Proposals on nomenclature, functional orientation and territorial zoning of the Armenian people’s ethnographic parks

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Abstract. Under the influence of global, including the innovative processes in order to free land for the new objects’ construction the unique examples of immovable cultural heritage are destroyed, which radically changes the appearance of the historical environment. At the same time, against this background, interest in ethnography, the architectural monuments and the samples of folk architecture of different eras has increased. In addition to the aesthetic qualities proper, the objects of historical and cultural heritage embody interesting, specific historical and memorial events of previous centuries. Ethnographic parks are an effective form for preserving and presenting historical and cultural material heritage, as well as for demonstrating the unique natural landscapes by including their individual fragments in the ethnographic parks’ structure. Despite the huge volume of immovable heritage, architectural monuments of various eras and unique natural landscapes of various regions, in Armenia there are no ensemble and environmental ethnographic parks. The article discusses the architectural problems of creating ethnographic parks on the basis of a scientific approach to the study of their nomenclature, structure, functional orientation, territories’ zoning, placement in the planning framework of the region, city, exposition. The problem of the ethnographic parks’ architectural and spatial organization is studied taking into account the historical development specifics and the climatic features of Armenia. Based on the analysis, a number of recommendations are made.

1. Introduction
Ethnographic parks, especially recently, have found the widest distribution around the world. They give an opportunity to save the material and cultural heritage of the peoples in the world, while at the same time bringing great profit in the exploitation process.

Arguably, the main goal of an ethnographic park is to preserve the history, way of life and culture of the people in their natural and cultural environment. A number of authors classify ethno-museums according to their profile, exposition location, the museum exhibits’ peculiarities and territorial characteristics. Since the demonstration of the large-sized samples (religious, residential, farm buildings, craft workshops, production tools) as well as natural monuments is impossible in the museums, it becomes necessary to create an ethnographic park in the open air. The problem of creating an ethnographic park is also relevant for the Republic of Armenia (RA), on the territory of which more than twenty-five thousand historical and architectural monuments are concentrated. When summarizing the accumulated foreign experience in this field [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7] of human activity, the authors have repeatedly emphasized that despite the significant contribution of the Armenian people to the world civilization development, there is not a single ethnographic park that reflects the cultural heritage of...
Armenians - one of the oldest peoples of the world, which would significantly enrich the historical and cultural world heritage with a visual representation and its Armenian component.

One of the most important prerequisites for organizing an ethnographic park in Armenia is the current state of museumification - currently there are 120 museums in the territory of the Republic of Armenia, 65 of them are in Yerevan and the rest are located in the regions. At the same time, there are no ensemble and environmental ethnographic parks in Armenia, despite a significant amount of real estate, architectural monuments of different eras. Immovable objects are exhibited as a part of the city’s historical development, the street, a group of individual monuments, such as the Kumairi conservation zone in Gyumri (architect S. Kalashyan), which today is actually the only project implemented to preserve the historical buildings. The projects were also developed for Yerevan (“Dzoragyuh” neighborhoods - architects T. Gevorgyan, G. Khachatryan, S. Hayotsyan, “Kond” - architect A. Agekyan, “Old Yerevan” - architect L. Vardanyan, “Hayastan Skanchavayr” - the author of the proposal V. Hovnanyan and others).

Today, both in Armenia and abroad, there are a significant number of Armenology thematic centers, museums of various kinds. In order to provide the most complete and visual representation of the Armenian people’s material culture rich heritage, we propose the idea of creating a network of ethnographic parks both in the territory of the Republic of Armenia and in many foreign countries with the Armenian diaspora.

2. Methods
The methodological, theoretical and empirical basis of the study is a comparative analysis of domestic and foreign literary sources, electronic resources and archival materials, field surveys.

It should be noted that one of the most ancient cultures arose and was developed in the south of the Armenian Highlands and Mesopotamia, between the rivers Kura - Araks and Tiger - Efrat. Armenia rightfully belongs to the cradle group of the human civilization and is one of the oldest human culture centers, being an integral link in the long chain of Paleolithic cultures of South Asia, the Mediterranean, Central America and Africa [6, 7, 8].

A purposeful scientific research cycle on the architectural problems of creating ethnographic parks of the Armenian people carried out by the author made it possible to formulate the recommendations with the proposals on their nomenclature, functional orientation and territories zoning based on the specifics and characteristics of the Armenian nation’s formation and development entire historical period.

In the context of the idea put forward to create a national ethnographic park, it was proposed to create their network both in Armenia and abroad [9, 10, 11, 12]. Moreover, their implementation may not be sequential, but parallel in the framework of the general program.

