

Federal State Budget Institution „Kizhi State Open Air Museum
of History, Architecture and Ethnography“

Report

on the state of conservation of the
WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ (C 544) in 2013



The object included in the UNESCO
World Cultural and Natural Heritage List

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Dear colleagues!

The following annual expanded report deals with measures of maintenance of the World Heritage Site „Kizhi Pogost“ in 2013.

The 37th session of the World Heritage Committee was held in 2013. It noted the progress made in conservation and protection of the Church of the Transfiguration and the Church of the Intercession on the island of Kizhi. At the same time, the Committee gave the recommendations on the WHS Management Plan adjustment, improvement of the monuments security systems and formulation of the guidelines for restoration and conservation works. The Committee's recommendations as well as the proposals made at the workshop, which was specially organized in Petrozavodsk and which involved the participation of a UNESCO expert, were included in the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ draft Management Plan. The work on the project is going on. It involves independent experts, academic institutions and NGOs.



In addition to solving these fundamental tasks, the museum continued carrying out unique in scale, complexity and technological innovations restoration on the Church of the Transfiguration and fully performed the planned scope of works.

Besides, throughout the year they have been elaborated the draft development concept of the Kizhi Museum. The concept is based on the principle of the Property Universal Outstanding Value preservation including conservation and revitalization of the historical landscape and creation of conditions for the sustainable development of the area. Among other things, the document answers many questions raised by UNESCO. For example, the draft concept envisages strengthening of the monuments security system, regulation of land issues, formation of the buffer zone and so on. In the future, the project could become the basis for a new development programme of the Kizhi Museum. The draft concept is also based on the action plan for the conservation of the Kizhi ensemble and the Kizhi Museum infrastructure development. Vladimir Putin signed the plan in 2008. It provides consistent achievement of the goals set by the Plan.

At the same time in 2013, they elaborated the development concept of the Zaonezhie tourism cluster and the master plan of the Velikaya Guba rural settlement. The WHS buffer zone territory is located within the Zaonezhie cluster and the Velikaya Guba settlement boundaries. The documents were developed in constant contact and interaction with the Kizhi Museum. In order to conserve the WHS OUV the requirements of the international and Russian legislation in the field of the cultural and natural heritage protection were taken into account. When considering all the requirements of the museum, the documents should become an effective conservation tool of the WHS authenticity and integrity in the development of the surrounding area.

The authors of this report expect your suggestions, remarks and wishes and will be thankful for your collaboration in conservation of the World Heritage Site.

The Kizhi Open Air Museum Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.V. Nelidov', written in a cursive style.

A.V. Nelidov

Decisions adopted at the 37th Session of the World Heritage Committee
WHC-13/37.COM/20 (The Kizhi Pogost, C544)

Decision: 37 COM 7B.80

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-13/37.COM/7B.Add;
2. Recalling Decision 36 COM 7B.83, adopted at its 36th session (Saint-Petersburg, 2012);
3. Notes the progress made by the State Party in the conservation and protection of the Church of the Transfiguration and the Church of the Intercession and urges it to sustain these efforts in timely manner and secure the necessary resources to ensure that no further loss of fabric and design features, which could constitute a threat to the property, occurs;
4. Takes note of the steps the State Party is making towards developing legal measures for the protection of World Heritage cultural properties;
5. Also takes note of the recommendations made by the April 2013 reactive monitoring mission to the property and also urges the State Party to implement its recommendations, in particular:
 - a) Revise the management plan to ensure that the conservation and protection of attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property drive decision-making; the revised Management Plan should include regulations for land use and for new developments, provisions for the management of the agricultural landscape, a sustainable tourism strategy, risk preparedness measures and measures for monitoring the state of archaeological resources;
 - b) Halt all proposed new developments in the buffer zone and setting of the property, including visitor and administration facilities, until the Management Plan has been revised and until Heritage and Environmental Impact Assessments have been undertaken to take into account the expected impacts and compatibility of development with the OUV of the property;
 - c) Enhance the implementation of the fire protection and security plans to improve the level of protection and quality of the environment at the property;
 - d) Finalize the development of Guiding Principles for the restoration projects that relate the conservation work to the key attributes of the property;
6. Requests, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, the State Party to submit the project proposal, technical specifications and heritage and environmental impact assessments, for the Office and Public Centre of the Kizhi Museum and for any other planned development projects, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies prior to committing to its implementation;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies the draft Management Plan in three printed and electronic copies;
8. Further requests the State Party to invite an ICOMOS advisory mission in early 2014 to assess the progress made in the restoration works and on the implementation of the above;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2014, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

Chapter 1. Implementation of the World Heritage Committee decisions № 37COM 7B.86

Point 5a: Revise the management plan to ensure that the conservation and protection of attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property drive decision-making; the revised Management Plan should include regulations for land use and for new developments, provisions for the management of the agricultural landscape, a sustainable tourism strategy, risk preparedness measures and measures for monitoring the state of archaeological resources

The Management Plan (hereinafter referred to as MP) of the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ was revised in 2013. Katri Lisitzin (Sweden), a Consultant for Cultural Heritage provided advisory assistance in the MP development. When finalizing the document the most serious attention was paid to the UNESCO/ ICOMOS monitoring mission recommendations and the World Heritage Committee decision.

The main goals of the Management Plan are:

- Conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the WHS;
 - Creation of conditions for the sustainable development of the territory;
 - Achievement of social consensus in conservation, use and sustainable development of the WHS.
- All the MP activities and projects are aimed at conservation of the WHS OUV and special historical, cultural and natural environment. The document includes risks analysis and protection measures for the WHS (MP, Chapter 6.5.) and provides adjustment of the disaster risk management plan for the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ in 2014 (MP, Chapter 10.1.5.). The landscape approach is used in the process of the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ management planning. The MP defines the target state of the landscape, the main criteria for its conservation and the principles of the landscape management on the basis of its exceptional value (MP, Chapter 6.6.). The landscape management provides in particular „creation of conditions for traditional agriculture development on Kizhi Island and within the WHS buffer zone with the participation of the local population“ (MP, Chapter 6.6.2.).

The MP offers mechanisms that are aimed at the sustainable development of the area and that do not affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the Property (MP, Chapter 7). Creating conditions for tourism sustainable development provides the opportunity to prevent the further degradation of the area. Moreover, it is the only possible mechanism for developing the territory and the local community without damaging the WHS (MP, Chapter 7.1.). The MP includes the elaboration of the tourism sustainable development strategy based on the marketing research of the target audience and calculation of the permissible anthropogenic load on the Property and the historical landscape (MP, Chapter 10.2.1).

The main principle of the development of the territory surrounding the WHS is revitalization of the Kizhi architectural ensemble historical environment (MP, Chapter 7). Social and economic development of the area is also a necessary condition for the WHS conservation. It can help to avoid the final degradation of the territory, departure of the last local residents (bearers of the traditional culture) and outflow of the qualified professionals necessary to maintain the WHS.

In accordance with the Management Plan the elaboration of the town-planning and land use regulations, and development of the Velikaya Guba rural settlement with maximum conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS and historical landscape (MP, Chapter 10.1.6.) as well as finalization of the master plan of the Velikaya Guba rural settlement (MP, Chapter 10.2.3.) are scheduled for 2014.

For more detailed information on the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ MP finalization see Chapter 2.1 of the Report.

Point 5b: Halt all proposed new developments in the buffer zone and setting of the property, including visitor and administration facilities, until the Management Plan has been revised and until Heritage and Environmental Impact Assessments have been undertaken to take into account the expected impacts and compatibility of development with the OUV of the property



Kizhi Pogost

At present, all works on the project of the administrative and public centre on Kizhi Island have been suspended in accordance with the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee. The Heritage and Environmental Impact Assessments will be undertaken in order to take into account the expected impacts and compatibility of development with the OUV of the property. Necessary adjustments will be introduced into the project based on the assessment results.

The WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ MP defines the tools for maintaining the target state of the landscape and resisting challenges and risks. The main tool is the method of expert impact assessment on the WHS and environment (visual and historical features of landscapes). The proposed method allows predicting the consequences of various „intrusions“ in the landscape environment. Any new development or other „intrusion“ has to pass the procedure of the expert impact assessment on the WHS (visual landscape features – the natural background of the WHS) at the level of an idea in order not to allow the unpredictable consequences to violate the harmonious visual perception of the Kizhi Pogost and the surrounding historical landscape (MP, Chapter 6.6.2.).

Point 5c: Enhance the implementation of the fire protection and security plans to improve the level of protection and quality of the environment at the property.

The project documentation on reconstruction of external fire-extinguishing system of the Kizhi Pogost was executed to improve the quality of the ensemble security system. The documentation has been partially approved and submitted to the Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage for the Republic of Karelia for the state ecological expertise. The documentation is currently being adjusted according to the remarks of the Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage for the Republic of Karelia.

In 2013 they checked the level of fire retardant treatment of the restoration site near the Church of the Transfiguration (the area is 1076 square meters) and scaffolding platforms used for restoration of the Church of the Intercession roofs (the area is 730 square meters) with a subsequent treatment of the above-mentioned platforms with flame retardants.

For more detailed information on protection of the WHS from emergency situations see Chapter 2.5 of the Report.

Point 5d: Finalize the development of Guiding Principles for the restoration projects that relate the conservation work to the key attributes of the property.

In 2013, the museum finalized the development of Guiding Principles for the WHS restoration. They were included in the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ MP (MP, Chapter 6.1.2.).

The international charters, standards and guidelines for cultural heritage management were taken as the basis while forming the Principles for the Kizhi architectural ensemble restoration:

- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,
- The Venice Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites, 1964,
- Principles of Conservation of Historic Timber Structures, ICOMOS, 1999,
- The Nara Document on Authenticity, 1994,
- Guidelines for Selecting Log Repair Methods, ICOMOS, 2010,
- Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas, UNESCO, 1976.

Point 6: submit the project proposal, technical specifications and heritage and environmental impact assessments, for the Office and Public Centre of the Kizhi Museum and for any other planned development projects, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies prior to committing to its implementation.

At present, all works on the project of the administrative and public centre on Kizhi Island have been suspended until Heritage and Environmental Impact Assessments have been undertaken. Necessary adjustments will be introduced into the project based on the assessment results.

Point 7: submit to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies the draft Management Plan in three printed and electronic copies.

The Kizhi Museum submitted the revised draft of the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ MP to the World Heritage centre (through the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation) in January, 2014.

Point 8: invite an ICOMOS advisory mission in early 2014 to assess the progress made in the restoration works and on the implementation of the above.

The Kizhi Museum submitted a request to the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation on possibility to carry out an ICOMOS advisory mission in April 2014 to assess the progress made in the restoration works and in the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's recommendations.

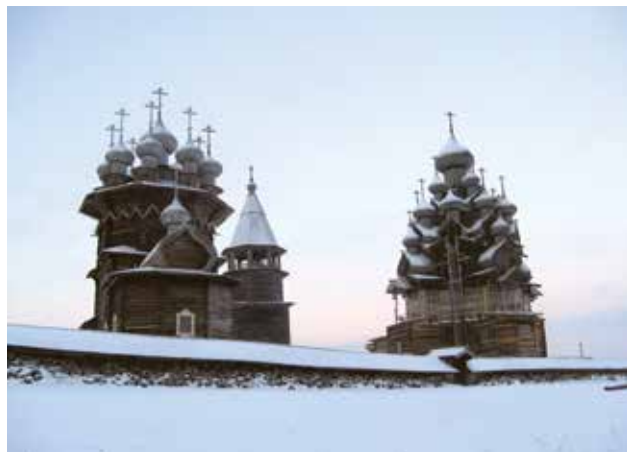
Point 9: submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2014, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

The Kizhi Museum submitted the report on the state of conservation of the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's recommendations to the World Heritage centre (through the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation) in January 2014.

CHAPTER 2. General measures for conservation and protection of the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ in 2013

The World Heritage Site Kizhi Pogost (C544) is the property of the Russian Federation and is in the operational management of the Federal State Budget Institution „Kizhi State Open Air Museum of History, Architecture and Ethnography“ subordinated to the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation. The activity in relation to the Kizhi Pogost is controlled by the Department of Control, Supervision and Licensing in cultural heritage branch of the Ministry of Culture of RF.

The management of the property is carried out in accordance with the current legislation of the Russian Federation and UNESCO recommendations on conservation of the cultural and natural heritage based on prospective and current planning implemented by the Kizhi State Open Air Museum of History, Architecture and Ethnography.



Kizhi Pogost, January, 2014

2.1. Finalization of the WHS Management Plan

On the basis of the reactive monitoring mission report the World Heritage Committee made recommendations¹ on finalization of the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ MP (June 2013) that were taken into account during the subsequent work on the plan. The WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ (C544) draft management plan, 2012 was taken as the basis.

In August 2013, a special staff unit was established in the structure of the Kizhi Museum with the purpose of finalizing the MP and developing cooperation with UNESCO, from 2014 a service for the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ management and development has been created.

Katri Lisitzin (Sweden), a Consultant for Cultural Heritage, offered consultations under the contract on the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ MP development. The first Russian workshop on World Heritage management planning was held in November 2013. Katri Lisitzin led the workshop. The Kizhi Museum experts in all key areas, stakeholders' representatives regarding the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ (authorities, institutions of science, culture and education, NGOs), representatives of other Russian World Heritage sites and the Ministry of Culture of RF took part in the workshop.

One of the most important principles was to involve the stakeholder groups, including local residents, in the MP development. They participated in the discussion of issues relating to the identification of threats and opportunities in the activity of these entities in relation to the WHS.

The main sections of the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ MP include:

- general characteristics of the WHS and justification of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property (Chapters 1 and 2);
- characteristics of the existing system of the WHS protection based on legislative and other methods of state protection (Chapter 3);
- stakeholder analysis regarding the use and sustainable development of the WHS (Chapter 4);
- the WHS management system with the introduction of a social component and tools for achieving social consensus in it (Chapters 5,6,7,8);
- organizational management scheme, monitoring and resource maintenance of the MP implementation (Chapter 9);

¹ The decision of the 37th World Heritage Committee session, 05 July, 2013



*The workshop on world heritage management planning.
The WHS “Kizhi Pogost”*

– Action Plan for the MP implementation (Chapter 10).

All the MP activities and projects of the WHS MP are aimed at protection and conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS and its special historical, cultural and natural environment.

A systematic approach to the maintenance of wooden architecture monuments forms the basis for the WHS conservation. The MP establishes a requirement for continuous comprehensive maintenance. The WHS restoration is regarded as a compulsory and ex-

ceptional measure aimed at conservation and safeguarding of aesthetical and historical values of the site.

The restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration aimed at rehabilitation of the historical framework, the interior and the iconostasis is the priority. The international charters, standards and guidelines for cultural heritage management were taken as the basis while forming the Principles for the Kizhi architectural ensemble restoration. Knowledge gained in the restoration process and experience accumulated in the area of wooden architecture monument conservation will become the basis for the creation of an educational center, which is one of the priority activities of the MP.

The WHS historical environment is an important component of its Outstanding Universal Value. The landscape approach is used in the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ management planning. The MP defines the target state of the landscape, the main criteria for its conservation and the principles of the landscape management on the basis of its exceptional value. GIS-technologies have been chosen as a tool for the landscape management.

