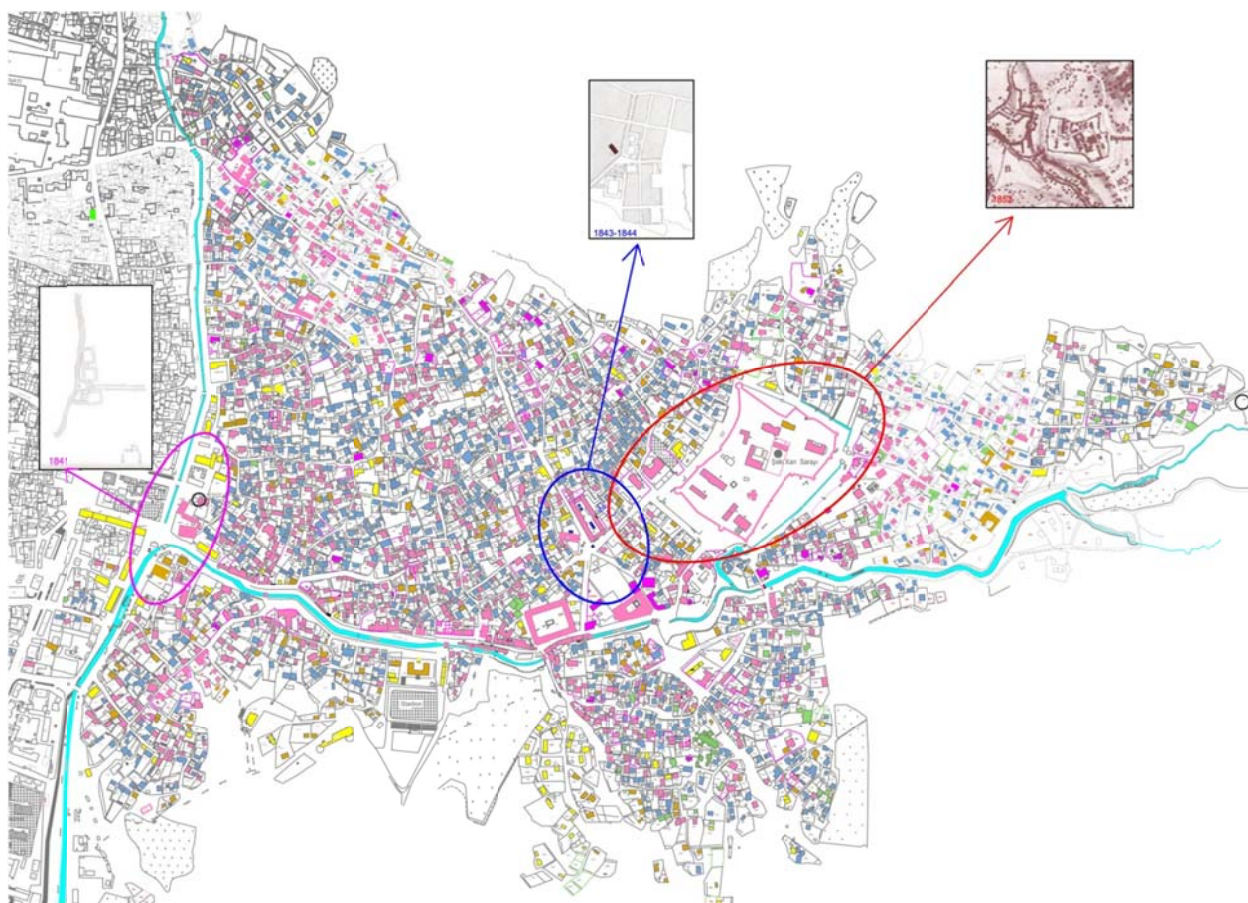


Figure 2-25. Historic centre of Sheki with location of historical parts

Throughout its long history Sheki was one of the most important sericulture, trade and handicraft centers of Azerbaijan and it had an influence on formation of the town structure of Sheki. In the early 19th century silk was exported not only to Iran, Russia but also to France, Italy, Sweden, Turkey and the towns of Transcaucasia. In 1827 Society for the spread and strengthening of sericulture of Russia was established. Sheki was selected as the center of the company which built a number of buildings - offices, rooms for servants and apprentices, shops, filature and factories. A total of 12 families were brought from Italy. As far back as in 1930s of 19th century there were manufactories in Sheki and they were called “davel”. In addition to them, there was silk handicraft.

The symbols of the coat of arms adopted on 21 May 1843 by the Russian government shows the role of silk in Sheki. It is a shield in the upper part of the coat of arms of the Caspian region with the image of a lion and three flames at the bottom - the silk worm on a branch of the mulberry tree and there are three silk cocoons under the branch. There is one butterfly on each cocoon as a sign of the latitude of sericulture.



In addition to silk, craftsmanship and trade was developed. In 1831 there were 147 shoe manufacturers, 178 leather handlers, 39 dyers, 235 cappers, 41 jewellers, cap and “tekelduz” embroiderers and etc. were working in Sheki. Craftsmen of Sheki were producing copper, the gunsmith were producing

Figure 2-26. Herb of Sheki 1843

gunpowder and other guns. The population of the town was growing greatly. The development of trade, new jobs attracted the people not only from the villages but also from other regions of Azerbaijan.

The town is growing and its borders are expanding. Due to the limited landscape it is growing to the north-west towards Dodu village along the Deyirman-arkhy river and passes through to the other bank of the river. The new Mehelle were established by the place of location of the workers –Ganjali, Menjali – by the name of the persons coming from Ganja and Iran.

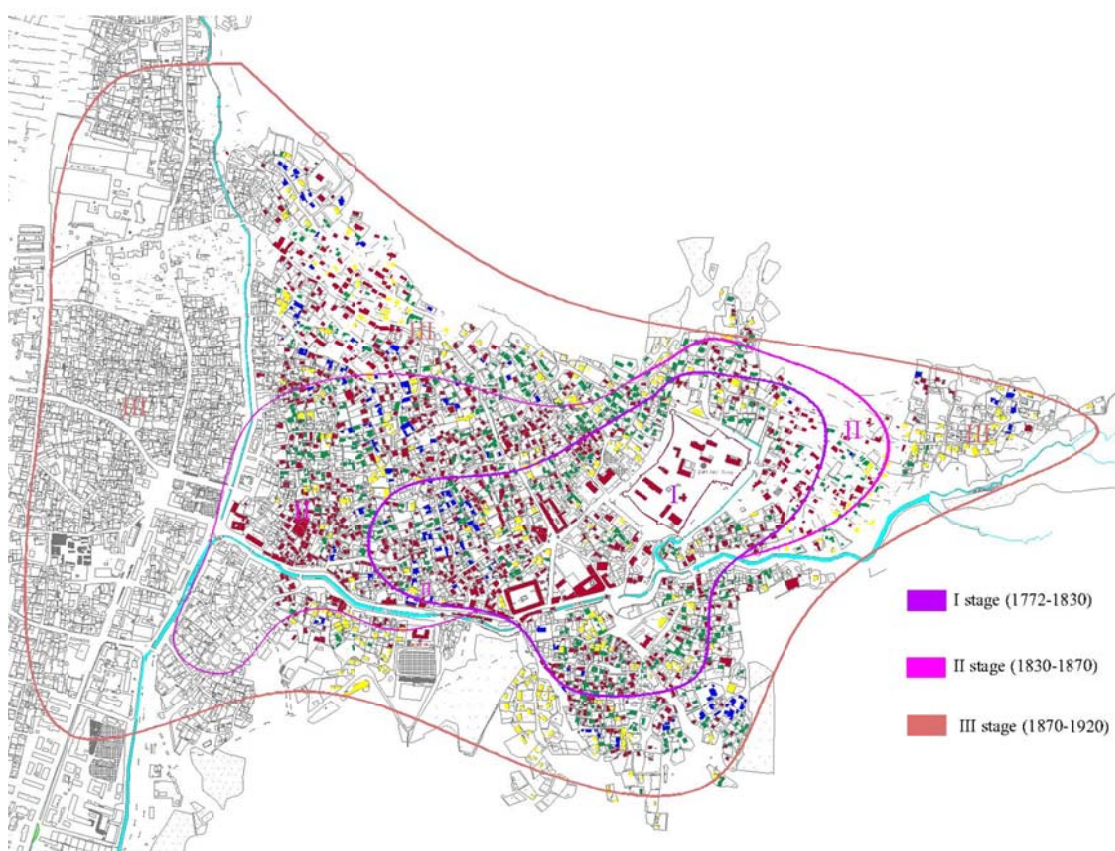


Figure 2-27. Schema of Sheki city development

Population growth created new production directions necessary for the residents of the town. Importance of agriculture increased - more wheat was sown and additional mills were built for de-seeding even new Mehelle - “deyirmanlar” (mills) was created. The new Mehelle were established by the place of location of the workers - Gileyli, Zeyzitler and the nature of crafts -silk mehelle – “ipek mehelle” “duluzlar”, “naldendler” as well as by the place of the town –“kocholylyu” (displaced persons), “arhustu” (over the channel), “Chaggal deresi” (the valley of common jackal), etc. Each mehelle had its square, the mosques and bath-houses were built.



Figure 2-28. Schema of Mahallah

Since Sheki was a center of trade and craftsmanship there was a need for the development of culture and education. The first district school was opened in 1831. In 1834 there were already several schools. Religious schools at the mosques and chemist's shop were opened.

In the second part of 19th century silk production and craftsmanship considerably increased. If in 1854 there were 653 shops and three caravanserais, in 1861 the number of shops reached 1230 and caravanserais - 5. In 1863, in Sheki, there were 30 mosques, 4 churches, 5 baths-houses, 42 mills and 3449 stone houses. Representatives of France, Greece and Turkey are involved in commercial

transactions with merchants and manufacturers of Sheki. The population of the town is increasing alongside with growth of production. However, the town is built chaotically without any plan. That is why, any natural disaster causes great damage to the town. Thus, more than 100 residential houses and mosque were burned as a result of fire in 1848. In 1858 all the eastern part of the town was destroyed by fire.

Architect was appointed in Sheki in 1866. This appointment did not change the town planning. Architect was mainly involved in the territory of the fortress and the main shopping street. The houses of wealthy persons were built around the fortress and relatively straight streets were laid.

By the middle of the 19th century, with the development of trade relations and relations with the European countries the traditional methods of house construction are significantly changed. Planning solution forms a complex composition in one or two rows of rooms but with mandatory access to “eyvan”, sometimes facing on both sides. In any case, the traditional antis of the house and the principle of location of all the rooms along the axis of “eyvan” is maintained.

Two-storey houses of European style were built on the main street where the shops and working shops were located. These houses were built in accordance with designs the majority of which are kept in archives of Sheki. The houses were built of the river stone and brick with ceramic tile covering. All the houses had attics where people were raising silkworms and drying the fruits. The spurs of the Gurjana river were built of local stone and brick, which protected the population from floods in the rainy period. In 1874, a boulevard was laid down around the walls of the fortress. However it was not enough. The money allocated for improvement of the town was not enough. According to A. Duma’s description, who visited Sheki in 1858 only two of 40 streets, the main street and Shaytan Bazaar, were paved with stone slabs.



Photo 2-38 Residential house of the 19th century Photo 2-39. Residential house of the 19th century

There is a desire to build on the red line, although at that time there was no strict regulation of the red lines of the streets. The windows were installed on the facades facing the street and there is a trend for plastic and spatial design.

In addition to silk, tobacco growing and production was established in Sheki and several factories producing rustic tobacco for the smoking pipes. Silk and rustic tobacco industry and also handicraft trade had an impact on the architecture of the houses and households.

Three-storey types of residential houses are formed and spread. The ground floor of these houses is used as shop or housing for workers in tobacco or silk production.

The population is growing with the development of silk production, handicrafts and trade. If in 1852 the population of Sheki was 17945 people, in 1887 it increased up to 26286 people. Construction of the enterprises and housing grew at a very fast pace. However due to the limited natural conditions, the expansion of residential areas occurred within the individual lots. Large parts of the gardens were divided between the descendants for new residential buildings.



Photo 2-40. Silk factory



Photo 2-41. Sibigat school

Along with the residential houses, workshops and shops in the town, the factories, cooperatives, schools and bridges are built. Streets are being improved at the expense of wealthy merchants, owners of workshops and factories. Water-supply system founded in the early 19th century is operating and expanding.

On 5th May 1920 the Soviet Power was established in Sheki. Following the establishment of the Soviet rule in Azerbaijan, all major residential and public buildings were nationalized, including also Sheki. Wealthy owners of large apartment buildings were ousted from their houses, schools, kindergartens; offices were located in these houses. Hospitals, school and prison were located in the former barracks on the territory of the fortress.

Silk factories were also nationalized. All the factories, workshops on silk production and processing were merged into a single enterprise “Azeripek”. One more factory was built in 1928 and in 1931 the enterprise on silk production and processing was built and spinning machines for silk production were established there. This resulted in a large influx of labor force and artisans from all over Azerbaijan.

A large number of new houses were built during this period and it was done for involvement of villagers in Sheki to work in sericulture industry. Distinctive feature of the houses built within this period is observance of traditions in planning, design and decorative features. However, the town is growing on the other side of the Deyirman river with a narrow strip from the north to the south due to the close proximity to the river Kish which has mudflow danger.

The period from 1960 is characterized by the construction of a typical Soviet architecture of housing and public construction-related planning and economy of construction. This negatively affected the traditional image of the town as the buildings constructed during this period did not meet the traditional architecture. Multi-story residential and public houses were built.



Photo 2-42. School was built in 1960



Photo 2-43. The many- store house in the buffer zone

When bazaar was transferred from historical part of the town to the modern place in the late 1980s, residential houses were built up on this territory but the shops and workshops of craftsmen still remained there and they are working and selling their goods.

The fact that all the monuments of Sheki are mainly concentrated on the main route leading along the river from the castle down in the area called "Yukhary bash" resulted in declaration of the area as "Yukhary bash" Historical and Architectural reserve in 1968. The fortress walls, the Palace of the Sheki khans, the House of Shekikhanovs, 5 mosques, 2 separate minarets, the round temple, 2 caravan sarays, 3 bath-houses, bridges, residential houses, shops, barns, mills, etc. were preserved today on the territory of historical-architectural reserve. The important fact is that all architectural monuments of the reserved area were used, i.e. there were not abandoned.

Unfortunately, in recent years (late 20th century) due to the poor protection, some objects were adapted and used without compliance with the laws of proper restoration and preservation of monuments. There are examples when new buildings were built in the historical environment, damaging the original historical character and it does not match the historical buildings by the scale and style or when they are located right in the buffer zone of the

monument, which is wrong. Many buildings, architectural monuments are badly in need of restoration. The issue regarding the residential houses which are privately owned is especially topical and therefore to the owners have to restore or repair them at their own expense and sometimes the owners do not have the funds for it. The issues with regard to the mosques which are under the supervision of the Department of the Caucasus Muslims are also topical. In both cases restoration and repair are implemented without attracting the specialists in restoration which endangers the preservation of the authenticity of the building.

3. JUSTIFICATION FOR INSCRIPTION



Photo 3-1. Gilehly-mosque's Minaret

3. JUSTIFICATION FOR INSCRIPTION

3.1.a. Brief Synthesis

The historic town of Sheki, located in the northern part of modern Azerbaijan, has ancient origins as part of the Caucasian Albania, dating from the 6th century BCE. The current historic centre results from the reconstruction, after a mud flood in 1772, on higher ground in a mountain valley east of the previous site. Due to the natural limitations of the valley, the historic area has retained its overall urban form, but has expanded within the original building lots, following traditional typological patterns. The traditional buildings with their typical high saddle roofs, deep verandas and gardens constitute the consistent and characteristic visual integrity of the historic urban landscape, within the spectacular setting of the protected mountain slopes.

Being in contact with important trade routes, the region of Sheki has been subject to a variety of cultural influences. Christianity was here introduced as early as the 1st century CE, and Islam in the 7th century. During its history it has been under various governments, including the Safavids and Qajars until the 18th century, followed by the Russian rule in the 19th century. These different cultures have also influenced the features of architecture, of which the Khan's Palace is an outstanding example, also reflected in many of the interiors of wealthy merchant houses (e.g. bukharas, fire places).

In 1743, Sheki was established as the first and the most powerful of a series of Khanates in Caucasus, representing a new administrative system in the region. As a trading centre, in contact with Asia and Europe, the principal economy of Sheki, from the ancient times, has been based on silkworm breeding, trading of cocoons, and the development of various crafts, which still continue in the region. These activities were favoured due its particularly suitable climatic conditions. At the same time, the morphology of the urban fabric and its growth patterns were a direct result of the topography of the site, and the economic developments and related activities.

3.1.b. Criteria under which inscription is proposed

ii. The present-day Historic Centre of Sheki exhibits an important interchange of multiple cultural influences, which have their origin in history over two millennia. The current urban form, which dates back to the new construction after the flood of 1772, continued earlier building traditions responding to the local climatic conditions, and the requirements of the traditional economy and crafts activities.

The town was growing along the citadel and later the landscape of the territory determined its development along the main highway with the majority of important buildings of the town characterizing its structure and trade and economic status of the town. New buildings were built according to the centuries-old traditions which obtained its final structure responding the local natural conditions during the period of Safavid reign. The location of the town on the Great Silk Road, development of trade and sericulture: mainly silkworm breeding and manufacturing raw silk had also an impact on the character of buildings. The establishment of trade relations, the succession of rulers of the khanate did not only affect the political and economic situation of the state, but also had an impact on the entire architecture of the town. In the early 19th century the decoration was renewed on the most important buildings of the town under the influence of the Qajar architecture prevalent during this period in Iran. Following conquest of Azerbaijan by the Russian Empire in the second half of the 19th century Russian architecture had also its impact on the architectural structures of the rapidly developing economy of the town.

However, despite the interaction of multiple cultural influences, due to non-recurrent development of the residential part of Sheki in accordance with the climatic conditions of the territory as well as the active use of greenery as one of the leading components of urban design, the town is perceived as a holistic architectural image.



Photo 3-2. F.Axundov house (18th century)



Photo 3-3. Sheki- khan palace. The 1st floor Interior



Photo 3-4. Prison building 1897

iii. The historic centre of Sheki preserved the layout, founded during the period of Sheki khanate - the first and most powerful khanate in the Caucasus, which existed from 1743 to 1819.

