

1 Oak Tree Palace

According to the descriptions, the Oak Tree Palace had been one of the architecturally most beautiful buildings in Alūksne. In the days of Christoph Burhard von Vietinghoff in the 1790s, it was constructed according to the architectural pattern of Italian villas and was one of the earliest samples of the Empire style in Vidzeme.

The central part of the building had two floors, but the side parts were one-storeyed with a low-pitched roof. The entrance portal in the central part of the palace was marked out by a narrow balcony supported by the consoles. In the deepening of the lower part of the balcony there were golden initials of the builder of the palace "C.B.V." decorated with a five-part crown.

The palace was destroyed by fire in 1903 caused by the fights of local peasants against the German nobility.



2 Empire Style Gate

The gate was built in the Empire (classical French) style in the beginning of the 19th century. Its form emphasises an entry into a place where a special experience awaits man's eye and soul, offering an opportunity to think about the world and one's place within it.



3 Alūksne New Palace

In the very heart of the town, next to the picturesque lake, the Alūksne New Palace and the adjacent Manor Park bask proudly. The palace built in the second half of the 19th century in accordance with a commission from Baron Alexander von Vietinghoff is one of the most notable monuments of the late Tudor Neo-Gothic style architecture in Latvia. The palace's interior has ceiling and wall paintings in various architectural styles, fragments of which have been uncovered and reinforced in some places.



4 Round Tower



The Round Tower belongs to the set of buildings of the Alūksne New Palace, and was formerly used as a storeroom and ice cellar. Some legends speak about an underground passage between the palace and the tower but its real existence has not been proved yet. After its renovation in 2012, the tower serves as an exhibition hall.

5 Ice Cellar

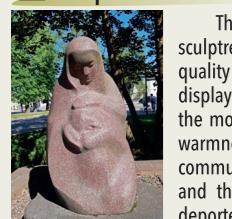
The Ice Cellar restored in 2012 also belongs to the New Palace building set. During the barons' times wine was stored there but now the Cellar stores the exhibits of the museum.

6 Fountains at the New Palace

In 1974 two fountains were installed in the ponds of the manor park. Ruta Sviļe was the project author but Alberts Grīnviexs was responsible for the technician implementation of the fountain project. In August 2002 the fountains were renovated by Alvīts Grīnviexs.



7 Sculpture "Dream"



The Mother and Child's theme is one of the leading in the sculptress Lilija Līce's creative work characterised by high artistic quality and emotional persuasion. The sculpture "Dream" which was displayed in 1970 is known as the Mother's statue. The sculpture of the mother holding her child reveals her protective and comforting warmth. Every year on the commemoration days of victims of communist terror, the local people who survived in the deportations and their relatives gather at the sculpture to commemorate the deported people and place flowers at the foot of the sculpture.



8 Sculpture "Mother Bear"

The sculpture "Mother Bear" was displayed in 1974. In the history of art it is also known as "Aījā žūžū" (Hushaby, hushaby) or "Bear Cubs". It is quite common to see the lines from the Latvian folk songs in the titles of Lilijs Līce's sculptures. This sculpture is a roughly-carved dark stone in which we can trace a shape of a bear. The sculpture differs tremendously from the other works of art of the sculptress which are usually realistic and well-perceivable images made of polished granite.

9 Sculpture "Mermaid"

The sculpture "Mermaid" is one of the rare large form sculptures made by the sculptress Ruta Svilē and placed in the urban environment. The nude figure of the mermaid has the same perfect beauty one can see in the works of the French modernist Aristide Maillol emphasising the feminine shapes of the female body. The sculpture was displayed in 1974.

10 Colonnade

The colonnade which is the architectural monument of local significance was built at the end of the 19th century. It was installed in the Alūksne Park near the New Palace in the 1960s. According to the order issued by Kārlis Ūbelis who was the chairman of the region workers' council executive committee at that time, the colonnade was transported from the barons' chapel in Gaujiena to save it from the planned demolition.

11 Stone Bridge

The Stone Bridge is an architectural monument of the local significance. Originally it was located in Margaritas street and lead to the Oak Tree Palace which was burnt down in 1903. In the second half of the 20th century in the park near the New Palace the existing bridge was built. The granite supports, parapets and stone plates of the old bridge were used in the construction of the new one. In 2010, during the renovation works of the bridge, it was supplemented with the missing parts.

13 Palm House

Built as the manor conservatory in the late 18th century, the Palm House originally had a glass roof and frontal walls with a long line of windows. Exotic plants were grown there, while the residents of the Bird Pavilion were housed there in wintertime. Lined with ornate wall decorations, the central room was the gallery for the family's artworks, as well as mementoes of various world trips including seashells, minerals, stuffed birds and modern physical apparatus. After World War I, the collections were exported, the glass roof was replaced with a tin one, walls were built in place of the windows and apartments were installed there. After nationalization, the building was home to an oil press. Later, during World War II, the Nazis used it as a ghetto. It subsequently served as a motor transport factory and bus depot. Today the building is a private property.