The MP provides mechanisms that are aimed at the sustainable development of the territory and that do not affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property (Chapter 7). The MP promotes a sustainable tourism development strategy based on market research of the target audience and calculations of the carrying capacity of the property and historical landscape. An equal redistribution of the anthropogenic load throughout the territory of the Kizhi skerries and the calendar year and reorientation from the cruise tourism to visits of many days stay with a deeper immersion in the traditional culture of Zaonezhie are identified as priorities.

The WHS setting surrounding territory is to be developed according to the basic principle of revitalization of the Kizhi architectural ensemble’s historical environment. Social and economic development of the territory is a necessary condition not only for the development but also for the conservation of the WHS. It helps to avoid a threat of the final degradation of the area and the abandonment by the last residents (carriers of the traditional culture) as well as the outflow of qualified personnel necessary for the conservation of the WHS. However, any new project aimed at the development within the WHS buffer zone and the nearby areas must be subject to a heritage impact assessment in accordance with the ICOMOS recommendations in order not to harm the integrity and authenticity of the WHS.

An increase of interaction between the museum and the local population and raise of awareness among the local community will strengthen the local people’s feeling of ownership and responsibility for the WHS protection, will involve them in the process of conservation and revitalization of the historical landscape and traditional culture and will ensure a more equitable benefit sharing from the WHS use.

The WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ MP is a comprehensive planning document taking into account the interests of all stakeholders and defining the goals, objectives and measures of their joint activity on the effective protection, conservation and sustainable development of the WHS. Decisions taken in the process of the MP implementation will be discussed by all stakeholders at the Public Council meetings. The Public Council is created as a tool for achieving social consensus in conservation, use and sustainable development of the WHS. The principle of transparency in the intentions and activity of all stakeholders is the key principle for the MP development and implementation.

The document provides the MP implementation monitoring and quality control mechanisms. This cycle should be repeated annually to constantly monitor the correctness of the tools chosen for the effective preservation of the WHS integrity and authenticity. The WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ MP will be adjusted every year based on the results of the MP implementation monitoring and discussion with all stakeholders.

The MP takes into consideration the special clearly defined values of the territory and legislatively fixes the accessible forms of its use.

2.2. Development of the world heritage legal protection

The right of ownership of the Russian Federation and the right of operational management of the Federal State Budget Institution „Kizhi State Open Air Museum of History, Architecture and Ethnography“ in relation to the four cultural heritage sites located on the territory of the Kizhi Pogost are registered. It is reflected in the certificate of state registration of these rights and confirmed by extracts from the Register of federal property provided by the Territorial Administration of Federal Property Management Agency in the RK.

The WHS management system in the Russian Federation is based on the national legislation in accordance with assumed international obligations. It is understood that conservation, use and development of the cultural heritage mean the system of consistent government measures aimed at the protection of the cultural heritage of the peoples of RF. The system provides the legal regulation of the activities of all management subjects and use of the cultural heritage, relevant government organizational and technical measures and financial support of the projects.

The legal framework of the protection of the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ is formed by international legal acts and national and regional legislation of the Russian Federation.

In May 2013, the Federal Law „On Introducing Amendments to the Code of the Russian Federation on Administrative Offences“ №96, dated from 07.05.2013, entered into force. It provides for a considerable increase of administrative penalties for violation of the requirements of conservation, use and the state protection of the cultural heritage (historical and cultural monuments) and their territories or for failure to observe the restrictions set within their buffer zone boundaries. The maximum penalty for individuals is 300 thousand RUB, for officials – 5 million RUB and for legal entities – 60 million RUB.

Besides, the law provides for administrative punishment of an official for failure or improper execution of the official duties that caused harm to a WHS or destruction of a WHS. If the actions are not of criminal nature they are punished by a fine in the amount of 100 thousand to 5 million RUB.

The concept of responsibility of legal entities for destruction or damage of the cultural heritage (historical and cultural monuments) was introduced into the Code as a separate article 7.14.1. It is punished by administrative fine in the amount of 500 thousand to 20 million RUB. A fine in the amount of 1 million to 60 million RUB punishes destruction or damage of the most valuable cultural heritage or the cultural heritage inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The law also establishes administrative responsibility of bodies for failure to fulfill in due time requirements of the authority empowered to carry out the state control in the sphere of the cultural heritage protection.

The Federal law „On Introducing Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation Relating to Suppression of Illegal Activities in Archaeology“ N 245, dated from 23.07.2013, introduces a new article to the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation. Article 243.1. Violation of requirements of conservation or use of the cultural heritage (historical and cultural monuments) of the peoples of the Russian Federation included in the Unified State Register of the cultural heritage (historical and cultural monuments) of the peoples of the Russian Federation or the identified cultural heritage, which has entailed by negligence their destruction or large-scale damage, is punished by a fine in the amount of up to 1 million RUB or in the amount of a salary or other income of the perpetrator for the period of up to two years, or by compulsory works for a term of up to 360 hours, or by corrective works for a term of up to two years, or by deprivation of liberty for a term of up to two years.

Note. Large-scale damage of the cultural heritage (historical and cultural monuments) of the peoples of the Russian Federation included in the Unified State Register of the cultural heritage (historical and cultural monuments) of the peoples of the Russian Federation and of the identified cultural heritage is recognized in this article as infliction of harm, the cost of recovery works for elimination of which exceeds 500 thousand RUB.

2.3. Financing

The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation has timely allocated funds in full from the federal budget for the following works:

- Equipment and tools for the work on the Church of the Transfiguration;
- Monitoring of the condition of logs stocked for the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration;
- Research works for the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration;
- Scientific and design works on the complex restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration;
- Engineering supervision for the 1st stage of the complex restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration;
- Continuation of the 1st stage of the complex restoration of the Transfiguration Church;
- Restoration of the iconostasis of the Church of the Transfiguration

2.4. Protected and buffer zones

In 2013, the Kizhi Museum made the maps of the WHS boundaries and the WHS buffer zone boundaries in accordance with the UNESCO recommendations. The documents were submitted to the World Heritage Committee (through the Ministry of Culture) in November 2013.

In 2013, the Kizhi museum prepared the documents on transfer of agricultural lands and woodlands (26 land plots with the total area of 126, 003 sq. meters) to the status of specially protected territories and sites and on provision of these land plots to the Kizhi Museum for permanent (perpetual) use. The documents were submitted to the Ministry of Culture. The purpose of the transfer is to eliminate the inconsistency between the currently existing targeted use of the lands and conservation and rehabilitation, research and tourism activities of the museum that are necessary to carry out on these land plots.

The Department head of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian North-West Federal District held a protocol meeting in St. Petersburg on February 2, 2013. The meeting was held based on Protocol №7

from 16.12.2011 of the Working Group under the President of RF session concerning the territories of open air museums, memorial estates, places of interest, other cultural heritage sites and their buffer zones. It was stated at the meeting that bodies of cultural heritage protection of the North-West Federal District interregional working group on coordination, suppression and prevention of violations of the Federal Law on cultural heritage protection should make out schedules of interregional working groups meetings.

The interregional working group on the above items was established in the Republic of Karelia. It addressed the issues on the transfer of Kizhi lands and observance of the WHS protection regime.

A commission consisting of experts of the Kizhi Museum, „Kizhskiy“ state natural reserve, Department of the Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography of the Republic of Karelia and other interested parties visited the island of Kizhi and the buffer zone of the museum for checking purposes in August 2013. The visit was organized upon consideration of the issues on illegal construction and compliance with buffer zones protection regimes at meetings of the interregional working group in Karelia. No violations in relation to the WHS buffer zone have been detected.

The Department of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian North-West Federal District has obliged the Kizhi Museum to conduct monthly monitoring of the WHS buffer zone territory to identify illegal construction in this area (circular letter № 1-18-1120/13-0-2 dated from 21.08.2013). A commission has been established by the Order of the museum № 343 dated from 21.08.2013. The commission made three raids, on the basis of which reports were submitted to the Ministry of Culture. No violations in the WHS buffer zone have been detected.