Division of the town into the quarters “Mahallah” which have been existing up to now is clearly seen in the spatial planning of the town. The town centre was developing around the citadel and the main highway. The architectural style of Sheki khanate is expressed in the architecture of the palaces of khans and interiors of wealthy merchant houses. Sheki house is built on the basis of centuries-old local traditions, driven by climatic features and local building materials. Historical mosques, caravan sheds, baths, craft shops and stalls have been still used for their intended purpose. The most bright example of the houses was also expressed in the architecture of the Sheki Khan’s palaces.



Məscidin interyeri

Photo 3-4. Interior of Molla Efendi Mosque



Photo 3-5. The yard of Upper karavansaray

The principal economy of Sheki, from the ancient times, has been based on silkworm breeding, trading of cocoons and threads which were exported to many countries including European up to the establishment of the Soviet power in 1920. Today 90% of silk and products of silk factory and workshops of Sheki are exported.



Photo 3-6. Silk carpets



Photo 3-7. Shabaka

Development of various handicrafts such as weaving the silk carpets, sewing the national shawls-kalagayi and scarves of silk fabric and painting them, wide variety of different types of embroidery (satin stitch embroidery, “gyulabatin”, ‘bird’s eye’ and etc.), special techniques of which (tambour embroidery “tekelduz”) were used only in this region. This sector is the main decorative and applied art of the town today as well.



Photo 3-8. Embroidery



Photo 3-9. Embroidery

Location on the caravan routes, the influx of a large number of traders and labour force in connection with the development of silk industry was the cause of more intensive development of handicrafts which have been existing in Sheki since ancient times as evidenced by archaeological excavations. Importance of crafts in the town is not lost today. Nowadays, more than 100 craftsmen on 44 types of

crafts are working in Sheki. Historically, the highway of the town and the town bazaar where craftsmen manufacture and sell their products to the customers were the place of the main concentration of handicraft shops and stores. Availability of such handicrafts as window assembly production “shabaka” filled with stained glass, hammer work of copper, brass, plaster carving, woodcarving and etc. are reflected in the architectural decoration of the town buildings. Thus, handicrafts development traditional for the town and concentration of the handicraft shops and stores along the trade street has not lost its relevance even these days.



Photo 3-10. The main street of Sheki

iv. The Historic Centre of Sheki is an outstanding example of an architectural ensemble, which has maintained its traditional urban form from its construction in the late 18th century. Its focal point is the fortress-citadel built in 1790 which is located in the elevated part of the town. From the Khan's citadel and surrounding area "*Yukhary bash*" ("Upper part") the settlement passing through the river of the Gurjana river towards the West. There is a trade centre on the Gurjana riverbank. Caravan sheds, bath-houses, workshops, craft stalls, mosques were built on this street. Further on silk factory, barns and shops were built. Bazaars were built on the squares.



Photo 3-11. The main street of Sheki

The number of population increased with the development of manufacturing and sale of silk. However, the natural landscape limited growth of the town. The mountains from three sides surround Sheki, and on its territory Gurjana and Deyirman rivers unite. Therefore, the town had a growing opportunity within the existing boundaries at the time, by compacting the existing plots and gardens. The buildings of Sheki on the new place according to the traditions, without any plan, on the steep terrain. Natural landscape was a unifying factor. The fact that the town was built simultaneously on a new place, single immensity of buildings, expanded in heavy greenery of gardens makes the impression of a single entity. The landscape dominates over the whole building. The abundance of greenery and ancient streets covered with cobblestones activate connection between the town and nature.

Dwelling house in Sheki has centuries-old local traditions associated with climatic peculiarities and local building materials. Mosques, caravan sheds and palaces have the same traditional type of anta dwelling house according to the architectural concept. All of them were built in full accordance with their functional purpose and local traditions.

v. From ancient times the economy of Sheki was based on sericulture, trade of cocoon and development of related types of handicrafts that formed the basis for urban morphology and typology of buildings.

Influenced by traditional and climatic peculiarities, the town-planning structure of the town acquired very interesting characteristics. The main central highway is a trade street with the caravan sheds, workshops, stalls, barns and shops. Bazaars are organized on the squares. The dwelling houses reflected the peculiarities of development of the nature of economy of this silk industry region.

Mulberry plants dominated in the orchards and the mulberry leaves were used as food for the silkworms. The attics of the houses are very high due to climate, characterized by abundant rainfall and these attics are used by the local population for breeding silkworms or for drying fruits, tobacco. The ground floors of the caravan sheds and even dwelling houses located on the trade street are used as stalls and workshops of the craftsmen.

Favorable nature, concentration of multifunctional architectural monuments built in a single traditional style in Sheki, and the buildings which can be used as facilities of tourist service, development of crafts and applied arts is a reason for permanent interest to the town.

Sheki is one of the towns of Azerbaijan most visited by local and foreign tourists. This leads to the fact that Sheki becomes the town where periodical attempts to alter, modify the historical structure in line with the modern requirements are made. In recent years various historical monuments are used not only as tourist facilities but also as the venue for the meetings, conferences, etc. and correspondingly the local authorities have the desire to create more comfortable conditions for accommodation of people and in some cases cost-efficient tourist facilities. All this leads to high threat to the historical town center and urgent need to protect the historic environment of the town from third-party interventions.

3.1.c. Statement of Integrity

Sheki town which was built following destruction of the town by high-flood of the Kish river in 1772 according to traditional urban development rules of the feudal towns preserved its town structure created in the late 18th- early 19th century. Unlike the traditional town planning rules of feudal towns, it had no city fortress walls, as was built hastily from existing local materials. The Defensive Stronghold “Gelersen-Gerersen” was not far from the City and in the case of an enemy attack the inhabitants could hide in it, as they did the same at the time of the first Khan Chalyabi defending themselves from the troops of Nadir Khan, the Iranian Ruler.

The formed historical center extended from the citadel of khans to the West along the river, has kept its traditional purpose and character of the buildings.

The town location between the mountains, away from the mountain river was based on the safety of the population after devastating landslide. The citadel of Khan was built on an elevated part and the construction is shifted along the small river Gurjana towards the west. Unique shopping center was built on the main street on the banks of the Gurjana river and the caravan sheds, workshops, shops and mosques were built there. Dwelling houses of residents of Sheki were built on the streets perpendicular to the main line and directly with the neighboring streets. The natural landscape limited expansion of the town since the town was surrounded by mountains on three sides. The town had an opportunity to develop only within its borders by compacting the existing yards with the new buildings.

Clear readable main thoroughfare, the scale of secondary streets, the existing type of town house with its inherent peculiarities of local estate type development, a view of the terrain determines the integrity of perception of urban organism.

Political changes slightly concerned urban development patterns, as the town was limited to the surrounding landscape and sources of revenue-the silk production and trade were not changing.

Establishment of the reserve status of the historical part in 1968 shielded the town from the standard construction during the Soviet period. The single public buildings built in 1950-1980s did not reflect the historical urban structure of the town. Today, the spatial structure of the town developed from a synthesis of the surrounding natural landscape and traditional urban buildings with tiled roofs, vertical accents of minarets preserves the integrity of the historic town.

After analyzing the town plans according to historical descriptions and master plans drawn up within 1942-1954-1979-2010 it can be said that historical architectural spatial planning has been preserved up to now without any significant changes.

Nowadays, the importance of Sheki as one of the cultural centers of the town is maintained. In recent years, especially after independence, Sheki is a historic town, interesting from the tourist point of view, which entails a number of problems. There is a desire to build facilities in the historic part that serve the needs of tourism - hotels, restaurants and shops.

The designing of new and reconstruction of existing residential buildings in the Reserve's territory is guided by the Reserve's Directorate and approved by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan. Any works on communications, landscaping, conducted by municipalities and executive power of the City are coordinated with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.



Figure 3-8. Map of Historic Centre 1942



Figure 3-9 Map of Shaki 1960



Figure 3-10. Map of Shaki 1986



Figure 3-11. Map of Shaki 1989

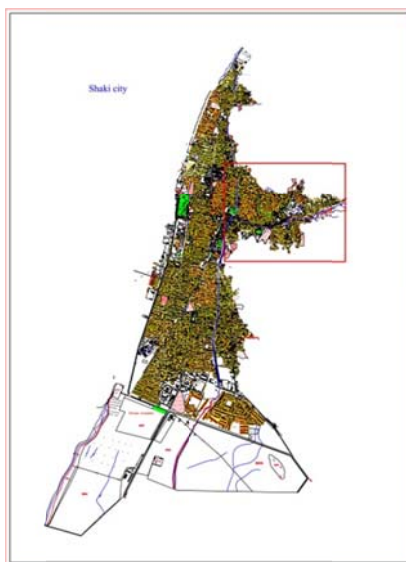


Figure 3-12. Map of Shaki 1989



Photo 3-27. Hotel Sheki Palace

3.1.d. Statement of Authenticity

1. The authenticity of location and environment

A single scale of buildings and simultaneous construction of the town, limitation of the planning structure in its historical borders, abundance of greenery in the urban areas and surrounding mountain forest create the authenticity of the town with its surroundings. Residential development merges with nature-landscape in the town and it would dominate the entire building.



Photo 3-28. The view on the city

2. The authenticity of traditions in management systems.

Though in the late 18th century Sheki was built as a center for independent Sheki khanate, it was a feudal town. It had traditional structure of feudal towns - fortress, the Palace of the Governor, and the division into several blocks –“mehelle”, according to the types of employment or location of the population. It was managed through methods traditional for feudal state – Khan and the persons subordinated to him. There were three management systems of the town following abolition of the khanate in 1819 (the Russian Empire, the Soviet Union and the independence of the country) but the town has retained its historic urban structure and even the part of its management system. The population of historical part of the town lives with the consciousness of belonging to one of 27 mehelles which formerly were the components of the entire settlement system of the town. The town administration traditionally manages the modern town of Sheki using 30 quarterly committees mehelle with several mehelles under a common name, their representatives and elected Chairperson-representative among them. These committees deal with specific problems in mehelle and represent the residents in

the town administration. There are 9 committees in historical part and 2 committee - in the buffer area. Thus, traditional types of management corresponding to the nature and foundations of the historic town have been preserved in modern democratic system of governance.

3. The authenticity of the main buildings

Almost all public buildings - the Palace of Sheki Khans, the House of Shekikhanovs, caravan sheds, mosques, the bath-houses, shops and workshops have been preserved. Scientific restoration works based on the documents and scientific methods of restoration have been conducted in most of these buildings.

Restoration of the main public and religious buildings, facades on both sides of the river which are used for their original purpose with some features of modern requirements, paving streets with the local river stone retain the authenticity of the historic town center. There are still caravan sheds, bath-houses, mosques, craft workshops and shops. Yukhari caravan shed was restored in 1986 and is used as hotel. Ashagi caravan shed was restored in 2011-2012, and the project on adaptation of the building to use as hotel has been done and it is planned to implement it in 2014-2015. The mosques have been restored and used as intended. The bath-houses are preserved in their historical form but they are not used.

The restoration of the Palace of Sheki Khans was implemented in 2001-2004, and the house of Shekikhanovs - in 2012-2013. Both restorations were made on a scientific basis, using traditional materials and paints. Both buildings are used as museums.

The castle and the buildings of barracks on the territory of the fortress walls remained unchanged. The walls have been repeatedly restored and preserved in the historical form. Buildings of barracks in the Soviet period were used by different medical institutions and now these institutions have left the buildings are waiting for their next assignment. Museums and art gallery and the house “shabaka” are located in the other buildings of the barracks and the Church. Club and the library are located in the former prison, the second building was restored 2005-2007 and the incubator of the craftsmen association is located there.

With the penetration deep into the streets, alterations and additions in residential areas are more obvious but the general style and the color scheme of the town is preserved. The buildings along the central highway were mostly used as a public buildings and their preservation is controlled by responsible organizations.

Most of the houses (45% of existing) located deep in the quarters were built in the traditional style, with the fireplaces “Bukhara”, wall shelves, eyvans, covered with a pitched slate roof. However, since these houses are privately owned, their restoration is carried out by the owners, most of whom are not able to do the restoration or repair works. Accordingly, some houses require restoration or are in a critical condition. It is a subject to unique houses with preserved wall paintings or “Bukhara” with moulded and painted decoration, or ceilings with paintings or inlaid decorative panel pictures.



Photo 3-29. Central Street of Sheki

The threat hung over the silk factories. There is only one plant and one private workshop are currently operating in Sheki. Availability of cheap synthetic fabrics and products reduced demand for natural silk. Private factories (only 5 factories remained, 3 of them are located in the reserve) do not operate and the buildings of the factories are privatized by individuals, not involved in silk industry and these individuals use these premises, often rearranging them.



Photo 3-30. Silk artel



Photo 3-31. Interior of the silk artel

The need for conservation plan, adoption of special regulations and recommendations for construction and repair of residential and public buildings can save the authenticity of the buildings of the historical town.

4. Authenticity of materials and construction techniques

Mixed cobbly brick laying traditional for Sheki is still in use. This brick laying is used not only in restoration of the monuments of architecture but also in new construction on the territory of the whole town. Cobblestone is used in paving the streets. Wooden materials are used in the construction of interfloor and attic floors, the houses have attic roof with a large overhang of the eaves and is covered with tiles. The interiors are plastered with gage. These are traditional materials taken from the surrounding natural landscape and established methods of housing construction continue to be used in the modern town.



Photo 3-32. Darvaza



Photo 3-33. Buxara

At the end of twentieth and early twenty-first centuries tiled roofs were replaced with slate roofs and metal roofs due to complexity of care. In some houses the entrance gate-“Darvaza” was replaced with metal one, part of the balconies were glazed by the owners. In practice plastering of facades with traditional gage plaster is used only during restoration. However, the interest of tourists to the historic city makes the local population return to traditional details and elements.

The private workshops and workshops for manufacturing wooden gates, windows, “shabaka” are operating and they are supported by the state bodies.

5. The authenticity of functions and Authenticity of the place and context

As it was mentioned in paragraph (2b) Sheki throughout the history of its development was one of the cultural and industrial centers. Sericulture, different kinds of crafts and applied arts were especially developed. Caravan routes passed through Sheki and it resulted in enrichment of local traditions. Today the importance of Sheki as one of the cultural centers of the country is preserved. In recent years, particularly since independence, Sheki has been not only a historical town, but also interesting from a tourist point of view. There is a rich cultural life here, not only public and scientific, but also cultural events of local and international importance are held here.

Monuments located in the historical district, retained their original significance. Even today the main line of the town and its center are located here. The shops, mosques and bath-houses as well as basic facilities visited by tourists are located here. These are caravan sheds used as hotels but open to the public, souvenir shops as well as the Palace of Sheki Khans and the House of Shekikhanovs working as museums.

Sericulture, which is the most important industry throughout the history of the town has been preserved up to now although in much smaller size compared to earlier periods. The plant is currently continuing operation manufacturing silk fabrics and carpets. The national shawls-kalagayi and scarves made of silk fabrics and painted at the plant and private workshops are known not only in Sheki but are appreciated throughout Azerbaijan. They are one of the best souvenirs of Azerbaijan. Sheki throughout its history has been one of the centers of decorative and applied arts. Several types of embroidery were developed here and they are popular today as one of the best souvenirs. Tambour embroidery "tekkelduz" is especially popular.



Photo 3-34.Dealer halva



Photo 3-35.Shebeke handicraftsmen's

The importance of crafts in the town is not lost even today. Today, more than 100 craftsmen in Sheki are working on almost 44 kinds of crafts, including copper alloy wheels, pottery, weapon production, weaving, embossed work, jewelry on gold and silver, wood carving, manufacturing of shabaka, small boxes, saddles and horse clothes, shoe stitching and cap embroidery and many other types of handicraft. Historically, the main lines of the town and the town bazaar have always been the main place of concentration of handicraft shops and stores. The role of bazaar as a center of crafts and trade continues unabated, although it is outside of the reserved area. Artists and craftsmen from all over the tow and villages on weekends display their products at the market, which is visited by the population of the entire region. In addition, craftsmen's workshops and souvenir shops have been restored in the reserved area along the main line over the recent years and it provides tourists with the opportunity not only to buy souvenirs but also watch the work of the craftsmen.

3.1.e. Protection and management requirement

The Reserve and all the monuments in it are protected under the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 470-IQ, dated 10 April, 1998, on “Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments.”

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan is the relevant executive authority which is responsible for protection of movable and immovable cultural heritage in the territory of Azerbaijan Republic. The Sheki City “Yukhari Bash” State Historical and Architectural Reserve, which is subordinated to the Ministry, and operating since 1967, is a relevant state body to carry out the protection of the historical part of Sheki.

On January 19, 2016, by Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Reserve was given the National Reserve status, which will attract more attention to the integrity of the Old City, its improved management and increase of public investments.

Although the restoration and reconstruction and development projects in the Reserve’s territory are developed by separate legal entities and individuals, they cannot be implemented without the approval of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic. For the protection of the natural landscape in the Reserve territory, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, for landscaping of the territory and repair and reconstruction of the engineering and communication lines, Sheki City Executive Power and Sheki City Municipality are in charge. Sheki City Executive Power is also conducting recovery, reconstruction and renovation works in the Reserve on the basis of a project approved by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic. The protection of the historical part of Sheki City is related to other factors along with the main direction of preservation of the historical and cultural monuments.

The buffer zone of the nominated area is set on the boundaries of the Reserve and 200 meters to the left of the Deyirmanchay River within the precincts of the modern city. The area of the buffer zone is 146 ha. Likewise, a zone for the terrain control of has been established, covering mountainous and forested area around the historic part of the city, which is 7km².

During the preparation of nomination documents of Historical Center of Sheki for submission to World Heritage List, the Azerbaijani government has started

development of legal documents to give the status of "National Reserve" to the existing reserve which will be subordinate to only the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

Development of the management plan for the historical part of Sheki will create the possibilities for its management in proper way, to increase the number of skilled workers in that field, increase the decision-making power of the Reserve's Management and solve the problems of the area preservation including cleaning works in the area. Development of the proper management plan will also provide the increasing of the marketing and tourism aspects: enlarge the relations with tourism agencies and enrich the online information sources to inform the public, increase the level of purposeful promotional works for social and cultural activities and navigation marks in the Reserve's territory and not being in foreign languages, as well as increase the level of proper translation works for foreign tourists inside the Reserve.

