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Ecology and Revival Park Named after Hetman Kyrylo Rozumovsky

For more than 200 years the palace of Kyrylo Rozumovsky, the last Hetman of the Left Bank Ukraine, remains the main adornment, as well as a symbol to a certain extent, of city Baturyn. Being located on the terrace of the high left bank of the Seym, it evokes deep admiration of the viewers.

Kyrylo Rozumovsky had decided to transfer the capital of the Cossack State from Glukhiv to Baturyn soon after being elected the Hetman of Ukraine. The construction of the whole "National Buildings" complex was started just after that. The architect Antonio Rinaldi was entitled by K. Rozumovsky to work out the project of the Hetman's palace in 1752. Due to some reasons this palace was never erected, but it was the sketches of the palace which gave the architect possibility to be acknowledged a prominent master; it provided him with the numerous orders in Petersburg and its outskirts.

In autumn of 1764, the empress Katherine II discharged Razumovsky, and activated her activity directed on the Left Bank Ukraine political autonomy annihilation. The ex-hetman was not allowed to visit his native land under these circumstances. Only in 1794, when the political pressure was reduced, K. Razumovsky came back to Baturyn and established the grandiose palace park ensemble. During the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945, the facade walls and the decoration elements of the palace were seriously damaged. The second half of the XX century has seen several restoration attempts which preserved the state of the palace, though none of them were completed.

In 2002, under the initiative of Yushchenko V.A., the prime-minister of Ukraine, the Complex Program on the "Hetman's Capital" Monuments' Preservation was worked out. The realization of this program started in 2003.

The huge amount of works was performed in 2008, and for the first time of its 200 years' history the palace obtained its original state.

The prominent writer Oleksii Tolstoy, the great grandson of the Hetman K.Rozumovsky, had visited Baturyn for several times and had even composed the elegy:

*Do you know the land where the Seym its waters
Through the orphan banks pours lamentably,
The palace ruined arches are over it,
The entrance overgrown with the thick grass,
The shield with the hetmans mace above the door?
I crave for being there!"*