Information boards on the regimes functioning in the WHS buffer zone are installed in the WHS buffer zone to inform residents and visitors of the nearby villages.

In the process of development of the Velikaya Guba settlement master plan, some adjustments were recommended. These adjustments are connected with preservation of the WHS Outstanding Universal Value, including conservation and revitalization of the historical landscape and sustainable development of the territory. The elaboration of the document was conducted in constant contact and collaboration with the Kizhi Museum. This was done taking into consideration the requirements of the international and Russian legislations in the field of cultural and natural heritage protection in order to preserve the OUV of the WHS. When all the requirements and requests of the museum are taken into account, the documents should become an effective tool for the preservation of the WHS authenticity and integrity under the conditions of the development of the surrounding area.

2.5. Protection from emergency situations

Management of the Site security system is accomplished by the personnel of the Security of the Kizhi Museum, Subdivision of the General Board of Ministry for Civil Defense, Emergency Management, and Natural Disasters Response of the Republic of Karelia, and Subdivision of Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Karelia. Kizhi Pogost monuments are equipped with fire alarm, closed circuit television units located along the perimeter (including thermal imaging cameras to prevent unauthorized access), outdoor fire-fighting equipment with remote-controlled nozzles and in-door fire-fighting system in the Church of the Transfiguration.

The working documentation „Overhaul of the outdoor fire-fighting system of the Kizhi Pogost“ was developed in 2013 to maintain the Kizhi ensemble security systems in working condition. This project was approved by the Department of Control, Supervision and Licensing in cultural heritage branch of the Ministry of Culture of RF. It is planned to implement the project works in 2014.

The project documentation „Intakes of water works of the Kizhi State Open Air Museum“ was made to ensure year-round water intake at any time of day for the firefighting needs. The purpose of this project is to create a system of water intakes in accordance with the rules and regulations of fire-fighting water supply taking into consideration characteristics of technical means used in the Kizhi Museum.

The technical documentation of these projects has been approved and submitted to the Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage for the Republic of Karelia for the state ecological expertise. The documentation is currently being adjusted according to the remarks of the Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage for the Republic of Karelia.

Police officers on the central guarding post control the situation on Kizhi Pogost as well as technical condition of the WHS security systems round-the-clock.

Museum Security officers accomplish access control, observe compliance with regulations within the WHS and with the fire-prevention on Kizhi monuments. Museum employees and contractors receive scheduled and unscheduled trainings. Five museum employees received training for essential technical and fire-preventing qualifications.

Fire station guards Kizhi Island round-the-clock, it is equipped with two tank lorries (АЛІ-40), a mobile pump house (ПНЦ-110), snowmobiles, motor boats with mobile monoblock pumps, a hovercraft (МАРС-2000), and a fire boat ‘Vjun’ which functions also as a pumping house in summer time.

A voluntary fire brigade, comprised of museum employees, continues to guard and takes an active part in trainings and exercises. Totally seven trainings and classes on fire-protection and one antiterrorist training, which involved museum keepers, tour-guides, police and fire fighters, were conducted in 2013.

2.6. Monitoring and protection.

In 2013, the Kizhi Museum in cooperation with experts of specialized organizations continued a complex monitoring of monuments of the Kizhi Pogost. The Agreement for detailed monitoring of biodeterioration was signed with the Forest research Institute at the Karelian Research Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences (Petrozavodsk), the Agreement for monitoring of the deformations was signed with the „Spetsprojectrestavratsiya“ Institute (Moscow).

A complex geodetic survey of the deformations of the facades of the Church of the Transfiguration, the Church of the Intercession and the Bell-Tower was made in June and September 2013. The survey has not revealed any changes in the existing deformations as well as in heights and turns of the monuments. The alternations in reference points have seasonal character.

Eight permanent deformation marks were fixed on the round stones of the footing course of the foundation of the Church of the Transfiguration to control the deformations of the restored part of the foundation and logs of the Church.

In 2013, the Kizhi Museum continued a complex monitoring of biodeteriorations of wooden elements of the Kizhi Pogost monuments.

Within this monitoring the permanent control of the air and wood humidity, regular inspections of the monuments constructions, evaluation of the development rate of the wood destroying fungi growth and insects’ lesion focus were performed.

New equipment- loggers, which allow timely to analyze the data of the temperature dynamics and air humidity of the monuments interiors and hard-to-reach places (for example, the domes) were installed in the monuments to check their microclimate characteristics.

The monitoring has not revealed any locus of wood destroying fungi and insects activity, leakages of roofs and cupolas.

The monitoring data were used as the base of the preventive and reconstruction actions aimed at the prolongation of the working life of the monuments by means of liquidation of the potential locus of the destruction at its initial stage.

One of the very important actions aimed at the preservation of the monuments of Kizhi Pogost was the waterproofing of the refectory's roof of the Church of the Intercession.

A special floor covering was laid in the passage of the Church of the Intercession in order to prevent the detritions of the historical floor.

Regular prophylactic actions along with the climatic control included seasonal and everyday cleaning of the interiors and of not used interiors (attics, basements), grass mowing on the territory of Kizhi Pogost and winter conservation of the monuments.

This continuing prophylactic and comprehensive programme of Kizhi Pogost monuments operation will be prolonged next year.

2.7. Studies

The Kizhi Architectural Ensemble is the main tourist sight of the Kizhi Museum and the focal point of the main outdoor tourist exposition. Thus, the main research is one way or another focused on Kizhi architectural ensemble. In 2013, this research concerned the following:

The scientific research projects „The History of the Kizhi Architectural Ensemble“, „Interiors of Kizhi churches“, and „Historical and ethnographic study of villages within the protected area i.e. place names, village looks, farmlands, household, and families“ are being developed.

In 2013, the regular 14th collection of museum research papers „Kizhi Vestnik“ was published in the Kizhi Museum. This collection includes papers about history and culture of the Zaonezhie in context of which the Kizhi ensemble was formed and developed.

Now, the collection of research papers dedicated to 300-anniversary of the Church of the Transfiguration is passing the editorial board. This collection includes 30 papers of the museum employees and the specialists of the other institutions this or that way related to the preservation and studies of the Church of the Transfiguration as well as history and culture of the South Zaonezhie.

2.8. Promotion programme and information support

Total amount of tourists in 2013 comprised 163 263 people, among them 81 705 foreign and 81 558 Russian tourists.

In purpose of the promotion of the monuments of the Kizhi, architectural ensemble the restored interior of the church proper was exhibited in the Church of the Intercession. The iconostasis of the Church of the Intercession consists of more than 70 authentic icons of the 17–19 centuries. In addition to that, two exhibitions: „History of the Kizhi parish“ based on the rare documents and photos and „Icon-painting mastery of the Northern Russia“, which includes more than 20 best examples of the icons of the Kizhi museum collection are presented in the Church of the Intercession. The exhibition „The Russian Church bells“ based on the Kizhi museum fund is presented in the Bell Tower.

The exhibition „Russian artists about Kizhi“ based on the funds of the Kizhi museum and Children's museum centre as well as travelling exhibitions „Coronet of the folk art“, „300-year anniversary of the Church of the Transfiguration“, „Wooden architecture of Kizhi“, photo exhibitions „Karelia. Image in time“, „Kizhi. Almost unreal“ and „Kizhi. Wonderful Feast of Summer“, and a special exhibition for visually handicapped visitors „Kizhi in your house“ were presented in the Kizhi Museum halls.

The Children's museum centre carries out its museum educational activity in purpose of the all-round and harmonious development of the individual based on the active use of the educational potential of the historical and cultural heritage of the Kizhi museum.

Within the activity in purpose of the promotion of the Kizhi architectural ensemble as the WHS, the following projects were realized during 2013:



Olympic Torch relay on Kizhi Island, October, 2013

1. XX anniversary children’s festival „Kizhi- the childhood workshop 2013“ on Kizhi Island. The objective of this festival is to update the cultural and historical heritage of the Kizhi museum.