Organization of the proper preservation of the Reserve will solve the problem of education awareness on the Reserve's cultural heritage conservation of the agency's staffs that decide on the Reserve's activities and apply the works and also Reserve residents sufficient knowledge about the Reserve's cultural heritage. Hopefully will be also solved the problem of the Reserve's administration to manage the financial function, and the Reserve's revenues, which are managed by the Region's Culture and Tourism Department, as well as acceptance of financial support from stakeholders.

Another problem to be solved by development of the Management plan for the Reserve is increasing (renaissance) of the local traditional craftsmanship role: to enlarge the number of government orders, to proper organization of the Association's work and implement innovations, as well as to introduce of craftsmanship samples on foreign markets, weak organization of exhibitions.

3.c. Comparative Analysis

Comparative analysis of Sheki town is considered by the following parameters.

1. The landscape of the area.

The town's location along the river, plenty of greenery in urban areas, red tile roofs, protruding silhouettes of minarets and mountain forest around it with residential building mixed with the surrounding landscape, remind some European towns, located in the highlands: Sarajevo, Plovdiv, Mostar as well as Safranbolu in Turkey. In Sheki the landscape played a decisive role in the development of the town, limiting its further development on both sides, thus displacing the general area of building to the west, which made it possible to maintain historical buildings of the town in their original forms.

3. The Khanate Capital

In the context of the capital of the Khanate, Sheki is comparable with capital cities of other khanates, founded in middle of the XVIII century in Azerbaijan's territory – Shusha, Baku, Shamakhi, Ganja, Guba, Lankaran, Nakhchivan.

Shusha. The city, founded as the capital of the Karabakh Khanate in the middle of the 18th century. Shusha was built as a fortress on a lofty mountain, the borders of which from three sides were almost vertical cliffs with the height of 200m. The town was surrounded by a defensive wall on the northern side, which was the most vulnerable to attacks. The planning structure of the City was laid in view of the terrain. From the main square, there was an arterial street in the meridian direction towards the Ganja Gate, and was further branching to the eastward by three beam streets running in latitudinal direction. Within the main streets of the City, were formed residential areas of different sizes and lineation, for the formation of which the ground forms played a role. The public and business center of Shusha is the basis of the planning structure, which is closely related to all the urban strand of the City.

Baku. The medieval Baku City, which although became the capital of the Baku Khanate in the middle of the 18th century, it did not go beyond the fortress walls. The city center moved around the Shirvanshahs Palace, located on a highly elevated part of the City, to the Palace of Baku Khans, at Salyan Gates of the City. The City Center was formed in front of the Palace Area and the Shopping Street along which shopping arcades, caravanserais, mosques, baths

were housed in. Development of the City outside the City Walls began after the Russian Empire conquered the territory of Azerbaijan.

Lankaran - the capital of the Talysh Khanate since 1747. The City was within the borders of the Old Castle, surrounded by moats. The City Center was formed traditionally – with a mosque and two markets and lots of shops around. The center was surrounded by one-storey residential development. In 1823, Lankaran became a part of the Russian Empire. In place of the old fortress a new castle was constructed, where a new Uyezd city of Baku Guberniya was built.

Guba – the City, arisen as the capital of the Guba Khanate. The fortress city of Guba was stretching along the Gudyalchay River from east to west and was surrounded by a brick wall, 6-8m in height, 2m in width. In the planning structure of the city within the City Walls, there there's a series of main guiding streets with shops, the structure of which were included mosques. The Khan Palace is overlooking to the main square with Dzhuma Mosque.

Ganja – a medieval city, which has been subjected to numerous attacks and destructions. In the late 18th century, the City was divided into the fortress and the outer settlement, which located around the fortress and was surrounded by a mud wall. The fortress was in a hexagonal shape. Inside the fortress, there was the residence of Khan in a citadel form, where a whole range of facilities were locating. The streets of the fortress were straight, from north to south. The Citadel included a central architectural complex of the city, numerous dwellings and gardens. The area of the Complex with Dzhuma Mosque was built in shops, bazaars, caravanserais and silk and paper mills.

Sheki City being the capital of the Sheki Khanate, which was the first khanate established in the territories of Azerbaijan, was rebuilt in a new location after the total destruction in 1772. Unlike other capitals of the khanates, it was not surrounded by castle walls. Only the Khan's Palace was within the Citadel. The City Center was not consisting of a square, rather a main way along the river, where mosques, caravanserais, shops, baths were located.

Baku has retained its historical structure within the fortress. But it's not the center of the historic city anymore, rather is a historic part of the city, which lost its importance as the center by the oil boom and the growth of the city outside the city walls, starting from the second half of the 19th century.

Lenkoran, Cuba, Nakhchivan lost not only their castle walls, but also the historical layouts.

In Ganja, according to the plan of the City developed by Russian engineers in 1873, the castle walls were torn down, and a garden and houses were built in their place. The Central Square with its existing mosques and caravanserais have been preserved, but heavily modified by modern public use buildings.

Shamakhi was completely destroyed by numerous wars, and the existence of walls and numerous public and commercial buildings has been known from the descriptions of travelers. By the end of the 18th century, the City turned into ruins. The maps of the City of that period haven't been preserved.

Shusha was destroyed during the Armenian-Azerbaijani war in 1992.

Among the capitals of the 18th century khanates, only **Sheki** City has retained its historic significance as the center of the modern city with the original planning structure within its historical borders. The new City has developed along the left side of the Deyirmanchay River, without prejudice to the old City. And today the historic arterial road is the central one, where the Karvansaray hotels, city mosques, craftsmen's workshops, restaurants and shops are located. It's not only a tourist center of the City, but also the social center of the modern City.

2. The capital of the khanate and palace buildings.

Within the context of the capital of khanate, Sheki is comparable to the capital cities of other khanates established in the middle of XVIII century on the territory of Azerbaijan-Shusha, Shamakhi, Ganja, Guba, Lankaran and Tiflis (now Tbilisi). Though khanates were independent, innovations in the art of the Iranian state, which came with the ruling Qajar dynasty, were reflected on the countries controlled by this dynasty some time ago. Contemporary at that time the direction had an impact in all areas of the arts-painting, music, literature and architecture. Newly built mosques, palaces and houses of the rich social stratum – merchants were signing by narrative pictures in the dominant and fashionable Qajar style. Unfortunately only Khan's Palace remained in Sheki out of many palaces built on the territory of Azerbaijan within the period. The palaces of Shusha were destroyed

during the war 1990-1994, the palaces of Ilisu were washed away by mud flow, the palaces of Shamakhi were destroyed by earthquakes and the palaces of Guba and Ganja were destroyed for similar reasons. Thus, the monuments providing clear evidence on the influence of Qajar architecture school on construction of the late XVIII on the territory of Azerbaijan were preserved only in Sheki.

The Palace of Sheki Khans as well as the House of Shekikhanovs is distinguished by simplicity of planning inherent to the residential houses of Sheki. However, finishing of internal surfaces of niches and Bukhara, wall and ceilings painting, the use of mirrors and shabaka in interiors and facades creates link of Sheki style palaces with the palaces of Iran, House of Arshakuni in Tbilisi and unpreserved Palace of Sardar Khan's in Irevan.

Comparing the architecture of the Palace of the Sheki Khans with the buildings of Iran close to this type of architecture, we find the similarities in an ordinary civil architecture rather than in the Palace architecture of the Iranian capitals. The similarity of Sheki Palace with the palaces of Tehran, Tabriz, Isfahan, Shiraz and other cities is limited to the separate parts of the architectural and decorative appearance. The architecture of Sheki Palace allows us to say that the builders used traditions of folk architecture in their work developing and enriching them but without changing their general nature.

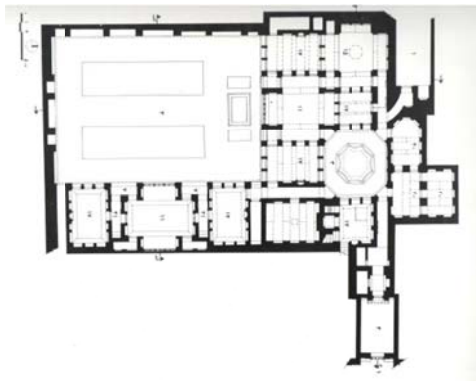


Figure 3-1. Palace in Iran

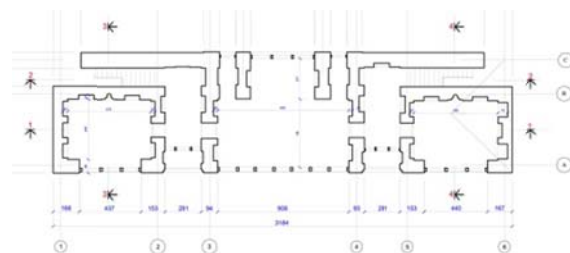


Figure 3-2. Palace in Sheki

If we mention the paintings in the interiors of the palaces of Qajar period, the paintings of Azerbaijan are reflection of rich folk art of Azerbaijan. Such motives can be found in other types of folk art- carpets, embroideries, silk painting. Paintings of Azerbaijan differ from the paintings of Iran, where the subjects are closely related to the theme of miniature painting or paintings of Central Asia with domination of geometric designs and floral motifs in the form of individual trees. The influence of European life-style and European culture of painting, to which the

Qajar Dynasty was giving priority, was reflected in paintings of their palaces in Iran. There are huge wall paintings depicting the ruler and his attendants in the splendid palace interiors, portraits of princes, historical battles, romantic love stories that are contrary to Islam.



Figure 3-3. Wall painting in Iran



Figure 3-4. The wall painting in Iran

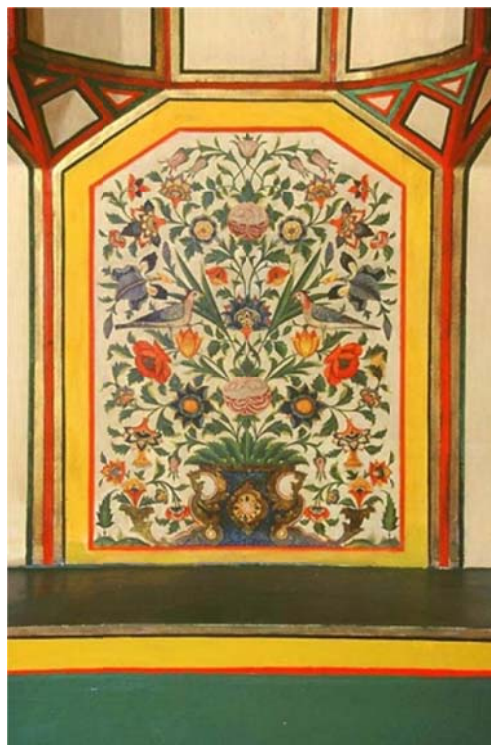


Photo 3-12. The wall painting in Sheki khan palace



Photo 3-13. The wall painting in Sheki khan Palace

All the above-mentioned cannot be seen in Sheki Palaces, residential houses and mosques. Wall paintings of Sheki are the monuments of local artistic style, rich folk art of Azerbaijan. If wall paintings of historical battles in the Iranian palaces are put together as separate wall panel picture, the battle scenes at the Palace in Sheki are depicted on the coating of the hall of the second floor with a length of 12.6 m and scenes of hunting are depicted in the Northern niche of the hall with a length of 4.5 m. Such pictures displaying events have no analogues in any of the palaces of the Qajar period. There are panel pictures at Sheki Palace but they differ from the picture of Qajar period since they have no subject compositions and perspectives. Images of birds and animals are parts of the flower compositions. The characters of poems by Nizami are described in seven niches of the House of Shekikhanovs. However, the remoteness of the landscape and architectural structures are the only examples of conventional perspective characteristic for the early paintings of the East.



Photo 3-14. The wall painting in Shekikhanov house



Photo 3-15. The wall painting in Shekikhanov house

If we compare the Sheki Palace with the Palace of Sardar Khan's in Irevan (1760s) and the House of Arshakuni in Tiflis (1850s) by undestroyed photos and pictures, it could be mentioned that decoration of these palaces were made in the ways techniques characteristic for Iranian art of the later time by the scale, interpretation of the subject composition and colouring. There were a lot of stucco floral ornament, made on the mirror base, which are characteristic for the palaces of the late Qajar period and are not typical at the Palace in Sheki.



Photo 3-16. Interior of 1st floor Sheki Khan Palace

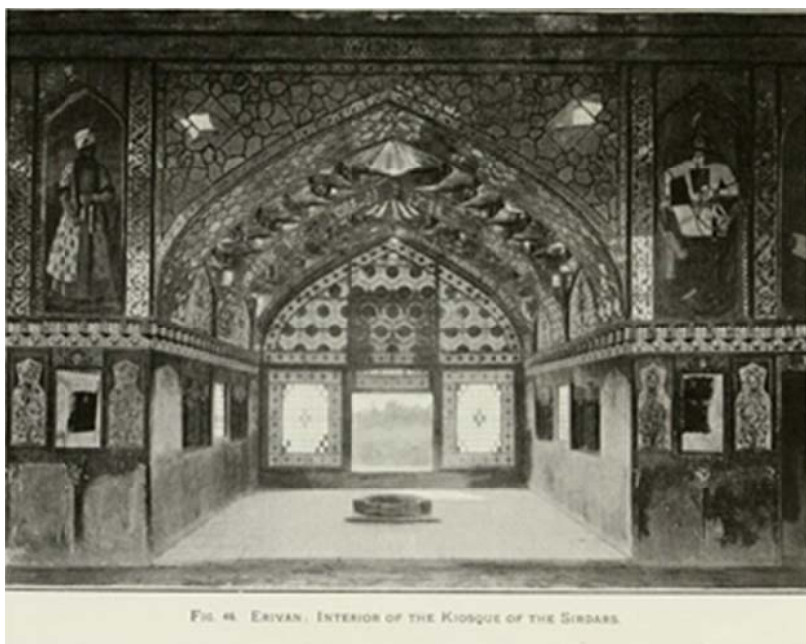


Photo 3-17. Interior of Sardar Palace in Irevan (1918)

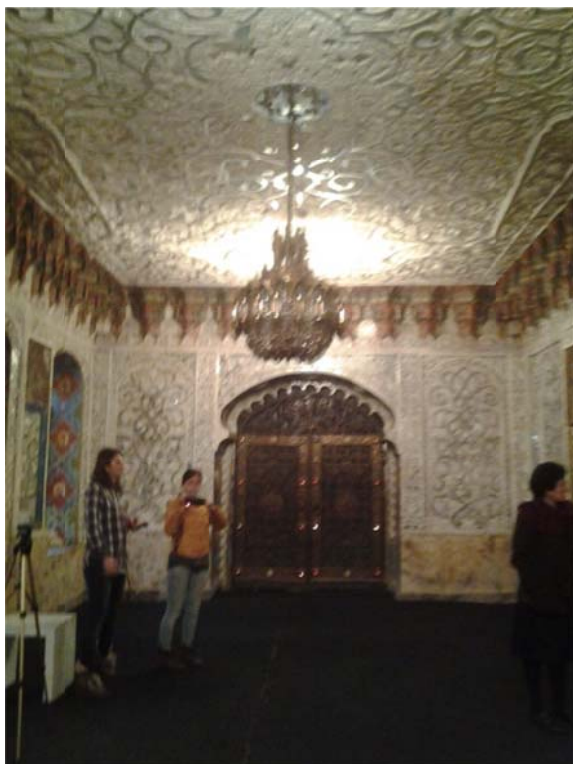


Photo 3-18. Interior of Arshakuni Palace in Tbilisi

3. Location of the town and its buildings

According to the location and type of buildings Sheki can be compared to the Turkish town Safranbolu.

Starting from XIII century Safranbolu was an important settlement on the main caravan trade route East-West. Location of both towns on the Caravan routes created both architecture and employment: a large number of caravan sheds and bath-houses were built and the population was involved in activities meeting the requirements of the merchants arriving here. They were involved in production and selling their products on the highways of the town.

Location on the mouths of the mountain rivers affected the configuration of streets and building materials. In both towns the river stone is used both in public and residential construction and when paving the streets.

Sheki is located in a mountainous seismic area and that is why, construction of the early residential buildings is based on the use of timber-framed system like half-timbered. The design of the houses is hidden in the thickness of the wall providing elasticity to the masonry construction and eliminating vibrations occurring during the earth shocks. The Houses in Safranbolu have the same design but it is open and faces the facades.

Plastered walls in the interiors of the houses, the availability of shelves for copper and ceramic ware, decorated Bukharas, where on both sides there are shelves for dishes and ceilings painted with colours and built of wooden planks - all this emphasizes the similarity of the architecture and traditions of two towns - Safranbolu in Turkey and Sheki in Azerbaijan.



Residential house

The architecture of public buildings of Safranbolu is characteristic for Islamic towns of the East-prominent tiled domes of mosques and baths demonstrate their designation. The landscape, climate, abundant rainfall influenced the General perception of Sheki. Viewing the town from its highest points, it is impossible to distinguish the public buildings located close to each other as they are all covered with a pitched tiled roof. The availability of mosques can be seen only by minarets jutting through the thickness of the tile surfaces. This is a characteristic feature of Sheki and its attractiveness.

Mostar (Bosnia-Herzegovina). In the 15th century when the Ottoman Empire occupied Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mostar looked as a very small town formed at the trade route near a wooden bridge. There were only 19 houses there. The City was built on the banks of the Neretva River, in mountain terrain on both sides of the river on the basis of the Eastern Islamic cities with its characteristic mosques, caravanserais, shopping streets, and the citadel of the rulers. Location near river, local building materials-river stone, of which the city was built and streets, shopping streets were paved, and an assortment of artisans inherent in Islamic Culture are common features that make Sheki City kin with Mostar.

When comparing residential houses of Sheki with the houses of neighbouring countries – Georgia and Svanetia it is determined that they have similar layout features and details like beams, shabaka. All of them are connected by the unity of natural and climatic conditions, the similarity of building materials and adaptation to local conditions of life.