It is offered to perform the following actions in the territory of RA:

1. Creation of the main national ethnographic park “Armenia of all time” with the complex of the Pan-Armenian Center for Armenian Studies in its composition within the notional borders of historical Armenia during its highest prosperity with the territory from the Black to the Mediterranean and Caspian Seas from the time of Tigran the Great (1st century BC). The territory which is supposed to be designated as an ethnographic park, is located in the Ararat marz in the Republic of Armenia between the settlements of Armash and Yeraskh. The proposed site for the ethnographic park is located not far from the capital of the Republic of Armenia, Yerevan, it is connected with the main atomic mobility route passing through the historic cities of Artashat and Ararat, and the Khosrov Reserve is located nearby. One of the main factors in choosing the site territory for the ethnographic park [9], its urban planning solution and the spatial composition of the Center complex were the conditions of the species factor — the orientation of the park and the Center complex to Bolshoi and Maly Ararat.

The territory choice for ethnographic parks is supposed to be carried out on the basis of a comprehensive assessment and multivariate analysis, taking into account natural, anthropogenic, urban planning conditions. The land should satisfy a number of parameters, including:

- placement on poorly developed territory will serve as a positive incentive for its development,
• use of a land plot, free from development and unsuitable for agricultural purposes,
• favorable physical and geographical conditions,
• availability of potable and technically suitable water,
• availability of local building materials for the proposed construction.

It is supposed to recreate the landscape of historical and modern Armenia on the ethnographic park territory on an appropriate scale, where 13 historical capitals of Armenia will be represented, as well as the masterpieces of Armenian architecture, the cathedral in Ani (architect Trdat, which laid the foundation of Gothic architecture, according to I. Strizhigovsky), Akhtamar temple (architect Manvel) and many others. etc. On the ethnographic park territory the seas, lakes and rivers will be shown. In the park’s landscaping, it is proposed to use green spaces of the corresponding species and varieties of trees and shrubs in the historicism context. On conditional Greater Ararat the Noah’s Ark will also be recreated. A monorail train and mini-wheeled trains will run in the park. The idea of creating the main national ethnographic park is based on the principle of demonstrating the creative heritage of the Armenian people at all stages of its historical development.

The main conceptual principle followed in the creation of the main national ethnographic park is a comprehensive combination of all the positive experience accumulated in this direction, starting from the time of the “skansenology” inception including the following components’ use [1, 2]:
• monuments preserved at their original location - “insitu”,
• monuments transported and located in other territories - “exsitu”,
• mixed, i.e. formed by the monuments “insitu” and supplemented by the objects brought from other places,
• monuments exhibited in full size,
• monuments exhibited as copies - mini-scale models M1:25, M1:50,
• museumification of the whole environment - landscapes, unique objects of cultural and natural territories, with people living and working on it,
• ensuring the basic conditions for the preservation of national traditions — their reproduction (using historical and cultural heritage).
• widespread holding of public events, including family festivals, wedding ceremonies, graduation ceremonies, harvest festivals, interactive displays on traditional folk rites and everyday life,
• creation of a digital information center and libraries based on them, the ability to conduct multimedia excursions using virtual expositions,
• involvement of all age groups in various events (historical, sports, memorial, entertainment, theatrical, etc.).

The ethnographic park is diverse in theme, which determines the functional orientation of its territorial zoning.

The system of functional territorial zoning in this regard involves the following activities:

a) cultural and educational expositions on the cultural heritage of the Armenian people from ancient times, from the ancient period to the Kingdom of Cilicia to the present day, including those in the form of mini-copies - models of works of architecture - monastery complexes, churches, monuments of folk architecture and life, types of folk crafts, demonstrations of separate, unique natural landscapes, educational workshops, etc.

b) mass events - attractions, concerts, festivals, theatrical performances, performances for public, literary, scientific figures, exhibitions and sale of works of art and folk art, etc.

c) sports and recreational - group and individual sports games, competitions, running and walking over rough terrain, swimming, boating, balneological procedures in geothermal and mineral water pools, etc.

d) tourist - hiking in the territory of the ethnographic park, as well as nearby and distant architectural and historical monuments, etc.

e) economic - trade, food, technical maintenance, internal transport infrastructure and mini-vehicles zones, etc.
f) research and teaching - work organization for scientific research in the areas of Armenian studies: ethnography, philosophy, history, philology, literary criticism, art history, architecture, polygraphs, archeology, as well as majors, for example, in the specialty “Tourism” with the following directions: hotel business, service, food, rest, excursions, hiking, information and transport support, etc., for scientists, graduate students, bachelors; archaeological excavations, both in the territory of the ethnographic park and in the surrounding areas.

g) world culture and technology achievements’ expositions organization across the continents - Australia, Asia, America, Africa, Europe.

h) typological model - the Pan-Armenian Center for Armenian Studies assumes the placement of the entire infrastructure and management infrastructure of the ethnographic park (administration, hotel, premises for service, food, recreation), balneology, residential apartments, hotel rooms, rooms and offices for researchers and staff and their families (as needed), research laboratories, exhibition halls, etc.