444 people (345 children and 99 adults) took part in the interregional creativity competition „All colours of the Kizhi palette“. 95 participants represented different regions of the RF. Overall 305 artworks were presented at the festival. The educational source of the museum was one of the particularities of the anniversary festival of 2013. The museum professionals - restorers, biologists, folklore specialists,

„Alive exposition“ participants organized different special programmes for the participants of the festival.

670 people, among them 450 children took part in the festival on Kizhi Island.

2. 13 programmes for 164 children and 35 teachers from Republic of Karelia (Petrozavodsk, Medvezhiegorsk district, Louhi district), regions of the RF (Saint Petersburg, Moscow, and Vladimir), Finland and Germany were realized within the museum-educational project „Summer museum-ethnographical school on Kizhi Island“.

3. The museum-educational project „Summer university on Kizhi Island“ included nine programmes with 119 participants (among them 50 students and 34 specialists of cultural and educational sphere) organized on Kizhi Island. Students from St. Petersburg (Herzen state pedagogical university, St. Petersburg state university of Architecture and civil engineering, Storganov Art Academy (Moscow), Tomsk pedagogical university, Petrozavodsk branch of the Moscow Slavonic University, Petrozavodsk Civil Engineering College) took part in these programmes.

4. “Intermuseum-2013” project, during which the film “Kizhi. Chronicle of Transfiguration” about the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration was demonstrated.

5. Children’s art studio „The Kizhi palette“.

The main objective of the studio is the artistic development of children based on the historical and cultural as well as natural heritage of Kizhi Island, Zaonezhie region and Karelian, vepsian and Russian culture. Now 56 children in 6 ages-groups attend the studio.

As the result of its activity, the children’s interactive exhibition „All colours of the Kizhi palette“ was opened at the city exhibition hall (Lenin prosp, 26, Petrozavodsk). More than 180 art works of the different age participants of the Studio (from 5 up to 14 years old) made in different art techniques (paintings, graphics, decorative and applied arts) were represented at the exhibition. All of them were dedicated to Kizhi Island, the Kizhi Architectural Ensemble, its history and present life, children’s perception of the traditions, culture and monuments of architecture.

In purpose of promotion of the WHS on the museum’s official website the following materials were presented:

- The report on the complex preservation process of the Church of the Transfiguration in 2012 (in Russian and English);
- News about the restoration process of the monuments (all in all 8, 7 of them are about Kizhi Pogost);
- Five press-releases;
- The virtual reconstruction of the Iconostasis of the Church of the Transfigurations was updated and moved to more popular network partition “The museum’s collections“ (<http://kizhi.karelia.ru/collection/catalogs/iconostasis/>);
- The virtual trip „Welcome to Kizhi Island!“ in which Kizhi Pogost is presented was developed and published on the website.

More than 442 200 unique users visited the Kizhi-museum website in 2013.

The Museum Press service prepared three press releases; two about the UNESCO Mission in April 2013 and 1 about the Workshop dedicated to the Management Plan of the WHS, which was held in November 2013 on the base of the Museum. These press releases were published in more than 50 printed and internet mass media.

Eight articles regarding the Church of the Transfiguration: its restoration, history, UNESCO mission and the report „Results of the UNESCO mission 2012“ translated into Russian (in September 2013) were published in the museum paper „Kizhi“.

15 news materials were published in local papers „Karelia“, „TVR-panorama“, „Petrozavodsk“, „Karelian sanomat“, „Vse“.

3 papers were published in all-Russia mass media „Kultura“, „Nevskoe vremya“ and in the magazine „ARDIS : Architecture, Restoration, Design, Investments, Building“.

The materials regarding the Kizhi museum and the restoration of its main monument were broadcasted regularly on different TV and radio channels of Karelia („Karelia“, „Sampo“, „Nika+“) and Russia („Russia 1“, „Russia 24“, „Culture“, „NTV“).

From May up to October 2013 several Russian („Russia 2“, „My planet“) and international (ORF (Austria), Australian and French) TV-Channels camera-crews worked on Kizhi Island.

Extra should be notified that one of the Olympic Torch relay, which could be considered a weighty contribution into the promotion of the Kizhi monuments and its heritage, was held on Kizhi Island.

More than that just before the anniversary of the Church of the Transfiguration, the Kizhi museum was nominated one of the ten Symbols of Russia according to the results of the National survey, which was organized by the Russian geographical Society and the main Russian TV-Channel „Russia 2“.

In 2013, the museum printed more than 200 promotional materials regarding the museum and its monuments and eight books as well as Management Plan of the WHS „Kizhi Pogost“ (Russia, C 544) for 2014–2020.

2.9. Preservation of landscapes, natural and architectural environment

The system work on preservation of the landscapes and natural environment of the Kizhi Pogost monuments was kept on in line with the basic principles developed in the Kizhi Museum and UNESCO recommendations.

The geo information systems (GIS) specially developed for the Kizhi museum and intended as the base for the conceptual and long-term practical guidance of preservation of the landscape target state was actively accustomed. The GIS system meets the modern scientific attitudes and includes considerable volumes of the historical and present data of the WHS landscape.

The technique of the assessment of the visual impact on the environment of all the planned construction projects was used for the first time.

The practical actions were carried out in accordance with the Decisions of the annual commission for the preservation of historical landscapes and were aimed at the preservation of the historical features and authenticity of the landscape. These actions included:

1. Maintenance of the open space and visual communications between the different objects of cultural heritage on Kizhi Island- Logging of shrubs and small trees.
2. Caring for rows of stones, maintaining meadows, coastal plantings *Ulmus laevis* in a way of different kinds of fellings (like sanitary fellings, landscape fellings, brush cleanings),
3. Maintenance of the traditional land-use, crafts and trades, land cultivation of the display fields, farmers fields and gardens. All in all, in 2013 the museum has carried out the activities of the total area of more than 165 ha.

The preservation of the natural landscape was carried out in cooperation with the „Vodlozerskiy“ National Park, which has a right of the operational management of the „Kizhskiy“ state natural reserve of federal significance.

In 2013, the museum’s activity regarding the preservation of the natural environment included:

1. Research on natural site in accordance with the long-term programme of monitoring studies of exotic species, biodiversity, ecosystems and landscapes.
2. Monitoring studies of the environmental conditions (air, water, soil).
3. Everyday weather observations.
4. Actions regarding the ecological security of the tourists, employees, local population. The most important of the above-mentioned activities are acaricide treatment of the territory and deratization.
5. Production control of the activity of the Kizhi museum in order to prevent irreversible environmental changes.

In 2013, the educational work in the field of ecology and environmental protection was carried out in the Kizhi museum. Much attention was paid to the organization of ecological actions with the involvement of the local population and practical actions in purpose of the preservation of the natural environment.

The focused effort in purpose of implementation of the waste management on Kizhi Island in a form of an international project: „WASTE: education, sorting, recovery“ as well as the realization of the project „Waste management in Kizhi museum“ evaluation is being continued.

2.10. Infrastructure development.

In 2011 the project documentation for ‘Outdoor Network and Power Supply Objects‘ on Kizhi Island, Medvezhiegorsk district, Karelia was developed and in 2013 it got the positive findings of a State ecological appraisal. This project provides for the construction of the cable network of solid and qualitative power supply of the present and future objects. The developed project documentation provides the 3-sourced power supply of Kizhi Pogost. Implementation of this project is planned for the period 2013–2016.

This power lines supply will be performed in underground execution to avoid the impact on the OUV of the WHS.

The power supply reconstruction will guarantee the reliable power supply of all the sites of the cultural heritage and the infrastructure as well as:

- more effective and reliable protection of the WHS and the other movable and intangible property of the cultural heritage;
- assistance in solving the problems and prevention of the irreversible environmental alterations on the territory;
- more comfortable living conditions for the museum employees responsible for the WHS preservation and tourist service.