Residential houses of wealthy class are comparable to similar buildings of other regions of Azerbaijan – Shusha, Guba and Ilisu. There were many similar features-like planning traits and design of guest rooms, where the interiors had wall painting, fireplaces, shabaka stained-glass windows, niches or cupboards “refs”. However, at this time only in Sheki you can see the work of craftsmen. In other regions, the samples of decorations of the palaces and the houses of wealthy class have not been preserved for various reasons.

4. The development of sericulture.

Naturally, Sheki cannot be compared to the towns of China where the silk worm cocoons were grown as far back as III century A.D. and the silk was a symbol of the country since the times of the dynasties of Qin and Han (III century B.C.). China is now the most influential manufacturer and exporter of silk: there thousands of factories operating here, the Chinese cocoon and raw silk make up seven-tenth of the world production and the goods made of silk – 70% of the world market.

However, according to the archaeological sources, residents of Sheki region were growing silkworms and manufacturing threads as far back as III-V centuries B.C. Location of the town on the Great Silk Road contributed to the development of sericulture. Sericulture and related trade were the main sources of income and development of the town. However, the highest development of sericulture was following increase in demand for silk products in Europe in the mid of 19th century, associated with the silkworm disease in Europe and closer location of Sheki to Europe compared to China. Sheki of the mid 19th century can be compared with Tomioka Silk Mill (Japan). Development of sericulture in Japan also started in the 1st century. However, Japan was located on the Great Silk Road as Sheki and, therefore, sericulture started developing mainly from the mid 19th century after the opening of ports. Raw silk and silk threads were the primary types of product both at Tomioka and Sheki Silk Mills. Like in Japan, production technologies and machinery were imported from France and Italy.

If a large industrial mill with all the auxiliary units was established in Tomioka, in Sheki there were small factories and private co-operative craft societies, although they were producing huge quantity of raw silk. At the beginning of 20th century Sheki was the major center of sericulture of Russia. A total of 107 factories and cooperative craft societies were operating in Sheki in 1915 and the products were sold for the amount of 9753740 roubles. If Japan was the main exporter of silk to the USA, Sheki was one of the main exporters to Italy, France and Russia.

The first silk mill was built in Sheki in the Soviet period in 1931.

Achievement of scientific and technical progress and cheap artificial silk and products results in decrease of demand for the natural silk. Industrial manufacturing of expensive silk does not justify the investments. That is why, Tomioka Silk Mill shuts down in 1987. Sheki silk factory in 1990s reduces its production to minimum. Although Sheki silk factory has been gathering pace of

manufacture since 2000 and its workshops annually manufacture the products for approximately 5 mln. USD.

5. The development of handicrafts

The location on the Silk Road promoted the growth of handicrafts in the town. In 1834 there were more than 400 shops of the craftsmen on the streets and the Bazaar. Among the products of handicrafts manufactured in Sheki, there are products that are inherent only to this region.

First, it is “tekelduz” – coloured thread silk tambour embroidery on a dark velvet with a special needle called “garmach”. This embroidery method is used in Central Asia and the Middle East countries. However “tekelduz” made in Sheki is different from the similar embroideries in all over the East as picture, design and technique of embroidery.



Photo 3-21. Embroidery “Tekkelduz”



Photo 3-22. Shawls-kalagayi



Photo 3-23. Shawls-kalagayi



Photo 3-24. Trunk boxes “mujru”(overhead).

Second, it is women’s shawls-kalagayi and scarves of silk fabric made in Sheki with applied manually patterns. When colouring the handkerchief and preparation of dyes for the picture, the branches of the soragan tree, growing in the forests of Sheki and other vegetable dyes are used. Kalaghayi is included in the list of UNESCO’s intangible heritage.

The third handicraft products are trunk boxes “mujru”. The small trunk boxes “mujru” where women stored their jewellery or embroidery threads are inherent only for Sheki. The small trunk boxes are made of local hardwoods like chestnut, walnut and decorated with hammered copper. From olden times and nowadays the small trunk boxes “mujru” are the major attribute in the dowry of every girl of this region.

6. Types of public buildings.

Caravan sheds of Sheki are comparable with caravan sheds in Central Asia, Baku and other Eastern countries where the principle of perimetral layout of the rooms around the courtyard is followed. The rooms’ location of the lower caravan shed of Sheki is different from all similar caravan sheds. Each unit here is intended for three floors is designed for one visitor, the goods were stored in the basement, business negotiations were conducted on the first floor and the bedrooms were

located on the second floor. The connection between the floors was inside the unit - stone stairs between the basement and the first floor and wooden straight- stair between the first and the second floor.



Photo 3-25. Low karavansaray

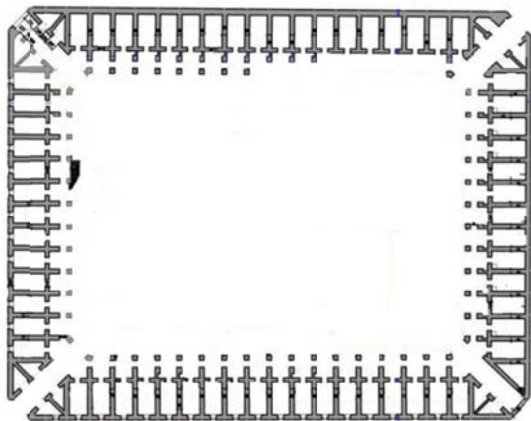


Figure 3-5. Plan of low karavansaray



Photo 3-26. Upper karavansaray. View from yard

Bath houses of Sheki have the same traditional structure of bath houses of the medieval period. Unlike traditional bath houses of the East domed halls do not

protrude over the volume of the building, they are covered by a pitched roof with tiled floors.



Photo 3-26. Abdul Khaliq bath.

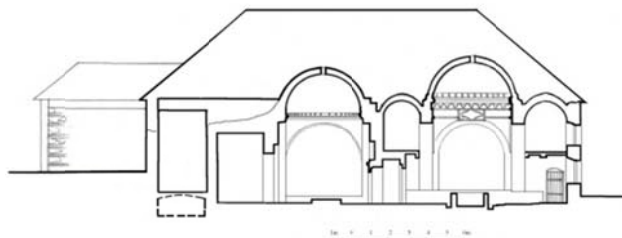


Figure 3-6. Section of Abdul Khaliq bath

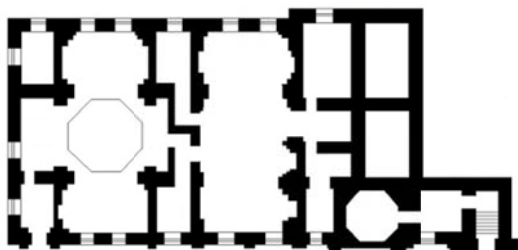


Figure 3-7, Plan of Abdul Khaliq bath.

3.3. Proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

BRIEF SYNTHESIS

The historic town of Sheki, located in the northern part of modern Azerbaijan, has ancient origins as part of the Caucasian Albania, dating from the 6th century BCE. The current historic centre results from the reconstruction, after a mud flood in 1772, on higher ground in a mountain valley east of the previous site. Due to the natural limitations of the valley, the historic area has retained its overall urban form, but has expanded within the original building lots, following traditional typological patterns. The traditional buildings with their typical high saddle roofs, deep verandas and gardens constitute the consistent and characteristic visual integrity of the historic urban landscape, within the spectacular setting of the protected mountain slopes.

Being in contact with important trade routes, the region of Sheki has been subject to a variety of cultural influences. Christianity was here introduced as early as the 1st century CE, and Islam in the 7th century. During its history it has been under various governments, including the Safavids and Qajars until the 18th century, followed by the Russian rule in the 19th century. These different cultures have also influenced the features of architecture, of which the Khan's Palace is an outstanding example, also reflected in many of the interiors of wealthy merchant houses (e.g. bukharas, fire places).

In 1743, Sheki was established as the first and the most powerful of a series of Khanates in Caucasus, representing a new administrative system in the region. As a trading centre, in contact with Asia and Europe, the principal economy of Sheki, from the ancient times, has been based on silkworm breeding, trading of cocoons, and the development of various crafts, which still continue in the region. These activities were favoured due its particularly suitable climatic conditions. At the same time, the morphology of the urban fabric and its growth patterns were a direct result of the topography of the site, and the economic developments and related activities.

JUSTIFICATION FOR CRITERIA

Criterion (ii): Exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design

The present-day Historic Centre of Sheki exhibits an important interchange of multiple cultural influences, which have their origin in history over two millennia. The current urban form, which dates back to the new construction after the flood of 1772, continued earlier building traditions responding to the local climatic conditions, and the requirements of the traditional economy and crafts activities. These developed in close contact with the Silk Roads trading system, and particularly under the Safavid and Qajar influences of the Persian Empire, and the later impact of Russian rule. As the major cultural and commercial centre in the region, Sheki in turn influenced a wider territory of Caucasus and beyond.

Criterion (iii): Bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization, which is living or which has disappeared.

The Historic Centre of Sheki bears exceptional testimony to the feudal system of the Caucasian khanates, which developed from 1743 to 1819, and was also expressed in the architecture of the Khan's palaces, interiors of wealthy merchant houses, and the fortification. Sheki has long tradition in silkworm breeding, as well as related handicrafts, textiles, carpets, woodwork, copper and brass work. Such activities still continue in the region. It has been particularly important for the export of cocoons to many countries, including Europe, until the early 20th century. Sheki has also been a major centre for the production of embroidery, using special techniques especially developed in this region.

Criterion (iv): Be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;

The Historic Centre of Sheki is an outstanding example of an architectural ensemble, which has maintained its traditional urban form from its construction in the late 18th century and is naturally limited by its geographical location in the mountain valley. Its focal point is the Khan's Palace within a fortified enclosure. The main axes are associated with public buildings, such as mosques, caravanserais, and hammams, as well as silk factories and shops. The expansion of residential units has taken place within the original building lots, following traditional typological patterns, and characterised by high saddle roofs, deep verandas (eivans), and gardens. Together these constitute an exceptionally well-preserved historic urban landscape, within the spectacular setting of the protected mountain slopes.

Criterion (v): Be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;

The Historic Centre of Sheki has developed organically in close interaction with the natural conditions and climate of the mountain valley. The region, in fact, provides exceptionally favourable conditions for cultivation of mulberry trees. Consequently, the traditional economy of Sheki has always been based on silkworm breeding and production of cocoons. This activity and related crafts and trades also formed the basis for the urban morphology and building typology. Even though this economic basis still partly exists, its continuation is at risk under the impact of changes in the global trade.

STATEMENT OF INTEGRITY

The historic centre of Sheki has retained its overall integrity since its first construction due to constraints of the site in the mountain valley. It contains all the elements that justify its OUV. Together with its buffer zone, the settlement forms a coherent ensemble that has also retained its visual integrity intact.

STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

The historic centre of Sheki has retained its overall historical authenticity. The buildings of Sheki have been gradually built following traditional typological patterns of growth. Therefore, with few exceptions, most of the recent constructions also respect such traditional continuity. While some of the buildings are in need of repair, restoration and rehabilitation activities have been undertaken respecting the historical and architectural character of the place.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

The historic centre of Sheki has been indicated in the general urban master plan of the city as a conservation area, which is under the protection and management of the Ministry of Culture.

4. STATE OF CONSERVATION AND FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROPERTY



Photo 4-1. Chinar tree in the front of the Sheki Khan Palace

4. STATE OF CONSERVATION AND FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROPERTY

4.a. Present state of conservation

Traditional houses Sheki with their gardens and tiled roofs, streets paved with large river rocks, palaces and merchants' houses, caravan sheds, bath houses, artisan shops and the forested mountains surrounding the town even today have retained their identity and common perception of the synthesis of historical town and its surrounding landscape.

Preserved urban structure, non-rectilinear street networks, which do not change the role of the central highway are historical significance of the old town. Of course, being a lively urban structure, the town suffers some modifications. However, the limitations by existing topography does not provide an opportunity for expansion of the town, and assignment of the national park status to the historical centre protects the city from significant changes.

There are 2775 residential houses on the historical territory of Sheki (Protected and buffer zones) and 1255(45%) of these houses retained their historical integrity. Despite the fact that most of these houses have such modifications as glazing of “eyvans”, partial loss of architectural details such as the railings of the balconies and staircases, wooden eaves decoration and etc., outbuildings in the yard, the basic structure and layout as well as facades of the buildings have been retained.

A total of 738 houses (26,6%) have minor changes, which are reflected in additional extensions to the main retained historical house. These are such changes as increase of the area of “eyvan”, extensions where kitchen, hallway or other necessary auxiliary rooms are located.

A total of 315 (to 11.35%) historic houses are fully modified with extensions. These are additional rooms, verandas, modified roofs, etc.

A total of 361 houses (13%) on the site are newly built houses. They are built without taking into consideration of historical traditions and with the use of new modern materials.

A total of 84 houses (3%) are in a critical condition and requires immediate intervention. These are traditional houses, which were not subject to modifications

and mostly abandoned by the owners. They should be a priority policy for carrying out urgent measures. First of all, you need to repair the roof in order to stop further destruction, and secondly, find the ways to consolidate and restore them using traditional techniques and materials.

A total of 22 (0,8%) houses have been completely lost, plots of land are empty. These are private plots of land where the owners plan to build new houses. (map 2B in Attachment)

Dominant visual element of the landscape of Sheki are its tiled roofs, i.e. the shape and material of the roof, which characterizes the urban landscape within the surrounding natural landscape. The majority of buildings (77,7%) have historic materials, mainly traditional tile shingles, despite the complexity of maintenance. Part of the traditional roofs is contaminated by modern roofing materials (14,8%), such as light grey aluminium sheets and bright red modern industrial tiles that are not compliant with traditional harmony of historical nature. A total of 5.7% of newly built houses have a tin covering. Tile lining of 1.8% of houses is replaced with asbestos-cement slates. (Map 2F in Attachment)

In the past the central streets of the town were paved with large river stone. Currently the central highway (Akhundzade street), a street along the Deyirman river (M. Rasulzade) and Khoyski street were asphalted since they are the major highways. The streets within the quarter are paved with the river stone (“garsh”). Most of these streets are in need of repair. The streets in the outskirts of the historic town do not have a coating, formed from puddled earth which makes it difficult to go in rainy season of the year.

The central streets of the town historically were paved with the river stones. There were “*aryk*” (irrigation ditch) for outflow of the rainy water into the river. This system was preserved up to our days. These are M. Akhundzade and Rasulzade streets along two rivers Gurjana and Deyirman. The pavements on these streets have retained although their paving was replaced by the asphalt one. The other streets are narrower and had no pavements.



Photo 4-2. Aryk on the streets

In the early twentieth century there were 6 squares on the territory of the town where public life was going on. Currently the value of these squares have subsided although four squares and one place for the festivities retained their importance.

There are 36 points of accumulation of residents of Mehelle in Sheki and these places are called jimje. Residents of Mehelle gather in this jimje (men and women separately) to share the news, play backgammon and have a cup of tea. (map 2C in Attachment)

The territory of historical centre of Sheki was declared architectural conservation area in 1968 and it is protected by the state. A total of 26 of most valuable buildings and facilities of this architectural conservation area are included into the list of monuments of history and culture, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2001. List of 202 historic residential and public buildings with unique or distinctive features has been submitted for the status of a monument of architecture. The monuments for public use are mainly used by museums, exhibition halls, public institutions and therefore subjected to periodic technical repair, retain their historic integrity.

The Territory of Protected zone.

Facades, gates, fences and tile roofs of the buildings were repaired through private grants in 2011-2012.

The development of market economy and annual increase in the number of tourists visiting the region have resulted in the need to create the service sector for the visitors. In addition to the establishment of Bed & Breakfast Association, Yukhari caravan shed was modified to use as a hotel (restoration was implemented in 1987) and the work is currently underway to establish a hotel in Ashagi caravan shed (restoration was implemented in 2012). Construction of the hotels meeting the high level of service was launched. Sheki Palace Hotel was built opposite Yukhari caravan shed on free territory, on the upper spur of the river, using existing landscape and traditions of Sheki residential house.

The Walls of Sheki fortress with a length of 1300m were restored several times by separate sites. There are currently damaged areas on the North and West of the fortress walls with a total length of up to 300m.

There were repair and restoration works at the **Palace of Sheki Khans** several times since 1848. Recent structural studies and restoration of the building and decoration of the Palace were carried out in 2001-2004 years. Museum installation of the monument was also made and now this is one of the most visited museums in Sheki.



Photo 4-3. Fortress walls

The building of barracks built in the late 19th century on the territory of the fortress walls remained unchanged. Two buildings were used by the medical institutions for various purposes during the Soviet period. These institutions are transferred and now the buildings are not used. Museum and art gallery and also

house of “shabaka” are located in two buildings and the Church. All barracks require restoration. It is planned to implement restoration works and organize Museum of silk in one of the buildings.

There are two buildings of the former prison on the territory inside the fortress walls and the Russian military men built these buildings at the end of 19th century. There are club and library in one of them. The second building of the prison was renovated in 2005-2007 and business incubator of the artisans is organized there and the members of the Association of artisans are working there. This building does not have heating system.

The area within the fortress is not improved and not suitable for receiving the number of tourists visiting the Palace of Sheki Khans and museums. There are no landscaped parks, cafes and tea-houses, outdoor recreational areas, benches and night lighting. All this work should be performed by the Administration of Conservation area.



Photo 4-4. The street in the town

A portable amphitheater covered by tarpaulin structures made of membrane materials was built near the lower gates of the fortress. Though it is close to the gates, placed in a way that does not adversely affect the perception of the square in front of the gate.

The area retains its designation as the main square of the town. Celebrations of the town are held here. Part of the square is asphalted. The replacement of asphalt with cobblestone paving can bring back its historic character.

Yukhari caravan shed was renovated in 1980-1985 and used as a hotel. The building requires partial restoration and more advanced installation to use as a hotel.

Ashagi caravan shed was renovated in 2013-2014, the project of making the building suitable for the hotel was developed and the relevant works are currently implemented.

House of Shekikhanovs was renovated in 2012-2013. The building is used as a museum.

The Bath-houses were retained in their historical type but they do not operate according to their designated function. Facades and roofs were renovated at “Agvanlar” bath-house, interiors require renovation. “Dere khamami” bath-house was not renovated. It is necessary to develop project proposal on renovation and adaptation of these bath-houses aimed for the tourism services.