14 Catherine's Carriage Wheel

In 1921, the headquarters of the Latvian Army 7th Sigulda Infantry Regiment were located in the New Palace. The wheel was lifted up into the oak by a childless commander's fellow soldiers, in the expectation that a stork - the symbol of childbirth - would make its nest there.

Over the years, the wheel has become the subject of numerous legends. The most colourful of these involves the Russian Tsar Peter the Great and his prospective bride Marta Skavronska, who was the adopted daughter of Alūksne pastor and author of the first Bible translation, Ernst Glück. The Tsar asked Marta to marry him and was rejected thus making him so angry that he whipped a horse, which took off at a gallop, wrecking the carriage whose wheel then ran up the oak. Marta Skavronska really became Peter the Great's wife, and later, in 1724, the Empress Catherine I of Russia.

16 Oval Fountain



The Fountain was installed in the second half of the 18th century in accordance with a commission from Otto Hermann von Vietinghoff-Scheel. It was occasionally popularly referred to as the Turkish Spring evidently alluding to the exotic nature of the fountain. Its pool is two smoothly carved red granite rocks tightened together by two iron staples. Water for the fountain was pumped along copper pipes from Lake Kalnezers which was located in the territory of the park. The fountain was renovated in the summer of 2018.

17 Bird Pavilion

The construction of the building dates back to the 1840s when it was built at the request and in accordance with the wishes of Alexander Joseph von Vietinghoff's wife. In summer, over 100 birds resided in this Japanese-style building, which was covered with a fine grille. In winter, the birds were moved to the Palm House.

The pavilion was capped with two-level domes. The first dome was adorned by four copper tin dragons with whiskers, tails and wings. On the top of the second dome there was a sphere and a figure of a bird. The building is sometimes referred to as the Dragon Pavilion. In its centre there was a round carved granite bowl for the bird feeding.

In the 1930s the pavilion was dilapidated therefore the Monument board gave the permission to remove it. In the summer of 2018 the restored pavilion was unveiled.



19 Vietinghoff Family Mausoleum

The Vietinghoff-Scheel family's mausoleum was built in 1831, in accordance with a commission from Paul von Vietinghoff (architect Johann Wilhelm Krause). The closest kin of the Vietinghoff family were buried in the mausoleum. The family sarcophagi were brought here from the Graveyard peninsula and even from Rēvele (now - Tartu). A ditch was dug around the mausoleum and the ground was consecrated.

The cylindrical stone building on a granite plinth reflects the features of late classicism style. Its dome-shaped roof symbolises the vault of heaven. In the basement of the plinth under the floor there was the crypt where the family members were reburied. In 1900, the central part of the mausoleum leading to the crypt was filled up.

In later times, grave robbers broke up the floor in the mid-section of the mausoleum as well as the plinth's side walls. The burial vault was destroyed. So were all the marble plaques, and the grave monuments and marble crosses that once stood in front of the mausoleum.

In the autumn of 2018 the renovated Mausoleum was open to the visitors.

20 Aeolus' Temple

The Aeolus' Temple was built during the second half of the 18th century in accordance with a commission from Otto Hermann von Vietinghoff-Scheel. The building celebrated Aeolus, the ruler of the winds in Ancient Greek mythology. Its marble figure was located in the middle of the temple under the golden dome of the circular sun.

During the construction of the temple, trees were chopped to create special footpaths so that winds blowing in any direction could play the four wind harps hung there, which could then be heard throughout the park.



21 Granite Obelisk

The granite obelisk was erected in 1799 by Christoph Burkhard von Vietinghoff, in honour of his father, the founder of Alūksne Manor, Palace and Landscape Park, as well as its most proactive developer, true secret advisor to the Russian Empire, senator and General Director of the College of Medicine, Otto Hermann von Vietinghoff.

The marble plaque on the obelisk read: To my good father, friend of man, from his thankful son 1799. There was also an oval portrait medallion of the baron and a rectangular marble plaque with his name, but on the spire of the obelisk there was a golden sphere.

The renovated Granite Obelisk was displayed in the summer of 2018.



22 Granite Benches

The massive granite benches at the foot of the Granite Obelisk were placed there in the second half of the 18th century. They are the original part of the Alūksne Manor Park.