The reconstruction of the historical road from Velikaya Guba to Oyativtshena Village is going on (in line with the Decree of the government RF №1633 dd. 07.11.2008). The completion of the reconstruction is planned for 2015. The reconstruction of this road will allow to improve the safety of the WHS and the other objects of the cultural heritage, to provide conditions for the reentry of the local population, to make it possible to transport necessary loads and professionals responsible for the preservation of the WHS and as well as to help to start the process of the sustainable tourism development on the surrounding territory. However, an absolute control of the infrastructure development in the Buffer zone and measures of the risks aversion regarding the WHS and historical landscape are necessary after the reconstruction is over.

The guiding principles of the socioeconomic development of the area are defined in the MP of the WHS as follows (MP Chapter 7.3.):

- the preservation of the OUV of the WHS not the infrastructure objects is the priority issue in any questions regarding the infrastructure development;
- any new project relating to the WHS and the surrounding territories has to pass the procedure of Impact Assessment on the OUV of the WHS and the surrounding landscape in accordance with the UNESCO recommendations in order not to damage the integrity and authenticity of the WHS.

3.1. General information

In 2013, the development of the design estimate documentation and the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration was going on.

Just like previous years, the work performance was granted on the basis of a competitive tendering. Two contractors, and namely „Alekon“ Co ltd and „Zaonezhie“ Co ltd remain in this restoration project as the result of the competitive tendering, and a new General designer since 2013 is „Georekonstruktsiya“ Co ltd. The Design work performer of many years remains „Spetsprojectrestavratsiya“ Institute (Moscow) which continued the work as a subcontractor.

In 2013, the following restoration works were performed on the Church of the Transfiguration in line with the contracts made:

- test-assembling of the 6th restoration tier in the Restoration Complex was completed as well as the restoration and final assembly on the Pogost; test-pressure on the logs was applied by the means of calibrated lifting jacks (done by the contractor „Zaonezhie“ Co ltd);

- the reconstruction of the church stone foundation was completed (done by the contractor „Alekon“ Co ltd);

- the disassembling of the 4th and 5th restoration tiers was started and is going on in 2014 as well (done by „Alekon“ Co ltd);

- the restoration of the 4th and 5th restoration tiers and test-assembling in the Restoration Complex was started and is going on in 2014 (done by „Zaonezhie“ Co ltd);

- the reconstruction and disassembling of specific parts of the lifting equipment and of the metal structure supporting the church was continued (done by „Alekon“ Co ltd).

A reliable team and year-round production made it possible to fulfill the work schedule for restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration in 2013.

The main contracts on restoration carry over to 2014, which makes possible to continue the work in January 2014 if the federal funding is provided.

The UNESCO mission and Russia experts will make the work quality evaluation in April 2014 experts.

Scheduled work and preventive maintenance was performed on other objects of Kizhi Pogost (the Church of the Intercession, Bell-Tower, and a fence).

Generally speaking, the rate of progress of restoration as well as the type of work performed stay at the same high-level. In wintertime, the main activities take place in the Restoration Complex, and in summertime, all efforts are concentrated on the assembling the restored parts on the Pogost i.e. on the original site. This report details the workflow and results of the activities in 2013.

3.2. The Work Performed in the Restoration Complex.

The work on the sixth restoration tier was performed in winter-spring 2013 according to the restoration technology fine-tuned in 2012. Basically, this technology includes the assembling of the unrestored tier, a detailed examination, repair of the damaged elements with the priority of preserving the authentic material (or making precise copies), test-assembling of the restored tier, preliminary tests, complying with remarks, and the submission to the acceptance commission.

Thus, upon the completion of winter period of complex restoration, an impressive restored part is well ready for just the assembling on the original site during summer period. In 2012, the underfloor section of the church was assembled, and the sixth restoration tier was set in 2013.

The 6th restoration tier was divided into three parts due to the height limits of the Restoration Complex and workforce potential of carpenters. Each of these parts was assembled, restored, examined and test-pressed according to the same technology. In April 2013, the central part of the 6th restoration tier was presented to UNESCO and Russia experts. The upper part of the 6th restoration tier was restored by June.



Restoration of logs in the Restoration Complex on Kizhi Island

The most difficult problem of the preliminary assembly was a considerable deformation of log walls in vertical level, particularly in the joints of four annexes with the main building. Difference in height between originally horizontal logs was up to 0,4 meters within 5 meters of length.

These deformations appeared in first 50 years of the church life. A huge weight of the central part caused its sinkage due to lack of a rigid stone foundation, and with that, the annexes preserved their initial static position.

Even with those serious deformations, the church didn't crash thanks to a flexibility of wooden structures. The attempts to press out the central part back to the upper position with hoisting jacks as well as the other methods were not successful. The church remained in this position almost 250 years. The deformations were concealed of view by making the second layer of floors in a straight horizontal way and by remaking doorways and window openings.

The vertical deformations on the lowest 7th tier were corrected in 2012, which made it possible to correct the deformations on the upper one, the 6th tier in 2013 as well.

The horizontal deformations of log walls were also corrected. The markers of the horizontal section of the lower 7th tier were made on the floor of the assembly department during the preliminary assembly. The 6th tier was assembled on the foundation of two uppermost rows of logs of the 7th tier assembled and tested on the Pogost.

Much attention was paid to the preservation of the original materials and structural rigidity of the whole building and separate elements as well. This challenge was easily solved thanks to the methods fine-tuned in 2012, and the development of algorithm for evaluation and performance of restorers was started. The basic points of this algorithm were presented to the UNESCO and Russia experts in April 2013. They recommended continuing the development of restoration theory based on practical experience in preservation of the unique monument.



The test-assembly of the restored logs

In the end of 2013, a new portion of material to be restored was delivered to the Restoration Complex, these were disassembled logs and domes of the 5th and partially of the 4th restoration tier. The restoration is going on.

3.3. The Work Performed on Kizhi Pogost. The Disassembly of Logs and Domes.

The disassembly of four domes on church annexes was done prior to the disassembly of church log walls. The specificity of church building set a new challenge of changing the disassembly direction from 'bottom to top' to the opposite one, i.e. first the disassembly of domes and, after that, of log walls.

After the domes had been disassembled, so were the log walls, carefully, in the course of three months and by the means of alifting equipment. Totally, 1,5 restoration tiers were disassembled, about 460 logs and other elements.



The disassembly of logs

There were no serious difficulties during the work; however, the increased height of work area caused certain changes in work procedures. Another traditional problem was the presence of two contractors on the working sites simultaneously, i.e. the mounters, who were disassembling the log walls, and the carpenters, who were assembling the restored log walls at the same time. According to the safety rules, the simultaneous work above each other was excluded, and that caused delays. However, both of the contractors managed to keep a good pace of work and to set correct disassembly-assembly procedures that did not cause any serious stoppage of work.

In line with the Contract, the logs were not only removed from the log walls but also delivered to the Restoration Complex, washed, dried and stocked for storage.

The lifting technology has two advantages. First, the church preserves its silhouette during a long-term restoration, and, second, the portion of restored material is limited until the next summer stage of work.

The first above-mentioned point is quite clear, but the second one requires some explanations. The navigation on Onego Lake and, consequently, the delivery of materials and people lasts only 5 months a year. It is difficult to run a large-scale production in this hard-to-reach area without building a serious infrastructure, which is a really a problem on Kizhi Island. The limited amount of work material enables to keep the anthropogenic and other kinds of loads on the island eco-system within reasonable limits.

It should be noted that the gap between the logs during the disassembly has always been taken in consideration. In 2013, this gap was always kept minimum for better visual perception of tourists, as long as the disassembly of log walls and the assembly of restored logs were simultaneous and the gap left was just enough height to mount/dismount the logs.