The Mosques of the shopping street retained their identity. Following 1990s of XXth century the mosques were renovated using the funds of religious leaders and they used for the purpose intended.

The Residential houses where public institutions are located are regularly repaired by the state agencies.

Kindergartens and medical institutions, located at the nationalized private houses of the rich class of residents of Sheki during the Soviet period are transferred to the newly constructed buildings. Unfortunately, the houses, which have become available are not used and subject to more rapid dilapidation. The Program for restoration of these buildings and provide them to the institutions which meet the requirements of the time.



Photo 4-5. Zulfiqarov's residential house (orhanage)

The residential houses which are privately owned are repaired at the expense of the owners. There are residential houses the owners of which do not have funds for renovation and repair. Tile lining of the roofs and wooden decorative finishing of the buildings are especially in need of repair. The program for the restoration or grants for the owners of unique houses, which retained the wall paintings and bukhara with stucco and painted decoration, ceilings with frescoes or type-setting colored planks.



Photo 4-6. Hadji Rzagulu's residential house

Buffer zone.

The boundaries of the buffer zone coincide with the approved boundaries of the architectural conservation area "Yukhari-Bash".

There are also public monuments of local importance on the territory of the buffer zone.

Unfortunately, administration of the architectural conservation area has no regulatory legal acts on construction and therefore residential and public buildings which do not correspond the scale and nature of historic buildings are built on the territory of the old town.

Several residential houses made of raw brick and also workshops of craftsmen were demolished and 5-storey administrative building was built on the right bank of the Deyirman river in 1960s. Later the house of celebrations and repair shops were built.

In 1960s, prior to the announcement of the territory as reserved area, several shops were demolished on the shopping street and 5-storey dormitory building was built. In 2013, the dormitory was transferred to the new premises and the building is

being reconstructed for using it as a hotel. During reconstruction the building is being expanded, balconies and attics are being constructed and as a result, the building of the dormitory which does not meet the character of the housing development takes the form of a modern building of glass and concrete. It is in close proximity to the Juma mosque, at the entrance to the historic center of Sheki, which further exacerbates the situation.

5-storey hotel "Green Hill", which was built in 2010 in the South from the historic town is not large and compatible with surroundings.

The threat hung over the silk production plants. Currently the plant and private workshops are operating in this sector in Sheki. The buildings of the factories are empty, privatized by private owners who use these facilities for other purposes, often rearranging them.



Photo 4-7. Silk Artel (Private fabric)

Craftsmanship

There are several international programs for the rehabilitation and development of the craftsmanship in the country and Sheki is one of the major towns included in these programs. A total of 34 craftsmen are members of the association of

craftsmanship established in 2005 and they work in 18 kinds of handicraft. Shops in the building of craftsmen business incubator were allocated for them, they participate in competitions and fairs, winning prizes and medals. In general, there are more than 100 craftsmen working on 44 kinds of handicraft. Most of them have shops in the shopping street or in the bazaar; some of them work and sell their products at home.

Variety of embroidery and sewing silk with the threads, gold and silver plates are preserved only in Sheki and they are very popular among the tourists.

Handicraft products are being updated. Along with the traditional items, the products that meet today's needs are also being produced.

Silk has a special place in the life of Sheki residents. The plant and private workshops of silk production are operating, they are involved in manufacturing and painting traditional shawls “kalagayi” and modern scarves, dyed with vegetable dyes. Silk carpets are very popular they are considered as a valuable gift with fantasy of carpet-makers.

The traditionality has been preserved not only in buildings but also in the style of life. The residents of Sheki are still determining their belonging to the former historically formed “mehelles”. Even newly developed areas near Khochin cemetery are called “Teze” mehelle (new mehelle).

4.b. Factors affecting the property

i. Development Pressures (e.g. encroachment, adaptation, agriculture, mining)

The historical part of the city has mostly kept its integrity. However rapid economic development of Azerbaijan following establishment of independence led to the growth of construction, mainly for the needs of tourism. Several hotels were built on the territory of reserved area but they do not meet the shape proportion and architectural solution of the buildings of historical centre. In addition, they are built in close vicinity to monuments, breaking historically established connection of the monuments with the historic environment, sometimes penetrating right in their buffer zones. Due to the lack of appropriate rules of construction in historical area, some new residential buildings do not meet the requirements of the shape proportion, architectural solution and materials used. Appropriate technical and institutional regulations with regard to the development, approval, coordination of

projects and implementation of works related to the reconstruction and building in the historical district are being developed to resolve the problem.

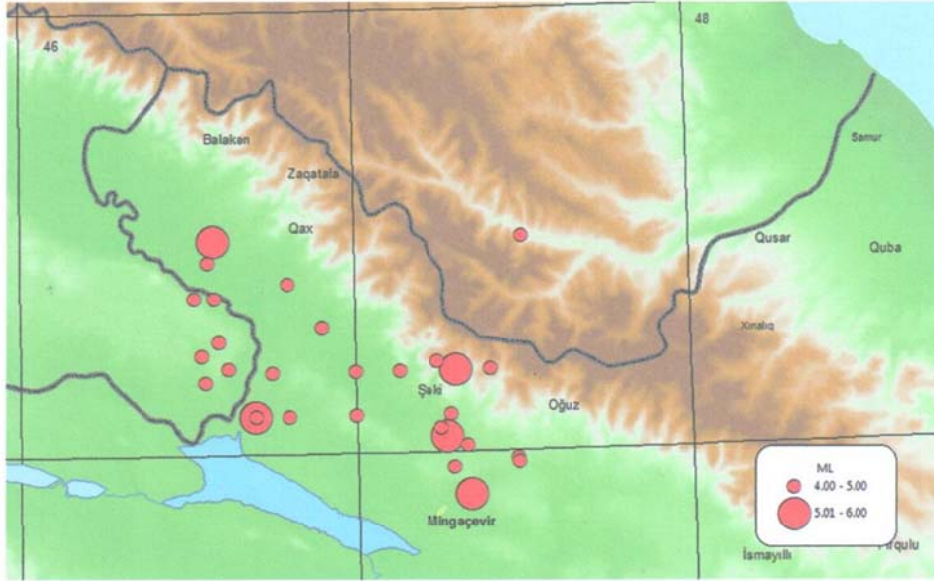
Taking into consideration the urgent need for convenient accommodation of tourists in such a tourist town as Sheki, restoration and adaptation of both preserved caravan sarays on the trade street in the reserved area “Yukhary Bash” as the hotels should be considered as positive solution. In addition to servicing the guests, there should also be allocated the places for handicraftsmen shops.

ii. Environmental pressures (e.g. pollution, climate change, desertification)

There are no significant environmental impacts on the area of the reserved area. There is no intensive motor traffic. There are no industrial enterprises which might cause damage to the condition of the buildings, air humidity and atmospheric precipitation do not exceed predictable rules, garbage is cleaned regularly. Contamination of rivers and channels of the open drainage system of the city (arch) should be considered as negative factor, although they are cleared annually at the expense of urban municipality.

(iii) Natural disasters and risk preparedness (earthquakes, floods, fires etc.)

(a) Earthquakes. Sheki is located on the branch of the Greater Caucasian range and belongs to a seismically active zone with the intensity of shocks of force 8-9. Over the past 50 years there were 29 perceptible medium powered seismic movements which did not result in severe destructions but had a negative impact on stability of old buildings. Renovation, reconstruction and new construction projects in this region are implemented taking into consideration of intensity 9.



Şəkil 1. Şəki və ətraf bölgələrdə 1960-2013-cü illərdə $m \geq 4.0$ olan baş vermiş zəlzələlərin episentrərlər xəritəsi.

Cədvəl 1. Şəki və ətraf bölgələrdə 1960-2013-cü illərdə $m \geq 4.0$ olan baş vermiş zəlzələlərin siyahısı

| Year | Mon | day | Time | lat | lon | H | Mlh | MI | Mpv | K |
|------|-----|-----|--------------|-------|-------|----|------|------|-----|------|
| 1961 | 7 | 8 | 11-20-56 | 41.10 | 46.70 | 15 | 4.50 | 5.65 | | 12.1 |
| 1963 | 4 | 23 | 06-39-19 | 41.20 | 47.30 | 5 | 4.10 | 5.09 | | 11.4 |
| 1969 | 7 | 19 | 00-10-53.0 | 41.30 | 46.90 | 20 | 4.00 | 4.93 | | 11.2 |
| 1969 | 11 | 11 | 15-08-49.0 | 41.20 | 47.00 | 17 | 4.00 | 4.93 | | 11.2 |
| 1972 | 11 | 5 | 13-06-41.1 | 41.20 | 47.40 | 5 | 4.00 | 4.93 | | 11.2 |
| 1974 | 3 | 24 | 07-36-30.1 | 41.10 | 46.70 | 35 | 3.89 | 4.77 | | 11 |
| 1975 | 8 | 10 | 03-17-56.0 | 41.50 | 47.50 | | 3.89 | 4.77 | | 11 |
| 1975 | 10 | 20 | 02-54-24.5 | 41.10 | 47.00 | | 3.89 | 4.77 | | 11 |
| 1979 | 4 | 5 | 09-32-21.0 | 41.40 | 46.80 | | 3.61 | 4.37 | | 10.5 |
| 1982 | 2 | 26 | 02-00-34.0 | 41.10 | 46.80 | 20 | 3.33 | 4.05 | 4.3 | 10.1 |
| 1983 | 7 | 23 | 17-00-46.0 | 41.07 | 47.25 | 20 | 3.72 | 4.53 | 4.8 | 10.7 |
| 1985 | 9 | 07 | 17-06-53.5 | 41.20 | 46.75 | | 3.72 | 4.53 | 4.9 | 10.7 |
| 1985 | 11 | 18 | 23-22-51.4 | 41.18 | 46.55 | | 3.56 | 4.29 | 4.5 | 10.4 |
| 1991 | 10 | 21 | 11-58-23.3 | 40.92 | 47.34 | | 4.22 | 5.25 | | 11.6 |
| 1992 | 05 | 21 | 23-57-34.1 | 41.03 | 47.33 | | 3.44 | 4.13 | 4.8 | 10.2 |
| 1998 | 08 | 13 | 16-55-18.7 | 40.98 | 47.29 | 13 | 3.39 | 4.05 | 4.6 | 10.1 |
| 1999 | 04 | 26 | 21-00-03.1 | 40.99 | 47.48 | 15 | 3.56 | 4.29 | 4.6 | 10.4 |
| 2000 | 3 | 9 | 14-29-40.5 | 41.00 | 47.48 | 14 | 3.89 | 4.77 | 5.2 | 11.0 |
| 2000 | 7 | 14 | 12-58-39.2 | 41.27 | 46.59 | 17 | 3.61 | 4.37 | 4.7 | 10.5 |
| 2001 | 10 | 30 | 04-31-37.5 | 41.21 | 46.62 | 23 | 3.78 | 4.61 | 5.0 | 10.8 |
| 2002 | 12 | 10 | 21-32-23.5 | 41.24 | 46.54 | 13 | 3.89 | 4.77 | 5.2 | 11.0 |
| 2003 | 03 | 10 | 01-15-31.4 | 41.37 | 46.58 | 13 | 3.4 | 4.13 | 4.6 | 10.2 |
| 2003 | 06 | 01 | 06-09-42.3 | 41.05 | 47.27 | 22 | 4.7 | 5.97 | 5.4 | 12.5 |
| 2004 | 02 | 8 | 21-44-22.0 | 41.22 | 47.24 | 11 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 4.9 | 10.8 |
| 2012 | 5 | 7 | 4-40-25.425 | 41.50 | 46.58 | 9 | | 5.6 | | 12.6 |
| 2012 | 5 | 7 | 5-40-29.635 | 41.37 | 46.52 | 5 | | 4.4 | | 10.9 |
| 2012 | 5 | 14 | 9-58-17.455 | 41.20 | 47.13 | 6 | | 4.1 | | 10.5 |
| 2012 | 5 | 15 | 4-54-37.680 | 41.45 | 46.56 | 11 | | 4.1 | | 10.5 |
| 2013 | 4 | 18 | 20:38:51.732 | 41.10 | 47.28 | 25 | | 4.47 | | |

Figure 4-1. The map and list of the earthquake in 1960-2013 in Sheki and around district

(b) Floods. The river Kish is the most dangerous river of the region which overflows every 2-3 years as a result of melting of snow and heavy rains in spring-summer period. Overflows causing damage to the agriculture and nearby roads take place once every 40-60 years. The river is currently remoted from the town centre and that is why, the floods on the river are safe for the town buildings (the data is reflected in the materials of the town master plan for 2010-2013, developed and approved in 2010).

(c) Fires. Location of the city is surrounded by forest what increases the risk of fires. But over the last 50 years there was no evidence of forest fires in this area.

iv. Responsible visitation at World Heritage sites (tourism impacts)

The number of tourists is increasing every year. It is impossible to provide accurate statistics of tourists visiting the city, because there is no sale of tickets at the entrance to the territory of the reserved area, besides the hotels and rooms of B&B (Bed and breakfast) Association, which operates in the city, the tourists are staying with friends, without staying for the night they pass further etc. According to rough estimates, 35-38 thousand tourists visited the town in 2013 and 8 thousand of them are foreign tourists. Only a small part of tourists use the services of guides.

More than 30 thousand tourists visited the Palace of Sheki Khans in 2013. The number of visitors grows every year to about 6-8 thousand persons. In museums, tourists are accompanied by guides, the halls are equipped with surveillance system and therefore, it is impossible to speak about the damage to tourists. In the reserved area there is no particular reason to note about damage from tourists. On the contrary, during the tourist season the town residents are involved in the service sector, workshops work at full capacity making traditional local sweets, sale of souvenirs made of silk and handicraft products. Rural tourism and equine tourism are developing. The negative aspect is construction of hotels of a high level of service on the historical territory without complying with nature of building and shape proportion with the environment. The positive aspect is travel catering (cafes, restaurants, hotels and museums), the work of Bed&breakfast Association, sale of handicraft products.

v. Number of inhabitants within the property and the buffer zone

Estimated population located within:

Area of nominated property -7200

Buffer zone -4860

Total-12060

Year - 2014

5. PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PROPERTY

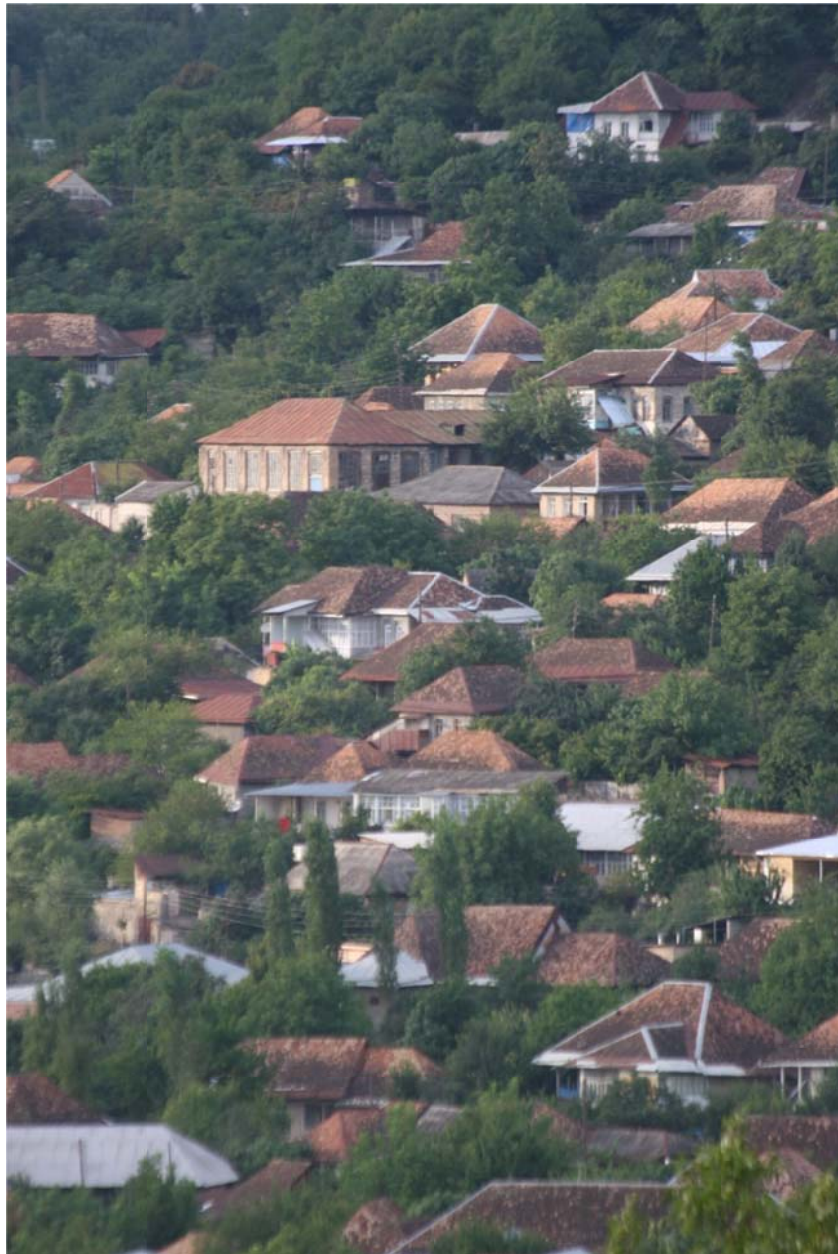


Photo 5-1. View of Sheki

5. PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PROPERTY

5.a. Ownership

The area of the reserve is 233 ha.

The area within the city walls, schools, kindergartens, factories and other offices within the territory of the reserve is under state property. (32ha)

The streets, squares, parks, graveyards, river outlets, 6 land plots with residential houses are under the property of municipality.

5 public buildings are owned by private associations.

4 mosques and 1 madrasah belong to religious property. While one mosque and two separate standing minarets (without mosques) are under state property.

Residential houses, one factory, newly-built hotels, stores and shops of craftsmen are privately owned (75% of the reserve area), while the area of shops of craftsmen located on the ground floor of caravansaraies in the incubators of craftsmen is under state ownership.