2. The creation of five regional ethnographic parks: “Ararat ashkhar” (Ararat, Aragatsotn, Kotayk and Armavir marzes), “Gugarkh ashkhar” (Lori and Tavush marzes), “Sevan ashkhar” (Gegharkunik marz), “Syunik ashkhar” (Syunik and Vayots Dzor marzes), “Shirak ashkhar” (Shirak marz).

Earlier, we described in detail the monastic complexes and churches that could be presented in each of the regional parks in various ways including miniature copies.

For all regional parks, territorial functional zoning will be carried out to provide the activities in the main national park (points a, b, c, d, e, f), with appropriate adjustment for each region. In each regional ethnographic park, it is also necessary to provide a typological module with the Pan-Armenian Center branches’ function for Armenian Studies, which will house the administration, research staff, discussing staff and necessary services.

3. Considerable attention in terms of the ethnographic approach should be given to the historical cities of the Republic of Armenia [12, 13] - Gyumri, Ashtarak, Etchmiadzin, Goris, Noratus et al., in which the historical environment preservation is relevant, which will contribute to the creation of living museums with the involvement of local residents.

4. The allocation of territories under the ethnographic zones in the capital of Armenia Yerevan, including the historical districts of Kond, Sari Tag [14], where the historical buildings of the 30-50s, as well as the residential buildings according to the typical projects of 1960-80, are of particular interest [13, 15, 16, 17]. It is necessary to develop a separate program in Yerevan with a differentiated approach to each administrative district of the city. We earlier raised questions and substantiated the proposals regarding the allocation of ethnographic zones and pedestrian areas in them for Yerevan, in conjunction with the global modernization of the city’s residential units.

In recent years, a number of attempts have been made to create the ethnographic units in the Yerevan territory, including:

- “Old Yerevan” project - reconstruction of the historical quarter in the context of preserving the cultural heritage of the city. To this end, in 2005, a conservation area was allocated on the territory of the Main Avenue - a quarter inscribed on the perimeter of Abovyan, P. Buzand, E. Kogbatsi and Arami streets, with a total area of 1.9200 ha.

- territory near the “Dalma Garden Mall” shopping center, with the samples of residential buildings located in it, traditional for each of the regions in Armenia.

5. The territory of the Republic of Armenia, by the figurative definition, is an “open-air museum” and, according to our vision, the global goal in the future may be to represent it as one whole organism - an ethnographic museum. The proposed set of measures to create the Main National Ethnographic park of the Republic of Armenia with the Pan-Armenian Center for Armenology, regional ethnographic parks, ethnographic zones allocated in the historical cities and in Yerevan will also serve as the basis for this goal’s realization.
The idea that we have expressed has real prerequisites; its targeted implementation for the foreseeable time will lead to a qualitative transformation of the environment.

It is proposed to create a network of ethnographic parks with the function branches of the main national ethnographic park “Armenia of all time” abroad, in countries with a significant Armenian diaspora (Russia, USA, France, Georgia, Syria, Egypt, Iran, Lebanon and many others) on free development of territories, territories under the Armenian monastery complexes and churches, as well as on the territories under the embassies of the Republic of Armenia in these countries. In these centers of culture, work will also be conducted to collect the information and assess the contribution of Armenian figures, especially in the fields of science and culture of these countries, involving also figures from the Armenian diaspora in these countries.

Recommendations on the ethnographic parks’ creation in the RA, including on the territorial functional zoning, holding various kinds of events, displaying expositions, etc. can also be used to create ethnographic parks abroad, naturally with their correction in each individual case.

Summary
For the first time, a fundamental system for the nomenclature of creating the Armenian people ethnographic parks in the Republic of Armenia and abroad with their functional orientation is proposed.

The architectural and functional structure of ethnographic parks should reflect a complex of traditions, the loss of which will cause irreversible damage in the modern national architecture and culture development.

A necessary condition for the ethnographic parks’ formation is the cultural heritage sites’ authentic architectural characteristics preservation.

When designing ethnographic parks, the following should be taken into account: a combination of ideas for reconstructing the inherent environment with the modernization of the territory, strengthening the functional infrastructure, social factors, focus on the development of commercial and cultural facilities.

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