3.4. Work on the Pogost. The Assembly of Log Walls.

The logs and other elements restored during the winter-spring period were stocked in the Restoration Complex until summer. After the space for assembly procedures had been cleared, the assembling of log walls was started on Pogost.

Unlike 2012, when the log walls were assembled right from the ground level, the carpenters faced the same problem as the mounters had before, i.e. the increase of height of work area. In the regular course of work, the decision was made to set the external scaffolds only if extremely needed. The reason is that they are too labour and resource demanding. Actually, it was never needed because the internal metal support and the scaffolding of the refectory were used to the utmost.

The external scaffolds will be used at the assembling of domes of restored annexes. Until that moment, the carpenters prefer operating from the internal scaffolds and free outside space. This is a kind of a traditional technology because the carpenters in the old times used to work exactly inside when assembling the church, and used the outside space just for lifting up the logs.

It should be mentioned that the dimensions of the 6th restoration tier fully matched with the wooden underfloor part of the church. This is the evidence of precise measurements on the Pogost and correct marking on the floor of the assembly department in the Restoration Complex.

All deformations of two restoration tiers were fully corrected, both in vertical and horizontal sections. In other words, the church log walls were restored as they were build in 1714, and the building faults should not be repeated on the reliable foundation.

The conservation of the church for winter period proceeded after the disassembly of logs and the assembly of the sixth restoration tier.

3.5. Works on the Pogost. Completing the Reconstruction of the Church Foundation.

The reconstruction of the church foundation was completed in 2013. Two restored tiers (the 6th and the 7th ones) are set on the reliable foundation. Its visible part is the imitation of the original stonework of lime mortar.

The most laborious work was matching the upper part of the foundation with the assembled portion of the wooden underfloor part of the church. Each stone of the upper part was treated manually so those to be fitted precisely to its position and to carry the church load. Usually this procedure is performed just the other way round, i.e. the building is adjusted to the foundation set, but not the foundation



The assembly of logs walls on Pogost



The stone foundation of the Church of the Transfiguration

adjusted to the building. However, this situation was caused by the priority of preserving to the utmost exactly the log walls.

It is worth to mention once again that the main reason for church walls deformations was exactly the bad foundation of the 18th century and its sinkage. This is why a solid strip foundation of concrete was laid underground to prevent this building fault. For a better aesthetic appearance, the upper visible part of the foundation imitates the original stonework. The upper visible part of the foundation looks like a stonework.

3.6. Work Quality Evaluation, the Mission of UNESCO

In the end of 2011, the UNESCO and Russia experts in restoration highly evaluated the activities of the Kizhi Museum in preservation of the masterpiece of wooden architecture, the Church of the Transfiguration of Our Savior.



The Mission of UNESCO and Russian experts in the restoration complex

It was reasonable to invite the next mission of UNESCO in spring, 2013 to keep in line with the production schedule and to present the work made, and so it happened.

The on-site meeting of ICOMOS mission was organized and held on Kizhi Island on the 2nd – 6th of April 2013. The Objective was supervising the restoration on the WHS. Besides the Kizhi Museum administration and personnel, the following parties participated in that meeting:

- the international experts of ICOMOS and WHC mission;
- the representatives of the Ministry of Culture of RF;
- the representatives of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO;
- the Minister of Culture of Karelia;
- the representatives of the Academy of Architecture of RF;
- the representatives of Russia design institutes and museums of wooden architecture (the architects and restorers of highest qualification grade);
- the representatives of contractors participating in the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration.



Workshop with the UNESCO experts on Kizhi Island

Thanks to the restoration activities on the Church of the Transfiguration, the Kizhi Museum becomes one of the discussion platforms for the experts representing the international and Russia community of restorers. This is not the first time when a commission of qualified experts and restorers meets on the Kizhi Island to discuss the issues of restoration.

The on-site meeting participants familiarized with the complete workflow of restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration and highly evaluated the quality of work. The Kizhi Museum and contractors were recommended to keep the restoration going that direction. The method of restoration applied by the museum was fully approved.

On the 37th UNESCO session (Pnompenh, 2013), the Committee of World Heritage mentioned „the progress of the State-Party in protection and preservation of the Churches of the Transfiguration and Intercession“². The Committee urges the State-Party to „keep these efforts and prevent possible losses of materials and constructive elements, which could endanger the Site.“³

The personnel of Museum Service for Preparation and Support of the Restoration develop their own section of the Annual Report on the Kizhi Museum Activities. This Annual Report is submitted to the international organizations as well, such as UNESCO, ICOMOS, WHC and others.

Besides the outside control of work quality which is objectively the best one, a good performance rate is achieved by a detailed elaboration of production documentation (i.e. the project of restoration) and by the inside control of work quality by the designer and engineering supervision.

3.7. Project Development, Designer and Engineering Supervision.

The restoration work procedures require that a design and estimate documentation, or more exactly production documentation, is to be developed for a work year ahead, but not for the whole scope of work. This approach has been acute until recently, however, the procedure of financing and competitive tenders got more complicated and that requires a more 'distant' project development from planning and design organizations.

A special attention is paid to the accuracy of planning and projecting and to the provision of contractors with quality documentation in required amount. Unfortunately, there were some problems with the project of complex restoration in 2013. The 'road-map' of work until 2018 was developed in 2014 to exclude such situations. This map will make it possible to organize projecting and financing without any stoppages.

In 2013, the contract with „Georekonstruktsiya“ Co ltd was signed to develop a design estimate documentation for restoration (the next stage of research and projecting work on the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration (the central part of the lowest octagon and upper part of the annexes with 4 „barrel“ roofs and domes, ceiling beams located from 20 to 46 row of logs)). Chief architect of the project remains „Spetsprojectrestavratsiya“ Co ltd represented by architect Mr. Rachmanov and keeps operating as a sub-contractor within the terms of the above-mentioned contract. The contract is valid for 2013–2014.

Two contracts were made with „Spetsprojectrestavratsiya“ Co ltd to perform a designer and engineering supervision of the restoration work on the Church of the Transfiguration on Kizhi Pogost. These two contracts carry over 2014, which enables a continuous workflow of restoration. „Stroyrekonstruktsiya“ Co ltd was contracted to control the work done on the metal ware of the lifting equipment. This company is the project designer of the lifting equipment suspending the church. The Museum Service performed the engineering supervision for Preparation and Support of the Restoration.

The projecting activities as well as the designer and engineering supervision are running all year round and subject to the work performance.

3.8. Holding Competitive Tenderings and Contract Performance

All contractors operate on the basis of contract of work and labour signed regarding the results of competitive tenders.

² The decision of the 37th World Heritage Committee session, 05 July, 2013

³ The decision of the 37th World Heritage Committee session, 05 July, 2013

The following activities were performed to prepare a tender documentation for holding a Federal Acquisition Tender for the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration:

- preparation of a primary design and estimate documentation (in collaboration with „Spetsprojectrestavratsiya“ Company);
- coordination of a design and estimate documentation with the Federal State Unitary Enterprise „Rosgossekspertiza“ (Moscow, the Ministry of Culture of RF);
- preparation of requisition notes and coordination of financing for the supposed restoration work in the Ministry of Culture of RF;
- preparation and coordination of final contractual documentation with the Kizhi Museum Finance and Juridical Services.

The personnel of the Kizhi Museum Finance and Juridical Services supervise the following issues during the whole contract time of contractors working in restoration or other fields:

- compliance of contract terms and conditions by contractors and the Kizhi Museum;
 - preparation and coordination of specific finance and juridical documentation (additional agreements etc.) if contract conditions need to be amended;
 - well-timed and regular submission of the contractors' report documentation for performing contractual obligations (work acceptance certificate, KC-2, KC-3 etc.);
 - passage of report documentation through the Federal Treasury of Karelia and making corrections if necessary.
- All contractors are certified for the performance of restoration work.



