

THE ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS OF THE CITY OF POLOTSK
ON THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL MEMORY
ABOUT THE EVENTS OF THE GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR IN THE SOVIET PERIOD

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The activity of public organizations for educational activities, propaganda about the events of the war in the region, as well as support the state of monuments established in honor of the fallen soldiers and victims of the soldiers. With the help of archival data Of the zonal state archive of Polotsk, shows examples of organizations in this direction.

Introduction. Preserving the memory of those who died in the defense of the Fatherland and preserving the memory of the victims of wars is one of the important vectors of the internal policy of the Republic of Belarus, which implementation is of high value for Patriotic education. Even in the post-war years, the Soviet Union created public organizations that aim to support the process of memorialization using various forms of work, fixing and transmitting memory from generation to generation.

Task formulation. To study the activities of public organizations of the city of Polotsk to preserve the historical memory of the events of the Great Patriotic war in the Soviet period.

Realizing the paramount importance of preserving the memory of the war and the opportunity to use it in the field of Communist education, the top leadership of the country paid great attention to this issue. However, at that time propaganda and ideological education could not be realized without the creation of infrastructure and Central objects of memorial policy – monuments and memorials. This proves the holding of numerous competitions for the preparation of draft designs of tombstones and memorial plaques [1 p. 156]. At the initial stages, the issues of preservation and fixation of memory were in the powers of local administrative authorities, which were engaged in the implementation of projects for the creation of monuments and memorials. Thus, the Vitebsk oblast Executive Committee on July 28, 1945 adopted a resolution "on perpetuating the places of battles and the memory of soldiers of the red army and partisans who died bravely for the freedom and independence of our country in the Great Patriotic War." Thus, according to the reports of the regional departments of cultural and educational was the identification and further integration of brotherly and individual tombs of Red Army soldiers and partisans, as well as the reburial of the remains in cases where grave was in an awkward place [1, p. 156]. After an initial systematization of graves all, the graves by the decision of the Executive committees assigned to separate organizations, collective farms, schools, cooperatives and enterprises for the improvement and maintaining in an acceptable condition.

An important stage in the development of the policy of perpetuation of memory in the BSSR is the creation in 1965 of the Belarusian voluntary society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments is a very public organization designed to promote the implementation of the party's activities in the protection of historical and cultural monuments. Already after the adoption of the Charter of the company at the I Constituent Belarusian voluntary society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments on December 7, 1966, in accordance with which the main objectives of the organization were defined. These tasks included 1) involvement of the General public, as well as enterprises and institutions to participate in the work of the society; 2) Promotion of historical and cultural monuments among the population through lectures, exhibitions, excursions, the production of popular scientific literature, advertising materials, as well as through the use of periodicals, movies, radio and television; 3) assistance to schools and other organizations in carrying out educational work among children and young people using historical and cultural monuments, in introducing children and young people to the study of monuments and history [2]. The formulated tasks were universal for each branch of the organization, which existed in separate regions and cities. The city Department of the Belarusian voluntary society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments in Polotsk was established on July 15, 1965, in accordance with the decision of the Polotsk Executive Committee of the city Council of people's deputies of workers № 241 [2, c.149-151]. Since the work of the city Department was engaged in quite large-scale tasks, the primary problem was the involvement of the General population. According to the Charter, a member of the Belarusian voluntary

society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments could become citizens of the USSR who have reached of 16-year-old. Also taken of the so-called collective members (institution, companies and state-owned enterprises). Persons under the age of 16 also took part in the work of the organization, but in the youth section of the society [2, c.151]. As early as 1973, the city had 84 primary organizations for the protection of monuments of history and culture, which united 15,871 people. [3, c. 3].