5.b. Protective designation

The “Yukhari Bash” State Historical and Architectural Reserve, which was established by Order No. 594, dated 24 November, 1967, of the Council of Ministers of Azerbaijan SSR and is functioning under the Ministry Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic. (Annex 1)

The city administration of Sheki has adopted a new Urban Master Plan in 2010 which was established by Order No. 7, dated 12 January, 2015year of the Council of Ministers of Azerbaijan Republic. This plan regulates the entire urbanized area and its surroundings. In this Master Plan, the historic area of Sheki is identified as a "Yukhari-Bash" Historic-Architectural Reserve of Sheki. This area is under the management by the Ministry of Culture, who has an office in Sheki . (Annex 2)

In the territory of the Reserve, there are 9 architectural, 1 archaeological and 1 park monument of national importance; 15 architectural monuments of local importance. The division of the immovable historical and cultural monuments to

the level of importance. In the territory of Azerbaijan Republic State Protection zone which was established by Order No. 132, dated 2 august, 2001, of the Council of Ministers of Azerbaijan Republic. (Annex 3)

the Administration of the Reserve for inclusion in the list of architectural monuments. There are 6 mosques, 2 minarets from non-extant mosques, 2 church buildings, 3 baths, 9 factories and artisans' bands, 2 caravanserais, 7 museums, 3 hotels, shops and craft shops. The public monuments are primarily used by museums, exhibition halls, and public institutions, and therefore keep their historic integrity by being subjected to periodic maintenance.

During the preparation of nomination documents of Historical Center of Sheki for submission to World Heritage List, the Azerbaijani government has started development of legal documents to give the status of "National Reserve" to the existing reserve which will be subordinate to only the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

By Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, dated January 19, 2016, the status of the "Yukhari Bash" State Historical Architectural Reserve, covering the historic part of Sheki to up to the "National Reserve", was upgraded. The President instructed the Cabinet of Ministers to prepare proposals "On the adaptation of buildings that violate the main street network and the main configuration of the Reserve, and which damage its architectural value and style. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Ministry of Environment, the National Academy of Sciences, the Executive Power of Sheki were tasked to prepare and submit proposals within two months for the preservation of the natural landscape and greening of Sheki City.

The national reserve will be financed from republic budget and the amount of financing will be increased.

The staff of the reserve will be increased up to 64 personnel.

5.c. Means of implementing protective measures.

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan is the relevant executive authority which is responsible for protection of movable and immovable cultural heritage in the territory of Azerbaijan Republic. The Sheki City “Yukhari Bash” State Historical and Architectural Reserve, which is subordinated to the Ministry, and operating since 1967, is a relevant state body to carry out the protection of the historical part of Sheki. Although the restoration and reconstruction and development projects in the Reserve’s territory are developed by separate legal entities and individuals, they cannot be implemented without the approval of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic. For the protection of the natural landscape in the Reserve territory, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, for landscaping of the territory and repair and reconstruction of the engineering and communication lines, Sheki City Executive Power and Sheki City Municipality are in charge. Sheki City Executive Power is also conducting recovery, reconstruction and renovation works in the Reserve on the basis of a project approved by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic. The protection of the historical part of Sheki City is related to other factors along with the main direction of preservation of the historical and cultural monuments.

Some works have been carried out in recent years in order to protect the area. In the last five years, restoration works have been carried out in Ashaghi Karvansaray, Shekikhanov’s House, the library named after Nakam, the Castle Walls, and the House Museum of M.F. Akhundov. Currently, the adaptation works for the use of Ashaghi Karvansaray as a hotel are underway. One of the most important things to be done in the current year is the restoration of Gileyli Minaret and clean up of garbage in the river bed for protection of the Minaret and bank consolidation works to protect the site and the Minaret against flood waters.

Sheki City Executive Power has carried out landscaping works in the streets and parks, as well as restoration and repair works in facades of buildings, roof covers and communication lines. City planning principles are generally kept in the Reserve territory. But despite all this, still there’re monuments or other buildings in the area, which are in unsafe conditions, and are in need of restoration and repair works. In order to improve the Reserve’s functioning, the Model Statute of the Historical Monuments, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers’ Resolution No. 74,

dated 18 March, 2008, the laws of Azerbaijan Republic “On the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments”, dated 10 April, 1998, and “On the Culture”, dated, December 21, 2012, the “Detailed Rules on the Middle Distance”, approved by Resolution No. 72 of the Cabinet of Ministers of Azerbaijan Republic, dated 11 March, 2014, and other legal and regulatory documents are necessary documents adopted for the protection of the Area.

Despite all this, in separate cases, renovation works mainly in private houses or construction of new buildings that distort the panoramic view of the Reserve can be found. At the same time, the unused vacant monuments or other buildings are among major problems. For resolution of the current problems, for conservation and management of the Area, the development of a management plan is essential.

To solve the problems they should be divided into several groups. First of all should be solved the problem of restoration and conservation of the monuments and preservation of the integrity of the historical part. For that purpose should be analysed the existed situation with separate monuments and complexes. Facilities that violate the panoramic (visual) view in the Reserve’s territory should be demolished, monuments should be restored. Special mechanism of restoration of the private valuable buildings should be worked out. Special plan should be developed for new use of abandoned monuments. Some historical streets should be renovated, restored or repaired to preserve their historical integrity.

Development of the management plan for the historical part of Sheki will create the possibilities for its management in proper way, to increase the number of skilled workers in that field, increase the decision-making power of the Reserve’s Management and solve the problems of the area preservation including cleaning works in the area. Development of the proper management plan will also provide the increasing of the marketing and tourism aspects: enlarge the relations with tourism agencies and enrich the online information sources to inform the public, increase the level of purposeful promotional works for social and cultural activities and navigation marks in the Reserve’s territory and not being in foreign languages, as well as increase the level of proper translation works for foreign tourists inside the Reserve.

Organization of the proper preservation of the Reserve will solve the problem of education awareness on the Reserve’s cultural heritage conservation of the agency’s staffs that decide on the Reserve's activities and apply the works and also Reserve residents sufficient knowledge about the Reserve's cultural heritage. Hopefully will be also solved the problem of the Reserve’s administration to

manage the financial function, and the Reserve's revenues, which are managed by the Region's Culture and Tourism Department, as well as acceptance of financial support from stakeholders.

Another problem to be solved by development of the Management plan for the Reserve is increasing (renaissance) of the local traditional craftsmanship role: to enlarge the number of government orders, to proper organization of the Association's work and implement innovations, as well as to introduce of craftsmanship samples on foreign markets, weak organization of exhibitions.

5.d. Existing plans related to municipality and region in which the proposed property is located (e.g. regional or local plan, conservation plan, tourism development plan)

1. Annual work plan of "Yukhari Bash" state Historical and Architectural reserve for 2015. (responsible: Administration of Reserve)

2. Work and Action Plan of Sheki Tourism Information Centre for 2015.

(responsible: Sheki Tourism Information Centre) Annex

3. In order to solve the existing problems in the field of restoration and preservation of historical and cultural monuments and reserves, and to organize their protection works in the modern level, in December 27, 2013, by Order No. 195 of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the State Program "For the Restoration, Conservation of Immovable Historical and Cultural Monuments, and for Improving the Functioning of Historical and Cultural Reserves for 2014-2020" was approved (attachment: Order No. 195 of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Approval of the State Program "For the Restoration, Conservation of Immovable Historical and Cultural Monuments, and for Improving the Functioning of Historical and Cultural Reserves for 2014-2020").

4. In 2015 was prepared and presented to the Council of Ministers for passing the program "Azerbaijan: North-Western Corridor .Tourism Development Strategy"

Baku-Shamakhi-Ismayilli-Qabala-Sheki-Qax-Zaqatala-Balakan" , preparing Word Bank (Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice East and Central Asia Region) credit for 2015-2025.

The World Bank's Country Partnership Strategy will help ensure the sustainability of this improvement by creating more job opportunities through tourism, especially in local communities across the North-Western Corridor.

5.e. Property management plan or other management system

The territory of reserve is an urban area where public, religious and industrial buildings have been mainly constructed since 19th century. It is still a centre of public and cultural life of people of Sheki. Small business entities are mainly located on the central line. There are large shops or restaurants within the quarters. Small retail trading is carried out by small grocery shops organized by the residents of the quarters. Out of the existing building stock some 36% are in good state of conservation, while 64% (1,778 buildings) are in need of different degrees of conservation and repair, such as repairing or recovering the roof in accord with the traditional roofscape, repairing wooden decorative items (such as eaves), stairs, fences, gates, etc.

SWOT ANALYSIS

SWOT analysis is intended to evaluate a strategic situation, with a view to decide what aspects should be avoided and what is to be considered a priority. A SWOT analysis should contain sufficient information to be able to see why a particular issue counts as a strength, weakness, opportunity or threat, and what the implications are for the management plan to be produced. Strengths and weaknesses are internal to the site. Opportunities and threats relate to the external world of the project: issues that will impact the development of the project now as in the future.

| Strengths | Weaknesses |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – History: Persian and Russian empires – International trade connections – Historic Urban Landscape, HUL – Khan's palace compound and winterpalace – Vernacular building stock – Historic monuments – Traditional crafts – Silk production in history | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Loss of international connections – Transformation of the roofs cape HUL; – New tall buildings – Lack of maintenance of historic buildings – Lack of maintenance of public spaces; – Silk production discontinued; – Traditional crafts weakened – Lack of community involvement |
| Opportunities | Threats |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establishment of maintenance strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Natural hazards, floods |

| | |
|---|--|
| for the building stock; – Improvement of the state of conservation of public places and facilities; – Restoration and rehabilitation of vacant historic structures; – Capacity building – Regional approach to tourism management | – Natural hazards: earthquakes – Globalisation – Emigration of building owners |
|---|--|

STAKEHOLDERS

The Stakeholders have different responsibilities and competences and related influence (or power) on the themes and choices that affect the heritage itself or the area involved by the Management Plan. The following is an overview of the principal stakeholders that their roles:

| Stakeholders | Role | High Involvem. | Medium Inv. | Low Inv. |
|--|-----------|----------------|-------------|----------|
| State authenticity (Ministry of Culture) | Key | X | | |
| Executive Power | Key | X | | |
| Municipal authority | Key | | X | |
| Building Owners (Community) | Supporter | | X | |
| Employment | Supporter | | X | |
| Religious authority | Observer | | | X |
| Tourism operators | Observer | | | X |

Within the Historic Urban Landscape of the Sheki “Yukhari Bash” Historical and Architectural Reserve, several complexes have been recognised for their national and/or local importance. In recent years, various historic buildings have been restored, including Sheki Khan Palace, House of Sheki Khans, and the defence walls of the complex, the Hotel building (Library named after Nakam), Ashaghi Caravanserai, etc. In the restoration and conservation, the historical and architectural qualities of these monuments have been preserved also taking into account the policies of urban conservation. At the same time, however, there are also deviations from the application of these principles. These include some recently built facilities and some treatments of existing complexes, which do not accord with the historical visual integrity of the territory.

The Sheki Khan Palace was restored in 2003-2004. At the same time, the barrack building has also been restored and the business incubator for craftsmen has been established.

MANAGEMENT INSTITUTIONS AND PERSONNEL

The management of the Reserve is the responsibility of three institutions. These include the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Sheki City Executive Power, and the Sheki City Municipality. Each body has its specific responsibilities and powers related to the management of the Reserve. At the same time, the Reserve is under the direct responsibility of the Ministry of Culture and the Department of Culture and Tourism jointly with the City Executive Power. At the present, the Reserve does not receive any funds from incomes made from the lease of the facilities, or from museums. Only the revenues from the Sheki Khan Palace (these revenues are also transferred to the Department of Culture and Tourism of region) can be used by the department to support the Reserve to provide for the inventory, the purchase of equipment. The Municipality mainly controls the sale and purchase operations of lands in the Reserve territory. The Management of the Reserve has limited decision-making powers in the territory of the Reserve, and it faces difficulties in the implementation of the decisions.

The Reserve is actually under double subordination. Lack of coordination between the bodies of subordination shows itself in the activities of the Reserve. All this leads to the failure to manage the Reserve as a whole and the scattered management of the facilities. Also, the absence of the administrative building of the Reserve limits the normal functioning of the Reserve.

But there are too few skilled workers. There is a lack of qualified architects or construction specialists as part of the personnel, and this is a problem in the conservation of the historic buildings and other structures in timely manner. Even though the Charter of the Reserve envisages the establishment of a Council for monitoring the activities of the Reserve, such a Council does not yet exist. The activities of cultural and enlightenment, educational institutions and other organizations located in the territory of the Reserve have nothing to do with the Management of the Reserve. The Reserve has almost no actions concerning modern use of unoccupied residential houses and other buildings.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The fact that Sheki is located in a mountainous area makes the danger of flooding imminent in terms of natural disasters. However, as the improvement measures against flood waters are organized in appropriate way, there's no serious risk. Furthermore, the location of the Reserve's territory in high area of the City minimizes the flood risk. On the other hand, as the region is located in tectonic moving zone, there's still danger of fire due to the earthquake and the forest strips. Considering these risks, security works should be reviewed again. Although the provisions of the Law of Azerbaijan Republic "On the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments" to consider the growth of the City and to preserve the general view and structure of the Reserve are followed in most cases, there're violations in certain cases. Examples include the construction of some large hotels, which are not compatible with the Historic Urban Landscape.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No single individual or institution is likely to be solely involved in the conservation process as it will usually be necessary to involve a variety of skills and disciplines, in order to carry out the relevant actions. Capacity Building requires that the necessary legal and regulatory frameworks enable organisations, institutions and agencies at all levels and in all sectors to enhance their capacities, developing frameworks and communication systems. Capacity Building thus requires:

- a) building a network of qualified teachers, and identifying necessary didactic facilities.
- b) identifying sponsors and regional and national partner organisations,
- c) canalising financial and administrative support to heritage management,
- d) organising collaborative networks of individuals and institutions for the exchange of ideas and opinions on approaches to education and training, as well as
- e) creating a market for conservation, research and training, encouraging the creation of opportunities for qualified, trained conservationists.

The "Yukhari Bash" State Historical and Architectural Reserve, which was established by Order No. 594, dated 24 November, 1967, of the Council of Ministers of Azerbaijan SSR and is functioning under the Ministry Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic. In its functioning, the Reserve is guided by the

Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the laws of Azerbaijan Republic “On the protection of historical and cultural monuments”, and “On Culture”, decrees and orders of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, decisions and orders of the Cabinet of Ministers of Azerbaijan Republic, the orders of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Board decisions and the Statute of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic, dated 14.04.2009.

The Reserve is an organization funded by the state budget, and possesses at the treasury expense own seal, corner stamps and letterheads engraved with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan and own name. The Reserve’s annual report on its activities is submitted to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic. The Reserve should carry out the following tasks in accordance with own regulations.

- a) Implement state control in the Reserve’s territory.
- b) Organize forecasting and planning works related to the Reserve’s territory.
- c) Prepare relevant plans on the Reserve’s management, agree them with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan and implement. The Reserve’s territory can be used for protection and use of historical and cultural monuments, scientific research, education, tourism, and recreational purposes, subject to compliance with the requirements specified by the legislation of Azerbaijan Republic;
- d) Prepare project proposals for restoration, conservation, construction and reinforcement, renovation, reconstruction, recovery works in historical and cultural monuments, for increasing their levels and adapting them for use. The projects upon approval by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic are implemented under the supervision of the Reserve and the project author (authors).
- e) Based on the decision of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic, organize the restoration and repair of monuments and buildings within the territory of the Reserve, implement relevant works by identifying the appropriate security measures in connection with the repair works that may cause any danger to the monuments;
- f) Carry out the inventory of the monuments and buildings located in the Reserve’s territory, prepare the Reserve’s passport within its authority, and take measures for the enlisting and registration of monuments discovered as stipulated in the legislation;

- g) Organize the development of tourism, identification of tourist routes and establishment of associated infrastructure in the Reserve's territory;
- h) Ensure the protection and inviolability of historical and cultural monuments in the Reserve's territory, take necessary measures in the manner prescribed by law to prevent the violations with regard to the rules for their use and the Reserve's security system and bring responsible persons to justice;
- i) Promote the scientific, cultural and historical significance of monuments, organize exhibitions, photo stands, excursions, lectures, take proper measures for shooting documentaries and short films, and for the publication of popular-science literature;
- j) Pay income taxes to the budget from the Reserve's revenues, on the basis of effective legislation.

RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES:

The Sheki City "Yukhari Bash" State Historical and Architectural Reserve is fully state owned. In fact, the Reserve has own management structure. However, the management has been divided between several institutions. Thus, each institution has definite function for managing the Reserve.

MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM:

- a) Issue special permits (licenses) or special permission as well as documents defining rights for preservation of culture, historical and cultural monuments, and in cinematography and tourism sectors in accordance with the provisions of the legislation;
- b) Take appropriate steps as stipulated in the legislation for construction, rehabilitation, reconstruction of cultural facilities, modernization of technical equipment, designing maintenance and overhaul works;
- c) Prepare targeted programs for developing international and domestic tourism in the Republic of Azerbaijan, take measures within its competence on the development of tourism infrastructure and industry to attract investments in the establishment of tourism zones and tourism service sectors in the territory of the country; and ecs.

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND TOURISM OF SHEKI CITY (FINANCED BY THE EXECUTIVE POWER)

This institution is subject to dual subordination. The Department is accountable to both the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and Sheki City Executive Power.

Tasks of the Department of Culture and Tourism:

- a) prepare programs, action plans on the implementation and development of tourism and cultural policy within the city, and ensure their implementation;
- b) conducts large-scale cultural events, commemorative events, theatrical performances, concerts, conferences, seminars and meetings, exhibitions, festivals, contests and other events, as well as the screening of films;
- c) in cooperation with the Reserve, ensures the protection of historical and cultural monuments, submits information and makes suggestions to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic for taking newly discovered monuments into the state protection and ecs

SHEKI CITY TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

This organization, which is directly subordinated to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, is located in the “House of Craftsmen” in the Reserve’s territory. The main tasks of the Centre are:

- a) prepare the Center’s development strategy and submit to the Ministry;
- b) Draft the provisions to be included in the business plans related to the Centres’ activities and submit to the Ministry;
- c) prepare visual aids on information of tourism opportunities in the region, arrange their publication and distribution, take measures for establishing a database of the tourist flow statistics, organize the analysis of the data, and the marketing of the tourism market and ecs.

