

Architectural Ensemble of Francysk Scaryna Avenue in Minsk (1940s–1950s) (Belarus)

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DESCRIPTION

The urban architectural ensemble of Francysk Skaryna Avenue in Minsk is an example of the integrated approach in organizing a city's environment by harmoniously combining its architectural monuments, the planning structure, the landscape and the natural or man-made spots of vegetation. The Ensemble was constructed during fifteen years

after World War II. Its length is 2900 meters. The width of the road including side-walks varies from 42 to 48 meters. The work on the general lay-out of the former Sovietskaya Street began in 1944, immediately after the liberation of Minsk from the Nazi troops. The leading architects from Moscow and Minsk were involved in the project. In 1947, as a result of the competition, the project which had been developed under supervision of the academician of architecture M. Parusnikov, was selected for the implementation. The project plan of the Skaryna Ensemble has succeeded in escaping monotony. The lay-out provided for the main features of the town-planning ensemble – the length of the buildings facades, their silhouettes, the main divisions, and the general architectural pattern. The integrated building plan was based on the accommodation of in-

War ruins in the city centre of Minsk (1944): The work on the general lay-out of the former Sovietskaya Street began in 1944, immediately after the liberation of Minsk from the Nazi troops. The leading architects from Moscow and Minsk were involved in the project. In 1947, as a result of the competition, the project which had been developed under supervision of the academician of architecture M. Parusnikov, was selected for the implementation

Kriegsruinen im Stadtzentrum von Minsk (1944): Die Arbeit am Generalplan der früheren Sowjetischen Magistrale begann 1944, unmittelbar nach der Befreiung von Minsk von den Nationalsozialisten. Führende Architekten aus Moskau und Minsk waren an dem Projekt beteiligt. 1947 wurde als Resultat eines Wettbewerbs das Projekt unter der Leitung des Architekten M. Paruschnikov für die Umsetzung ausgewählt





Scheme of the city centre of Minsk. Marked in red are the buildings from 1920–55, which can be found on the list of protected properties. Other buildings in this area are marked in blue. Areas belonging to the era of Socialist Realism are marked in pink

Schema der Innenstadt von Minsk. Rot sind die Gebäude aus den Jahren 1920–55 markiert, die sich auf der Denkmalliste befinden. Blau sind andere Gebäude in diesem Bereich markiert. Rosa sind Bereiche, die dem Sozialistischen Realismus angehören, ausgezeichnet

*National Academic Bolshoi Theatre, Opera and Ballet – before and after renovation
Staatliches Schauspiel-, Opern- und Balletthaus – vor und nach der Sanierung*

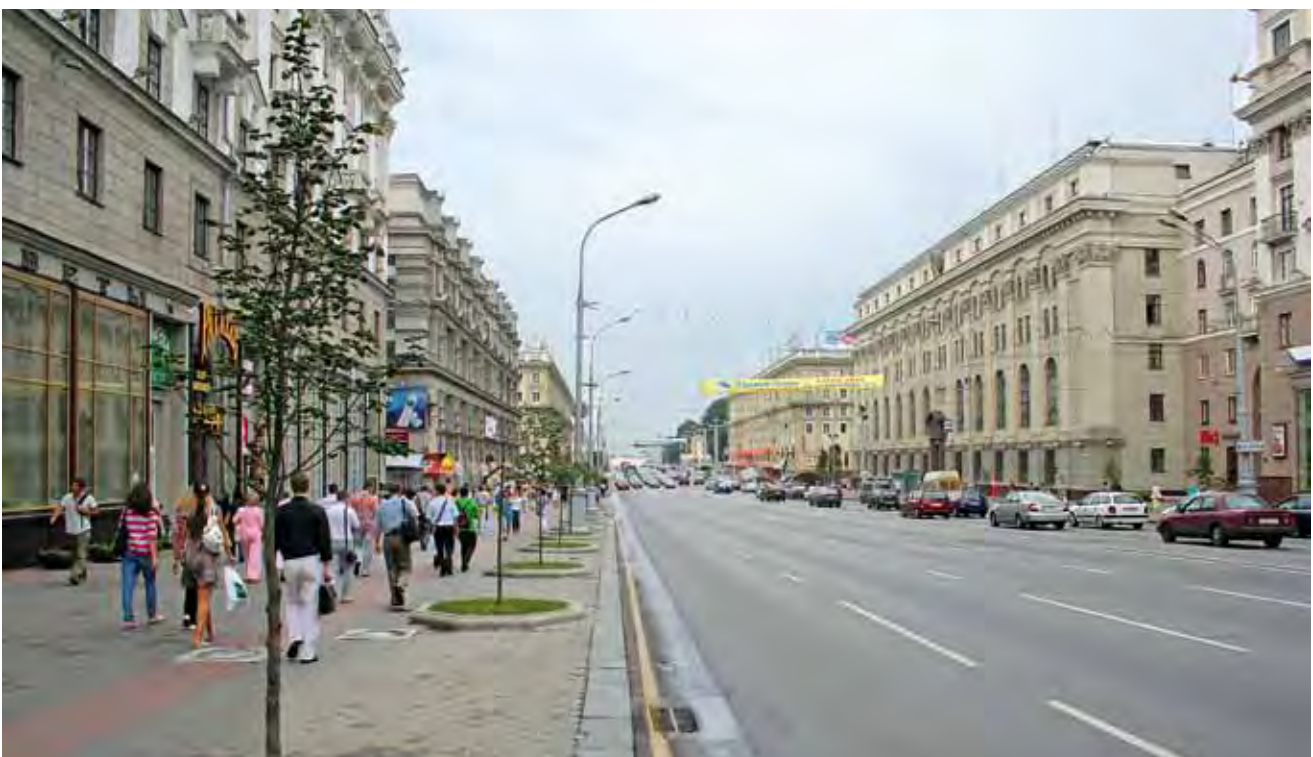


novative ideas into classical architecture. The survived pre-war buildings and park zones were harmoniously incorporated into the architectural ensemble fortified by mortar beds, and have highly positioned windows. Apart from the church, there is a two-staged square steeple. The complex features a monumental composition lay-out. The Church is an active place of worship. St. George Church in Alba (the Ivatse-

vichy Rayon) of squared logs on a brick foundation. This is a three-frame church of the asymmetric composition. The church has a pentahedral altar apse added to the main building, a two-staged steeple, topped by a high broach roof. Wooden planks cover the building with arch shaped windows. Crosses and finials finish the altar apse and the steeple broach. There are common features with the Gothic-Renaissance temples.



*Francysk Skaryna Avenue, today Independence Avenue
Avenue Francysk Skarna, heute Straße der Unabhängigkeit*





House of the Government (1929–34, arch. I. G. Langbard)
Regierungsgebäude (1929–34, Architekt I. G. Langbard)



KGB Headquarters, located in Building 17 in Independence Avenue
KGB-Hauptquartier an der Straße der Unabhängigkeit Nr. 17