Licence for the performance of restoration work in purpose of preservation of the Cultural Heritage Sites

3.9. Licensing Activities

In 2013, the Kizhi Museum was granted the Licence for Performance of Restoration Work on the Cultural Heritage Sites (monuments of history and culture) with no fixed term⁴. The annual reports on restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration on Kizhi Pogost are submitted to the Department of State Control and Supervision in the Field of Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture of Russia. The documentation for obtaining a yearly permission for this kind of work is issued as well.

Moscow construction college № 26 was contracted for a course of advanced training of Carpenter centre personnel. This college specializes in training of carpenters restorers of wooden architecture. A training course consisting of lectures and practical activities was held by a college teacher right in the Carpenter centre from the 16th-25th of December 2013. State-recognized certificates of advanced training were granted to 10 carpenters.

⁴ Licence No MCRF 00563 dd.12.03.2013 „ Licence for performance of restoration work in purpose of preservation of the Cultural Heritage Sites (monuments of history and culture) of the peoples of RF“

3.10. Museum Carpenter centre Activities.

The Museum Carpenter centre keeps working. The carpenters perform quality repairs of logs and other elements of the Church of the Transfiguration all year round. The priority of preserving the original materials to the utmost and of quality work preserves more than 60% of original materials, which is a good safety index for a 300-year-old wooden building.

In 2013, the Kizhi Museum Carpenter centre shifted to a six-day workweek, which improved work efficiency. Besides that, „work-recreation“ schedule was improved for those living on Kizhi Island. All contractors and secondees on the island also work a six-day week.

Carpenters-restorers of the Kizhi Museum have been not once recognized for the high professionalism and the quality of restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration by Russian and international experts⁵.



The logs restoration by the carpenter of the Carpenter Centre Varenov V.

3.11. Restoration of the gild carved iconostasis of the Church of the Transfiguration.

In 2013, the Kizhi Museum continued the restoration of the iconostasis frame of the Church of the Transfiguration concentrating the efforts on the Royal gates. The Moscow Art Research performed the conservation of the gild surface and Restoration Directorate (referred to below as MSRAB).

In 2014, it was planned to start the restoration of woodcarving and the frame of the Royal Gates and complete this part of the restoration with the toning of the parts with the replaced lost elements. But at first, it is necessary to perform the test assembly of the ceiling in the Church proper of the Church of the Transfiguration. The main structural part of the ceiling (the so-called „Heaven“) is at the same time the part of the original painted iconostasis consisting of icons placed on radial transoms. The transoms paintings have not ever been conserved and are at the extremely critical conditions. Therefore, the test assembly of the ceiling is possible only after the necessary conservation of the paintings of the transoms, circular transom and friso of the original iconostasis.

In 2012–2013, a detailed examination of the integrity of the paintings of the original iconostasis elements was carried out by the MSRAB professionals and the amount and costs of works were quantified. The conservation work of the „Heaven“ painting elements is planned for the year 2014 so that the test assembly of the ceiling can be performed in October 2014. The restoration of the Holy Gates and the Alter shade can be continued in case of an additional yearly funding in 2014.

The 4years restoration process identified and aggravated the restoration problems of the interior of the Church of the Transfiguration.

For example, due to the emergency state of the gild coverage, the restoration of the iconostasis requires the strict sequence of the restoration work. It starts with the conservation of the gild coverage

⁵ The decision of the 37th UNESCO Committee session/The report of the reactive monitoring mission of the WHS/ICOMOS on the WHS Kizhi Pogost 1-6 April, 2013/Report of proceedings at the meeting of Ministry of Culture of RF on the restoration flow on the Cultural Heritage Site the Church of the Transfiguration 2-4 April, 2013).



The restoration of the gild wooding frame of the iconostasis of the Church of the Transfiguration

followed by the restoration of the frame and woodcarving and completed by the toning of the replaced lost elements.

The present conditions and specific character of the restoration process indicate that the completion of the restoration of the gild frame of the iconostasis can be declared for 2019–2020, so we may state that the restoration process runs behind the engineering and restoration schedule. To complete the restoration of the iconostasis simultaneously with the restoration of the Church in 2018 the year-round work by 8–10 high-qualified professionals is necessary. But the museum is able to organize the restoration process of the iconostasis only during warm period of the year (6 months) and the restoration workshops on Kizhi Island may accommodate only 5–6 professionals. To speed the restoration of the interior elements the working conditions on Kizhi Island needed to be improved. It is necessary to extend the restoration workshops and to create the required climatic regime inside as well as to provide the professionals with all the necessary accommodations.

3.12. Other Activities

The work on maintaining the stock of raw materials for restoration was kept on in 2013. They harvested a sufficient volume of timber to ensure the further restoration works. The Contractor is „Raduga“ (Medvezhiegorsk).

The long-term monitoring for the conditions of storage and quality of timber and carving wood stocked on Kizhi Island for the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration as well as other museum monuments. This monitoring is conducted from May to October. The Company „Timber Experts“ Co ltd (Petrozavodsk) was contracted for performing these activities.

3.13. Future Outlooks for 2014

In 2013, the Kizhi Museum already signed the contracts that carry over to 2014 and thus organized the beginning of work since January without any delays and waiting for official Federal financing.

The competitive tenderings for the main summer-autumn activities are scheduled for the first quarter of 2014, and that will make it possible to start a large-scale work already in May. Two restoration tiers are to be restored and assembled on the Site (excluding domes) up to the end of the year. The domes are scheduled for winter period 2014–2015.

Besides the main production and restoration work, the Kizhi Museum will pay a lot of attention and time to the advanced training of carpenters-restorers and to stocking timber for restoration purpose.

Concluding Part.

The year 2013 anticipates the future of the Kizhi Museum in many ways. The unique experience of restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration has proven the efficiency of the methods used. Serious efforts were made for the Conception of the Kizhi Museum Development during the past year. This Conception will set breakthrough standards for the museum. The collaboration with UNESCO on development of the WHS MP grew very active.

Russian and international experts of UNESCO missions have repeatedly approved the highest quality of restoration on Kizhi Island and mentioned the necessity of using this experience in training of restorers in wooden architecture. Now this sector is short of qualified experts. The Museum Carpenter centre participates in restoration of the monuments on Kizhi Island, and they study and use traditional crafts and technologies known by local inhabitants. The WHS MP stipulates as one of the priorities the establishment of a Training centre for Preservation and Restoration of Monuments of Wooden Architecture in 2014 (MP Chapter 10.2.5) based on the Museum Carpenter Centre.

The Museum is also developing a proposal for establishing the Department of UNESCO for Study and Preservation of Wooden Architecture (in collaboration with the Petrozavodsk State University). The purpose of this Department is training not only the restorers who will continue the study and preservation of Kizhi Museum monuments, but also those extremely needed in other parts of Russia and Karelia. Academician Mr. Orphinsky, a Full Member of Russian Academy of Architecture and Construction Sciences, researcher of wooden architecture, will head this Department.

These results are extremely important for the museum and they were achieved thanks to a very organized collaboration with UNESCO, Ministry of Culture of RF, state authorities, researchers, independent experts, non-governmental organizations and inhabitants of Zaonezhie.

The preparation for the celebration of the 300-year anniversary of the Church of the Transfiguration is already getting very active. This is a very prominent event for Russian and World Culture Calendar, and it will popularize the Cultural Heritage of Kizhi Island as well as the UNESCO activities on preservation of the landscapes and monuments on this unique island.

Deputy-Director of the Kizhi Museum Mr. Dimitry Lugovoy

Petrozavodsk, January, 2014



**Report
on the state of conservation of the
WHS “Kizhi Pogost” (Kizhi Pogost, C 544)
in 2013**

Under the general editorship of
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