According to the results of the analysis of archival materials of the fund of the city department of the Belarusian civil society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments (fund 721), which located in the Zonal State Archive in the city of Polotsk, the main focus of the activities of this organization was to record and preserve monuments as the main memorialization objects and "places of memory". Most of the monuments erected in the Polotsk region have a direct connection with the events of Operation Bagration, in particular with one of the stages - the Polotsk offensive operation, which was carried out in Belarus from June 29 to July 4, 1944 by the troops of the 1st Baltic Front [4, c.442-447]. The results of the work of the city department presented in the annual reports, which are one of the main sources for the activities of this public organization [5]. To maintain the preservation of monuments, the department carried out a periodic survey of the qualitative state, the results of which determined further measures to work with the object. Thus, in 1976, a commission headed by the head of the propaganda and agitation department of the city committee of the Communist Party of Belarus E. M. Avlasko conducted a survey of the mass grave monument to Soviet soldiers, established in 1949 at the Fatynovo cemetery. As a result, it was found that the monument was built of fragile material - red brick and its condition at that time was defined as an emergency. The Administration decided to replace the emergency monument by the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution [6, л.5]. A similar condition was recorded at the monument on the mass grave on the square. Lenin, which despite constant repairs, was restricted access in 1973 [6, л.1]. For the restoration of the monument at the Fatynovo cemetery and others in October 1976, the Presidium of the Council of the Polotsk city department of the Belarusian voluntary society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments sent a request to the Deputy Chairman of the Regional Council of the Department of Public Procurement, according to which 5000 rubles should be seen from the funds. [7, л.1]. In spite of the funds allocated, restoration work for the preservation of monuments was not enough, as evidenced by the report of the Polotsk city department of Belarusian voluntary society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments for 1978, which states that at the time of 01/01/1979, the above-listed monuments are to be replaced. Based on the list of monuments and memorials of the military glory of the Soviet people, requiring replacement, we can conclude that often the reason for replacing a structure or creating a new monument was low-quality materials, as well as a "low artistic level of performance" [7, л.1-3].

Also, with the assistance of the city branch, both on a voluntary basis, and on donations collected by groups, as well as from the funds of the society were established [5, л. 6]: monument to Tatiana Marinenko (1970); the bust of the Hero of the Soviet Union, Polochanin I. Ye. Alekseev (1969); monument to I. Aytykov (1969); obelisk in honor of the troops of the 1st Baltic Front (1965); the monument on the mass graves of soldiers who died during the liberation of Polotsk (Fatynovskoe, Ksaverevskoe, Krasnoe, Gromovskoye cemetery) were renewed; monument to V. Azin (1979); monument to A. Horovts (1973); a monument to teachers and students of secondary school number 7 (1967) in the schoolyard; reconstruction of the monument to the Liberators of Polotsk (1981); Monument to the crew of the T-34 tank of the Hero of the Soviet Union V. Halev (1980).

To draw attention to the problem of war, the city Department of the Belarusian voluntary society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments conducted educational work. The Department worked with two groups of lecturers: the historical revolutionary and battle glory. Already in 1975 local historians given 320 lectures. 71 lecturers took part in them. One of the topics of the lectures was "defense of Polotsk in 1941" [2, c.153]. In conjunction with the Education Department, the society of protection of monuments of history and culture, conducted a lecture-tour. Mass forms of propaganda, such as a meeting with veterans of the Great Patriotic war, were widely practiced at the site of the city House of culture [2, c.153].

Through the junior section of the organization also coordinated the development of local history in schools and educational institutions, where he conducted research on the collection of material on the instructions of city Department city Department of the Belarusian voluntary society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments. The development of such work led to the emergence of local history associations and museums, the appearance of which is natural against the background of the constant collection of information about fellow-participants of wars and the history of the region as a whole. Educational institutions of Polotsk took patronage over one of the mass graves located in Polotsk, after which they searched for information about

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the victims and other participants of the events [2, c.154]. The data obtained from the search could be used by the city organization to concretize information on registered mass graves. For example, in 1972, the Presidium of the Department of society instructed the organization of school №2 to take patronage over the burial in the current district of Borovukha-2, were buried soldiers who died from wounds in the hospital. All are buried on this spot was known only to the name of V. I. Belkovich. The school was established squad red Ranger under the guidance of a teacher G. A. Kalachev, who began correspondence with the archive of the Ministry of defense of the USSR, after which was established the names of 104 soldiers, their rank, nationality and place of birth. Subsequently, photographs obtained from relatives of the victims supplemented this information [8, л.4].

Conclusion. Summarizing all the above, we can conclude that the very purpose of preserving the historical memory of the great Patriotic war was one of the priorities in the BSSR, since the "popular" nature of the war and the content of its events played a crucial role in the education of future generations. To achieve this goal, the development of projects and the formation of a system of memorialization, in the early stages of the existence of which the public did not take an active part. With the restoration of the state after the war and the beginning of the policy of memorialization, the Belarusian voluntary society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments was created, as well as regional, district and city departments, which contributed to the preservation of historical and cultural heritage, promotion of memorable places and educational activities. The activities of the society for the protection of historical and cultural monuments determined the main trends in the preservation of historical memory of the Great Patriotic war, which have not lost relevance to date. At the present stage, state and local authorities, in accordance with the adopted normative documents, carry out the work on memory perpetuation. It is impossible not to note the positive result of the work of the public organization in the field of education, as the involvement of young people in the preservation of memory contributed to the creation of school museums, which are now engaged in search work.

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