SHEKI CITY EXECUTIVE POWER

The activities of the City Executive Power on the management of cultural heritage are governed by the “Regulations on the Local Executive Powers” approved by the Presidential Decree No. 648, dated June 6, 2012, and the following items are reflected in the Regulations. The City Executive Power:

In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, which is the relevant state body responsible for the protection of historical and cultural monuments:

- a) Arrange the protection of historical, cultural, natural monuments;
- b) according to the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic “On the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments”, issues permits for entities to conduct land or construction works in the area with historical and cultural monuments, and give instructions to those entities on protection of monuments upon granting such permits;
- c) permit the transfer of monuments of local importance;
- d) provide support to the folk arts, creates conditions for the development of the local traditional folk arts.
- e) The Sheki City Executive Power is not directly engaged in appointing personnel for the management of cultural heritage samples.

SHEKI CITY MUNICIPALITY

The economic basis of local self-government is organized by municipal property, local finance, and the property owned by the state but transferred to municipality ownership to serve the needs of the municipality’s population. The municipality has the right to own property, i.e., independently owns, uses and disposes of the property. Municipal property comprises local budget funds set at the expense of local taxes and fees, extra-budgetary funds of the municipality, municipal property, as well as municipal lands, municipal enterprises and organizations, municipal housing funds and non-residential buildings, non-public and non-private roads, municipal education, health, and other cultural and sports facilities, and other

MANAGEMENT PLAN VISION

Sheki is a region distinguished by its unique cultural traditions and the individuality in Azerbaijan. The Sheki “Yukhari Bash” State Historical and Architectural Reserve reflects this individuality in every aspect. Since its inception, it has survived its initial appearance, architectural traditions. The unique cuisine and the unique dialect, as well as its unique cultural and architectural traditions are distinguished by uniqueness in the territory of Azerbaijan. During its two-century history, the City’s historic part has not undergone significant changes against the background of numerous political and economic changes. Throughout its history, Sheki has been one of the biggest sericulture and craftsmanship centres. It hasn’t

lost its importance at the present time. With the architectural and urban development traditions preserved in the Sheki Khan Palace, House of Sheki Khans, Caravanserais and residential houses, Sheki is of the ancient settlements surviving up to the present day in the territory of Azerbaijan Republic. Given these factors, during the preparatory work, the project team has identified the strategic vision of the Sheki “Yukhari Bash” State Architectural Reserve as follows:

Develop a management plan to protect the historical and cultural individuality, historical heritage, crafts, sericulture traditions, cuisine of Sheki, to transmit the unique dialect to future generations, to discover touristic, cultural, economic and social potential and apply fully transparent and in coordination with participation of related communities, associations, and institutions.

5.f. Sources and levels of finance

1. Sheki City “Yukhari Bash” Historical and Architectural Reserve is financed from the state budget and the government allocates funds each year for the Reserve’s management.

The Reserve’s annual budget is 151.5 thousand manats, of which 75 thousand manats is the salary fund. The remaining amount is intended for generator, vehicle service, utility costs such as electricity, water, gas, etc., and for arranging different events, and other issues. In addition, 10-15% from the special fund of the Culture and Tourism Department is allocated annually for concerts, holiday events, 3 additional staff salaries, and other expenses.

The budget funds foreseen for the Reserve is annually transferred by the Ministry of Finance to the City Executive Power and further to the Reserve’s account. Revenues made from tourism, ticket sales and video shootings are transferred to the Department of Culture’s account. In 2013, 20 thousand manats revenue was made to this end.

As only the Sheki Khan Palace is subordinated to the Reserve’s management, the income is made just from that museum. Besides the Khan Palace, there are 5 museums in the Reserve’s territory. Each museum has its own director, and they also receive funds from the budget and transfer revenues to the state budget. Their subordination to the Reserve is only nominal.

2. According to the Order of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 1710, dated 12 September 2011, on “Additional Measures to Accelerate Socio-Economic Development in Sheki City” in order to accelerate socio-economic development of Sheki City, initially five (5) million manats was allocated from the Presidential Reserve Fund envisaged in the 2011 Budget to Sheki City Executive Power. In accordance with the Order the facades and roof coverings of buildings have been restored in the historic part of Sheki City, and repair and reconstruction works have been carried out in the engineering and communication system. (attachment: Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Accelerate Socio-Economic Development of Sheki City).

3. In the past five years, 8.1 million manats have been spent from the state budget for the restoration and reconstruction of historical and cultural monuments through the Ministry of Culture and Tourism (attachment: information on restoration and conservation works conducted in the Reserve’s territory in 2010-2014).

4. The Public Association to Support the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Sheki (non-governmental organization) has allocated funds for restoration of the 19th century Abdul Salam Bath-House.

5. “The Minaret of Gileyli Mosque” (XIII c) in Sheki city, the monument is in accident conditions. For this reason performance of work and preparing the documents of the project-estimate of the strengthen recovery of the monument and stiffening in wade around minaret to State capital investment funds 700 000 manat in 2015.

6. Prepared documents between the Government of Azerbaijan and World Bank agreement of credit for realization of the program “Azerbaijan: North-Western Corridor Tourism Development Strategy, 2015-2025 year”, Sheki also exists among the 9 regions.

7. In 2015 it was carried out work for installing the new equipment and furniture in Yukhari Caravanserai as hotel. Separated aids are private and are disclosed.

8. The status of reserve “National Reserve” enlarges the budget.

5.g. Sources of expertise and training in conservation and management techniques

Every year by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic takes a course for 20 days to the cultural and historical monuments guards who work in the reserve.

In Gabala city (50 km far from Sheki) there was a training about “ The monuments today and tomorrow and the conservation problems” for 5 days. In 2014 there was a course for craftsman in Sheki city.

By the Executive Power of the city it was studied possibility and removed issue to the authoring. After the requirement of Hotel professional personal was analyzed. Now in Sheki city Special School #1 was established with the section- Hotel administrator, barman-water, tourism agency and so on.

So now the new masters are grown near the old masters.

5.h. Visitor facilities and statistics.

More than 30 thousand tourists visited the Palace of Sheki Khans in 2013. The number of visitors grows every year to about 6-8 thousand persons. In museums, tourists are accompanied by guides, the halls are equipped with surveillance system and therefore, it is impossible to speak about the damage to tourists. In the reserved area there is no particular reason to note about damage from tourists. On the contrary, during the tourist season the town residents are involved in the service sector, workshops work at full capacity making traditional local sweets, sale of souvenirs made of silk and handicraft products. Rural tourism and equine tourism are developing. The existing facilities in the Khan's Palace compound, which reflect the oldest culture of Sheki, reveal its tourism importance. Building catering facilities and availability of places for making and selling works of arts in the Reserve's territory plays an important role for the availability of job places and revenue generation. On the other hand, the location of the Reserve in the central part of Sheki, as well as the existence of the settlements, determines its status as a live monument. Thus, it can be noted that the Reserve is always in the centre of attention. This factor also provides strong security measures.

More than 50 000 tourists visited Sheki in 2014. Among them there were tourists for one-day and tourists who stayed in private house and hotels.

Hotels and guest-houses operating in Sheki are private structures. They are working in coordination with travel companies and Sheki Tourist Information Centre. Hotels and guest-houses carry out their activities freely.

Hotels:

| | 2012 | | 2013 | | 2014 | | 8 month of 2015 | |
|--------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| | Total | Foreign | Total | Foreign | Total | Foreign | Total | Foreign |
| Olimpik | 1768 | 202 | 1819 | 249 | 2010 | 302 | 1902 | 284 |
| Sheki Saray | 566 | 171 | 601 | 203 | 700 | 244 | 671 | 213 |
| Upper Caravansaray | 594 | 125 | 688 | 145 | 780 | 167 | 714 | 149 |
| Sheki Palace | 901 | 222 | 1002 | 277 | 1176 | 308 | 1068 | 290 |
| İSSAM | 333 | 66 | 407 | 61 | 450 | 104 | 405 | 101 |

Besides, private houses in the Reserve's territory are also available to serve tourists. Currently, this activity is organized by the following 2 organizations in systematic manner:

| Years | Local | Foreign | Total |
|----------------|-------|---------|-------|
| 2012 | 15917 | 5851 | 21768 |
| 2013 | 20849 | 6793 | 27642 |
| 2014 | 22189 | 8573 | 30762 |
| 2015 (8 month) | 14682 | 5189 | 19871 |

The transport and passenger transport infrastructure has direct impact on the Reserve's work, as being touristic space. Transportation to Sheki includes:

Air travel: The air transport is mainly through the Baku International Airport, but there are airports in Ganja, Zagatala, Gabala cities. Through the Ganja Airport (150 km away from Sheki), direct flights are carried out to Istanbul (Turkey), Ukraine (Kiev), Russia (Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Novosibirsk) and Baku. There direct flights to Russia (Moscow) and Baku through Gabala Airport (70 km away from Sheki). It was found out that occasionally some flights are carried out to several cities of Ukraine and Russia. The Zagatala Airport (about 100 km away from Sheki) is currently operated only for some domestic flights.

Road connections: In general, access roads to Sheki City are not bad. The quickest way from Baku to Sheki is about 300km and it's possible to reach the city within 4-5 hours. After the construction of the bridge near Sheki is finished soon, a better and quicker road to Georgia will be available. This road will enable to save a distance of 20km. By this, the time spent on the road will be reduced naturally.

Railway: The railway station is located about 20 km away from Sheki, (through Baku-Balaken Railway). By railway, it's possible to reach from Sheki to Baku in morning and depart from Baku to Sheki in evening. There is no public transport running from Sheki to the Railway Station, but there are taxis.

Bus connections: It is possible to travel from Sheki to Baku and other Azerbaijani cities by buses running on scheduled time. These buses also serve to return back to Sheki. The bus station is located in close proximity to the City centre and supplies guests with hotel, restaurants and small shops. It is easy to take buses from the Bus Station to urban and suburban areas (with more than 20 bus routes). Local buses are mainly mini-buses with identification number and a list of the directions on the front windows.

5i. Policies and programmers related to the presentation and promotion of the property.

Sheki hosts many cultural events each year, historical days, and festive events are held at high level. Now Sheki is known as the city of festivals in Azerbaijan. In 2014, 4 International Festivals were held in Sheki, the festivals were attended by more than 200 participants from around 20 countries. Now, holding the Sheki International Music Festival, the Sweets Festival and Caucasian Moto Festival, as well as the City Day has become a tradition to celebrate. The main aim of the festivals is to preserve and promote intangible heritage in Sheki, as well as expand the tourism potential of Sheki and to achieve its promotion in international level. The events related to the festivals, as well as the festive events are held in the different spaces in the Reserve's territory. Overall, in 2014, about 40 cultural and festive events were held, among them, 5 are very important in terms of promoting Sheki and its culture:

1. Sheki International Music Festival

The date: Every year at the end of June - beginning of July

Organizers: Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic, the Union of Composers of Azerbaijan Republic and Sheki City Executive Power

2. International traditional Sweets Festival

The date: held in July of last year and it has been decided to hold every year in the same month.

Organizers: Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic, Azerbaijan National Culinary Center, Azerbaijan National Culinary Association and Sheki City Executive Power

3. Caucasus Moto Festival

Date: August 28-31 of last year, and it has been decided to hold every year in the same date

Organizers: “Baku HOG Azerbaijan”, CAUCASUS MOTO FESTI Harley Davidson”, Sheki City Executive Power and Chingiz Mustafayev Foundation.

4. The International Sheki Theater Festival

Date: held in September of last year and it has been decided to organize every two years.

Organizers: Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic, Sheki City Executive Power and the Union of Theater Figures of Azerbaijan

5. City Day Festive Event

The date: September or October of each year

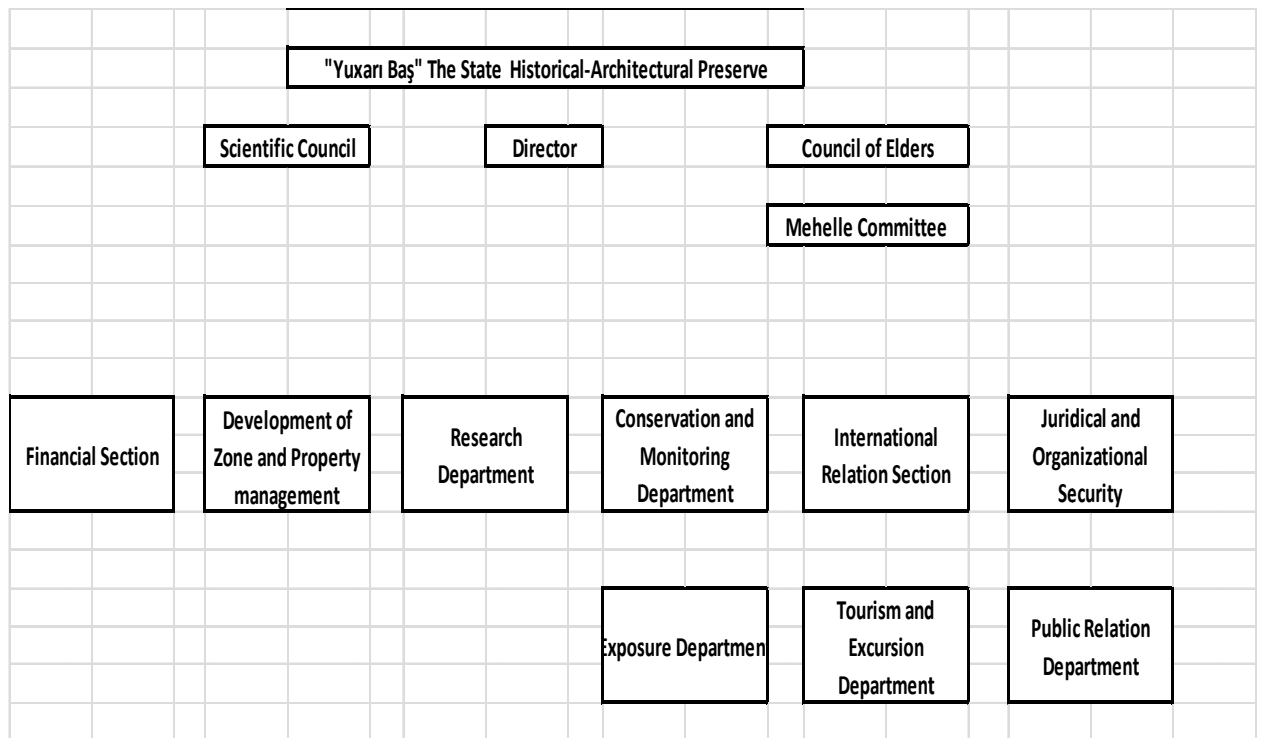
Organizers: Sheki City Executive Power

5.j. Staffing levels (professional, technical, maintenance)

The Reserve’s Head is nominated by the Executive Power of Sheki City and approved by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Currently, the Reserve has 36 full-time staff, and 3 employees at the expense of special funding. Among them there are director, scientific specialist, manager and technical workers.

Azerbaijani government has started development of legal documents to give the status of "National Reserve" to the existing reserve which will be subordinate to only the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The staff of the reserve will be increased up to 64 personnel.

The below shown organizational chart is expected for the administration of the reserve.



6. MONITORING



Photo 6-1. Eyvan of Upper Caravansaray

6. MONITORING

6.a. Key indicators for measuring state of conservation

| Indicator | Periodicity | Location of Records |
|--|----------------|---|
| Identify discrepancies, similarities, differences and shortcomings | Every 6 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Determine precisely each agency's powers, responsibilities and obligations | The 1st year | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Executive Power of Sheki Administration of Reserve |
| Establish management committee | First 6 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Hold periodic meetings | Every 3 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Establish mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the Management Committee decisions | First 6 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Establish in the Reserve's structure coordination and monitoring committees related to the management plan | First 6 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Develop the Reserve's financial (revenue and expense) plan | First 6 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Executive Power of Sheki City |
| Establish new management structure | The 1st year | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Hold periodic meetings, disseminate reports to the public | Every 6 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Executive Power of Sheki Administration of Reserve |
| Establish preservation rules | First 6 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Organize evaluation and monitoring process of facilities | Every 6 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Remove the buildings that do not fit the Reserve's concept, use of the empty buildings and areas | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Executive Power of Sheki City |

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| Carry out a long-term plan based repair and recovery works of the cultural assets, environmental improvement | The 1st year | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Executive Power of Sheki City, Ministry of Ecology |
| Assess the facade supplements, advertising boards, lighting components that have negative impacts on the cultural asset perception, promotion of positive practices | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Executive Power of Sheki City |
| Prepare guidelines for new facade, advertising, lighting arrangements | First 6 months | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Executive Power of Sheki City |
| Identify buildings in need of restoration and conservation works | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Executive Power of Sheki City Administration of Reserve |
| Prepare recommendations on the use of vacant buildings | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Executive Power of Sheki City Administration of Reserve |
| Prepare recommendations on vacant spaces | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Municipality |
| Develop special education programs to prepare restoration specialists | The 2st year | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Organize international and local events in restoration field with the aim of getting familiar with new technologies and experience sharing. | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Promote the private sector to financing of protection and restoration of monuments | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Executive Power of Sheki City |
| Explore opportunities to secure funds from international agencies | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, International agencies |

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| Prepare measures for prevention of constructions that distort the City's historic image in the environment | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Executive Power of Sheki City |
| Develop an action plan to prevent pollution in the Reserve's territory | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Executive Power of Sheki City Administration of Reserve |
| Develop control mechanisms within the Reserve to prevent the littering in river beds. | The 1 st year | Administration of Reserve, Executive Power of Sheki City, Municipality |
| Establish Education and Enlightenment Department and develop educational programs. | The 1 st year | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Ministry of Education |
| Prepare educational programs for secondary schools, organize promotional visits, essay and photo contests. | The 1 st year, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Ministry of Education |
| Organize educational programs for every age group of the Reserve residents | The 1st year annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve, Ministry of Education |
| Support conferences, seminars, exhibitions, and museums | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Implementation of promotional visits to Reserve | Two time a year | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Prepare and distribute audio, video or written materials for each age group. | First 2 years | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Develop training programs for traditional stonemasons, furniture makers, glassmakers, blacksmith and others | Every 3 year for each group, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Apply systematic and continuous training programs for partners on participation methods in the processes | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Establish data center, develop Web-site, management, publish articles | constantly | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |

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| in newspapers and magazines to ensure that all partners are informed of the management plan | | |
| Preparation and conduct of training programs for senior staff and employees of agencies | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Prepare tourism management plan and ensure compliance with other plans | The 1st year, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Prepare visitors management plan in accordance with the tourism management plan | The 1st year, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Prepare programs highlighting socio-cultural activities | The 1st year, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Promote the use of historic buildings for art and cultural purposes | constantly | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Develop systematic visiting programs | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Develop scientific research programs | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Academy of Sciences Administration of Reserve |
| Prepare new catalogs, brochures reflecting the Reserve's cultural heritage | Every 2 years | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Place information boards in different places of Sheki City | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Executive Power of Sheki City |
| Develop management plan for all museums | The 1 st years, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Assess the activities of museums operating in the similar direction, liquidate the insufficient museums or ensure the demonstration of the exhibits to be of interest to visitors and make them attractive | The 1st years, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |

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| Conduct private courses and workshops for guides to promote cultural heritage. | The 1st years, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Academy of Sciences |
| Arrange foreign language courses for guides to develop their foreign language skills | The 1st years, | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry of Education |
| Make the visitor center's functions more effective to support the Reserve's promotion and respond to visitors' questions, provide directions for their needs | The 1st years, | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Develop professional certification programs for employees in the tourism sector | First 2 years, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Carry out periodic audits of tourism companies, support the Bed and breakfast (individual houses) spaces | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Inform the residents of the tourism profitability | constantly | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Develop programs and projects supporting local residents tourism initiatives | First 3 years, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Routine measurement and evaluation of the efficiency and quality of work in the tourism sector | Annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Organization of activities and programs coinciding with different types of visitors | First 2 years, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve |
| Teach and disseminate the emergency action plan on natural disasters | The 2 years | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry Ministry of Emergency Situations |
| Application of the guidelines to reduce the forest cutting and fire risks and provide Timely interventions. | First 2 years | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry Ministry of Emergency |

| | | Situations |
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| Identify cultural heritage objects with high risk of fire and develop appropriate action plan | First 2 years | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry Ministry of Emergency Situations |
| Encourage local residents for silkworm breeding | First 3 years | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry |
| Support entrepreneurship activities | constantly | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry |
| Promotion of sericulture as part of the cultural heritage of Sheki | constantly | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry |
| Support entrepreneurial activity for purposeful use of the spaces allocated for craftsmen in the Reserve's territory | constantly | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry |
| Improve the system of learning and practice in the craftsmanship field | annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry |
| Develop appropriate action plan for the craftsmen to sell their products in foreign and domestic markets | First 2 years, annually | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Ministry |
| Restrictions on the movement of vehicles in protected areas and tourist places | The 1 st year, constantly | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Executive Power of Sheki City |
| Allocate parking spaces in the Reserve's territory | First 2 years | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Executive Power of Sheki City |
| Promote the use of bicycles in the Reserve's territory | First 3 years | The Ministry of Culture and Tourism Administration of Reserve Executive Power of Sheki City |
| Repair of streets and roads | annually | The Ministry of Culture and |

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| should be carried out and must be in accordance with the cultural and historical integrity | | Tourism Administration of Reserve Executive Power of Sheki City |
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6.b. Administrative arrangement for monitoring property

Monitoring of the object is implemented by the officers of The “Yukhari Bash” State Historical and Architectural Reserve

The members of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Sheki City Executive Power have to take part in monitoring.

6.c. Result of previous reporting exercises

According to the Annual Work plan of The “Yukhari Bash” State Historical and Architectural Reserve the staff carry out the periodically monitoring on the territory and prepare report to present to Ministry of Culture and Tourism and Sheki City Executive Power.

7. DOCUMENTATION



Photo 7-1. Copper products

7. DOCUMENTATION

7.a. Photographs, slides, image inventory and authorization table and other audiovisual.

IMAGE INVENTORY AND PHOTOGRAPH AND AUDIOVISUAL AUTHORIZATION FORM

| | Format (slide/print/video) | Caption | Date of photo (mo/yr) | Photographer/Director or of the video | Copyright owner (if different than photographer/director of video) | Contact details of copyright owner Name, address, tel/fax. and e-mail) | Non exclusive cession of rights |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| p-1 | jpg | The city view from South | 2015 | S. Mammadov | “Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A AZ1012 Baku, Azerbaijan tel/Fax: (994-12) 431 83 09; (994-12) 431 83 21 E-mail: info@azerberpa.az | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-2 | jpg | The city view | 2016 | R. Agazadeh | Prosper Digital Agency & Prosper Cartoon Studio Bashir Safaroglu 180, apt 26, 3th floor, AZ1000, Baku, Azerbaijan phone +994125552093 | S.Aliyev, Mob +994556678118 | Yes |
| p-3 | jpg | View on Gilehli mahallah from bridge | 2011 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-4 | jpg | View on Town square | 2010 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-5 | jpg | The city view | 2016 | R. Agazadeh | Prosper Digital Agency & Prosper Cartoon Studio | S.Aliyev, Mob +994556678118 | Yes |

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| | | | | | Bashir Safaroglu 180, apt 26, 3th floor, AZ1000, Baku, phone +994125552093 | | |
| p-6 | jpg | City view with minaret of Imam Ali mosque | 2007 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-7 | jpg | Town wall from south | 2010 | I. Shabanov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-8 | jpg | Town wall from the inside | 2010 | I. Shabanov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-9 | jpg | Town wall from south | 2010 | I. Shabanov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-10 | jpg | The lower gate of the fortress | 2012 | I. Shabanov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-11 | jpg | The upper gate of the fortress | 2013 | I. Shabanov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-12 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. View on upper caravansarai | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-13 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. View on lower caravansarai | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-14 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. View on Omar Efendi mosque | 2012 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-15 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. View on right side | 2011 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-16 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. View on right side | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-17 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. View on left side | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-18 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. | 2016 | R. Agazadeh | Prosper Digital Agency & Prosper Cartoon Studio Bashir Safaroglu 180, apt 26, | S.Aliyev, Mob +994556678118 | Yes |

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|------|-----|--|------|-------------|---|---|-----|
| | | | | | 3th floor, AZ1000, Baku, phone +994125552093 | | |
| p-19 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. View on upper caravansarai | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-20 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. View on upper caravansarai | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-21 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. Handicraft shops | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-22 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. Top part | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-23 | jpg | The street inside fortress | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-24 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. Handicraft shops | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-25 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-26 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. Upper caravanserai | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-27 | jpg | Upper caravanserai. View on the yard | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-28 | jpg | Upper caravanserai. View from the yard | 2011 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-29 | jpg | Upper caravanserai. View on the yard | 2005 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-30 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street. Lower caravanserai | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-31 | jpg | Lower caravanserai. View from the yard | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-32 | jpg | Lower caravanserai. Gallery | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-33 | jpg | M.F.Axundzadeh street . | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |

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|------|-----|---|------|-------------|--|--|-----|
| | | Omar Effendi mosque | | | | | |
| p-34 | jpg | 20 yanuary street 39. Juma mosque | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-35 | jpg | Khan mosque (F.Khoyski street 140). | 2016 | R. Agazadeh | Prosper Digital Agency & Prosper Cartoon Studio Bashir Safaroglu 180, apt 26, 3th floor, AZ1000, Baku, phone +994125552093 | S.Aliyev, Mob +994556678118 | Yes |
| p-36 | jpg | Imam Ali mosque (F.Khoyski street 7). | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-37 | jpg | “Sari Torpaq “ mosque | 2007 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-38 | jpg | Minaret of Gilehli mosque | 2005 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-39 | jpg | Minaret | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-40 | jpg | “Agvanlar” bath | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-41 | jpg | “Abdulkhalig” bath | 2010 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-42 | jpg | “Abdul Salam” bath | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-43 | jpg | “Dere” bath | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-44 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. South facade | 2007 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-45 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Fragment of South facade | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-46 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Fragment of portal | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-47 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Under roof view | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-48 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace.. Interior | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa” SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |

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|------|-----|---|------|-------------|--|--|-----|
| | | of first floor's hall | | | | | |
| p-49 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Interior of first floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-50 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Interior of first floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-51 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Interior of first floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-52 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace.. Ceiling of first floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-53 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Door of first floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-54 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Interior of second floor's room | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-55 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Interior of first floor's room | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-56 | jpg | Shaki Sheki Khan Palace.. Interior of first floor's selling | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-57 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Interior of first floor's room | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-58 | jpg | Shakikhanov house. Interior of second floor's coridor | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-59 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace.. Interior of second floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-60 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Ceiling of second floor's room | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-61 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace.. Interior of second floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-62 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Ceiling of second floor's room | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |

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| p-63 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Interior of second floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-64 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace. Ceiling of second floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-65 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace.. Interior of second floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-66 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace.. Interior of second floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-67 | jpg | Sheki Khan Palace.. Interior of second floor's hall | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-68 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. South facade | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-69 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. Shabaka oh South facade | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-70 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. Interior of second floor's hall | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-71 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. Interior of second floor's hall | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-72 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. Interior of second floor's hall | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-73 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. Interior of second floor's hall | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-74 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. Interior of second floor's hall | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-75 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. | T.Kerimli, director, | Yes |

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|------|-----|---|------|-------------|--|--|-----|
| | | Ceiling of second floor's hall | | | 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | Tel:994502556514 | |
| p-76 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. Door of second floor's hall | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-77 | jpg | Shekikhanov's house. Interior of first floor's hall | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-78 | jpg | Dadanov's residential house | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-79 | jpg | Dadanov's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-80 | jpg | Dadanov's residential house | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-81 | jpg | Dadanov's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-82 | jpg | Dadanov's residential house | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-83 | jpg | Haji Rzaqulu's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-84 | jpg | Mammadov Gambar's residential house | 2007 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-85 | jpg | Zulfigarov's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-86 | jpg | Sibigat school | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-87 | jpg | Haji Zeynalabdin's residential house | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-88 | jpg | Chopurlular's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-89 | jpg | Mammadov Abbasqulu's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-90 | jpg | Salamov's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |

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| p-91 | jpg | Haji Rzaqulu's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-92 | jpg | Mammadov Hasan's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-93 | jpg | Gasimbey Annagilar's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-94 | jpg | Kerimov's Nuru's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-95 | jpg | Gazizadeh Ali's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-96 | jpg | Seyid Bagir's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-97 | jpg | Agashirinliler's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-98 | jpg | Mustaphayev's residential house (kindergarden) | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-99 | jpg | Rustam Mammadov's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-100 | jpg | Gasimbey Annagilar's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-101 | jpg | Shirvanlilar 's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-102 | jpg | Church | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-103 | jpg | Prison (Business- incubator for handicrafts) | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-104 | jpg | Caseme (medical institution) | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-105 | jpg | School | 2011 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-106 | jpg | Factory №1 | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. | T.Kerimli, director, | Yes |

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| | | | | | 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | |
| p-107 | jpg | Factory №3 | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-108 | jpg | Artel (marketing cooperative) | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-109 | jpg | Bridge on the Gurdjana river 1 | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-110 | jpg | Bridge on the Gurdjana river 2 | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-111 | jpg | Bridge on the Gurdjana river 3 | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-112 | jpg | Bridge on the Gurdjana river 4 | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-113 | jpg | Gate of Shirvanlar's house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-114 | jpg | Mammadalibey's residential house | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-115 | jpg | Balcony on the Ganjali mahallah | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-116 | jpg | Aryk(irrigation ditch) on the street | 2012 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-117 | jpg | Gate of residential house | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-118 | jpg | Takkulbab | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-119 | jpg | Takkulbab | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-120 | jpg | Door's hinge | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-121 | jpg | Shabaka | 2012 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-122 | jpg | Modern Shabaka | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |

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|-------|-----|---|------|-------------|--|--|-----|
| p-123 | jpg | Plane trees chinari in front of the Shaki Khan Palace | 2012 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-124 | jpg | Bukhara in the Alijanbeyov's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-125 | jpg | Bukhara in the Salamov's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-126 | jpg | Bukhara in the Haji Gaffar bey's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-127 | jpg | Bukhara in the Ismailov Rafael's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-128 | jpg | Bukhara in the Mammadov Yusif's residential house | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-129 | jpg | Wood cantilever under the roof | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-130 | jpg | Hotel Shaki Palace | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-131 | jpg | Green hotel | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-132 | jpg | School №1 | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-133 | jpg | Many stores buildings in the Buffer zone | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-134 | jpg | Tekkeldus | 2016 | R. Agazadeh | Prosper Digital Agency & Prosper Cartoon Studio Bashir Safaroglu 180, apt 26, 3th floor, AZ1000, Baku, phone +994125552093 | S.Aliyev, Mob +994556678118 | Yes |
| p-135 | jpg | Silk scarves -kalagai | 2013 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-136 | jpg | Chests -mudjru | 2016 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; | T.Kerimli, director, Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-137 | jpg | Pottery | 2014 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. | T.Kerimli, director, | Yes |

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| | | | | | 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | |
| p-138 | jpg | Shaki's khalva | 2015 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-139 | jpg | Copper utensils | 2007 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-140 | jpg | Copper utensils | 2010 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-141 | jpg | Musical instruments | 2010 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |
| p-142 | jpg | Carpet weaver | 2005 | S. Mammadov | Azerberpa" SRPI Moscow pr. 73A Tel: (99412) 431 83 09; Tel:994502556514 | Yes |

7b. Texts relating to protective designation, copies of property management plans or documented management systems and extracts of other plans relevant to the property

Historic Centre of Sheki Management Plan attached to this document.

7.c. Form and date of most recent records or inventory of property

The inventories of historical and cultural monuments in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan were conducted in 1968, 1981 and 1988, three relevant lists were compiled, and 6571 monuments were registered. According to the list approved by Resolution No. 140 of the Cabinet of Ministers of Azerbaijan SSR, dated April 02, 1968, 11 monuments in Sheki City were registered, while 1 monument was registered by the Resolution No. 225 of Cabinet of Ministers of Azerbaijan SSR, dated May 14, 1981, and more 7 monuments were registered by the Resolution No. 145 of Cabinet of Ministers of Azerbaijan SSR, dated April 27, 1988.

In 2001, according to the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments”, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan, along with experts of National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan Republic, conducted the division of the 6571 monuments, which were taken under state protection before, according to their degree of importance, and developed a new list.

According to the list approved by Resolution No. 132 of the Cabinet of Ministers of Azerbaijan Republic, dated August 02, 2001, in Sheki City, 83 monuments are under protection, among which 2 are of worldwide, 34 are national, and 83 are of local importance. Among them, 25 are in Reserve territory.

Under the adopted State Program, new inventory was conducted in Reserve territory, and 205 new monuments were discovered. Based on the list approved for the Reserve territory, the passports of 25 monuments have been developed in accordance with international standards. At present, these works are underway.

Photos, measurement drawings, passports of the registered monuments, and other documents related to them are stored in the archives of “Azerberpa” Scientific-Research Design Institute.

7.d. Address where inventory, records and archives are held

“Azerberpa” Scientific Research and Project Institute
Moscow pr. 73A
AZ 1012 Baku, Azerbaijan
Tel/Fax: (994-12) 431 83 09; (994-12) 431 83 21
E-mail: info@azerberpa.az azerberpa@mail.ru
Mr Telman Kerimli, Director

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8. CONTACT INFORMATION OR RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

8.a) Preparer

Name: Rufat Nuriyev

Title: Director of the Department for Utilisation and Protecting of historical and cultural monuments of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism

Address: AZ1000, U.Hajibayov str. 84, Government House, Baku/Azerbaijan

Tel: +99412 493 92 17

Fax: +99412 493 56 05

e-mail: r.nuriyev@mct.gov.az

Name: Tarana Gambarova

Title: Chief Advisor of the Department for Utilisation and Protecting of historical and cultural monuments of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism

Address: AZ1000, U.Hajibayov str. 84, Government House, Baku/Azerbaijan

Tel: +99412 498 19 80

Fax: +99412 498 19 80

e-mail: tg_bay@hotmail.com
t.gambarova@mct.gov.az

“Azerberpa” Scientific Research and Project Institute

Moscow pr. 73A

AZ 1012 Baku, Azerbaijan

Tel/Fax: (994-12) 431 83 09; (994-12) 431 83 21

E-mail: info@azerberpa.az azerberpa@mail.ru

Mr Telman Kerimli, Director

Acknowledgments

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

National Academy of Sciences, Azerbaijan Republic;

8.b) Official Local Institution/Agency

Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan

AZ1000

U.Hajibayov str. 84
Government House
Tel: +99412 493 30 02
Fax: +99412 493 56 05
e-mail: mct@mct.gov.az

“Yukhari Bash” State Historical Architectural Reserve
AZ5500
Address: Castle walls str., 1
Sheki city
Tel: +99424 244 36 66
Fax: +99424 244 04 56
e-mail: rehimli58@mail.ru

8.c) Other Local Institution

Sheki city museum of local-history
AZ5500
Address: Castle walls str., 1
Sheki city
Tel: +99424 244 37 02
Fax: +99424 244 04 56
e-mail: celalova.yaqut@hotmail.com

Sheki city museum of folk applied art
AZ5500
Address: Castle walls str., 1
Sheki city
Tel: +99424 244 49 01

House-museum of M.F.Axundzade
AZ5500
Address: Akhundov str., 1
Sheki city
Tel: +99424 244 37 08

House-museum of R.Efendiyev
AZ5500
Address: Ali Bayramov str., 21
Sheki city
Tel: +99424 244 42 58

House-museum of S.Rahman
AZ5500
Address: Aghvanlar str., 21

Sheki city
Tel: +99424 244 50 89

Sheki State Art Gallery
AZ5500
Address: Castle walls str., 21
Sheki city
Tel: +99424 244 45 01
e-mail: shekidovletresm.galereyasi@mail.ru

8.d) Official Web address

Website is under construction.

9. Signature on Behalf of the State Party

Mr. Abulfas Garayev

Minister of Culture and Tourism

Azerbaijan Republic

Baku, 2015

Legislation documents

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