23 Alexander's Pavilion

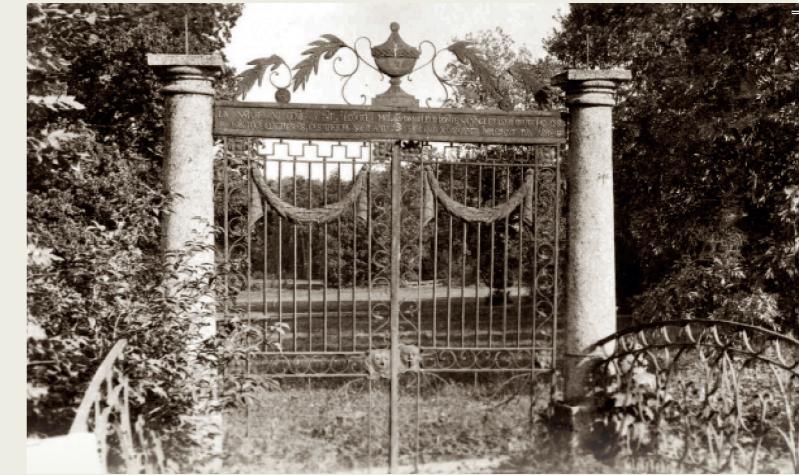
The pavilion was built in the late 18th and early 19th centuries and named in honour of the contradictory Russian Tsar Alexander I, who was concurrently not only a reformer, but also a despotic viceroy. The Tsar visited both Alūksne and the Vietinghoff-Scheel family property.

The building's roof is adorned by a metal flag, thus highlighting the building's rigid forms and reminding one of the most enduring values - the country and the Russian Empire to which the life and work, grandeur and recognition of the Vietinghoff-Scheel family were linked. Its symbolic purpose is also revealed by the precise orientation of the building towards the four sides of the sky: Western culture is manifested by the lancet arch structure, whereas the Eastern byzantine tradition is indicated by the perpendicular round-wood arch.



The pavilion was renovated in 2015.

The Empire style gate



25 Round Fountain

The fountain was installed during the second half of the 18th century in accordance with a commission from Otto Hermann von Vietinghoff-Scheel.

The basin was sculpted from a whole piece of pink granite rock. The carvings on the inside of the basin possibly indicate that a sculpture or some other object was once installed in its middle. Water was pumped along copper pipes from Lake Kalnezers.

The renovated fountain was disclosed in the summer of 2018.

26 Pomona's Temple

The temple was built during the second half of the 18th century in the architectural forms of the Classicism style. The building honours the Roman goddess of gardens Pōmōna, whose marble statue was erected on a small pedestal inside the temple.



On the entablature above the temple columns, there was an inscription in French, which translates as: You are virtuous if you love nature.

The building was in a dangerous state when it was pulled down in 1935 but before that it was carefully surveyed.

The renovated Pomona Temple was displayed in the summer of 2018.

30 Prince's Island

The isle is named after French writer Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's hero The Little Prince. His insights resonate with the wishes of the romantic idealists among the manor park's designers, and keep them alive.

Today, the isle's inimitable charm makes it a special stopping point for newlyweds.

... If you tame me, we will need one another. You will be the only one for me in all the world. I will be the only one for you in all the world... One must be very patient, but... you will always be responsible for those you tame...

...we only truly see one another through the heart!

31 32 Alūksne Brothers' Cemetery and sculpture "Yearning"

The Brothers' Cemetery vividly illustrates the course of Latvian history – burials have taken place there at three different times.

The first riflemen were buried at the site of the first Bird Pavilion in 1919. In a two month period, four funerals were held here for fallen combatants.

The second occasion was in 1944, when Red Army soldiers, killed fighting Nazi forces, were laid to rest in the cemetery.

During the 1960s, the mortal remains of 167 Alūksne residents, including 157 Jews, who had been shot dead by Nazis in the Siseņi Pines in 1941, were reburied alongside the soldiers.

In 1984, the cemetery was cleaned up and redesigned, in addition to which the "Yearning" - a sculpture of a white sad female made by Alūksne sculptress Lilija Līce, was displayed there.



Alūksne New Palace

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The map of the park with the sightseeing objects

The Alūksne Manor Park was created in the 18th century when the place was owned by Otto Hermann von Vietinghoff-Scheel. Originally the park was developed in the regular French garden style. The oaks which are still growing in the western part of the park were planted in those days. Later when it was fashionable in Europe to make landscape parks, in accordance with a commission from Christoph Burhard von Vietinghoff, the palace gardener Pēteris Buks transformed the park according to the English style.

The park is an artificially created system of nature elements depicting the principles of the architectural planning and spatial structure characteristic at the certain time and including the architecture elements of parks.

In the beginning of the 19th century, the most extensive collection of trees and plants in the territory of Vidzeme was planted in the park, and after four years it was one of the dendrologically richest parks in the Baltics.

The Alūksne Manor Park is the national architectural monument, and since the restoration of the Republic of Latvia, the park and its objects have begun to be renovated to their former glory.