



DAUGAVPILS
CIĒTOKSNIS



WALKING AROUND DAUGAVPILS FORTRESS

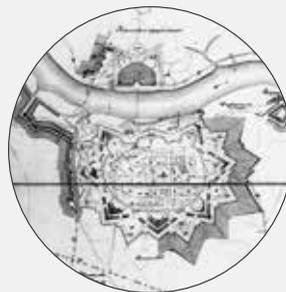
Tourism Guide



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WELCOME!



Daugavpils (Dinaburg, Dvinsk) fortress is located in the very heart of the second biggest city of the Republic of Latvia – only two kilometres away from the actual historical city centre. Still in the 18th century the small town of Dinaburg was situated in the place that is now occupied by an impressive low fortification complex – the last bulwark or bastion-type fortification in the world. Daugavpils fortress was created as an ideal fortified city, and nowadays the fortress has become a city in a city with ten wide streets, 80 buildings, squares, and public gardens. The total area of the fortress situated on both banks of the River Daugava is more than two square kilometres. The fortress has data on 1200 inhabitants officially registered in the fortress and living in 18 apartment houses. Daugavpils fortress is architectural and town planning monument of State significance. Its territory comprises 35 more individual historical monuments. Today the fortress undergoes dynamic development as the greatest regional culture, tourism and business centre. We invite you to have a walk around Daugavpils fortress and enjoy its creative life!

How to get there?

One can get to the Daugavpils fortress from the city centre:



on foot along the protective dam (Daugavas Street) from Dubrovins Park or taking Vienības Street and Cietokšņa Street ~ 25 minutes



by bicycle along the protective dam (Daugavas Street) from Dubrovins Park or taking Vienības Street and Cietokšņa Street ~ 15 minutes



taking an ecological modern tram or a retro tram No 3 (terminus "Cietoksnis"), and making some 200 meters on foot ~ 15 minutes

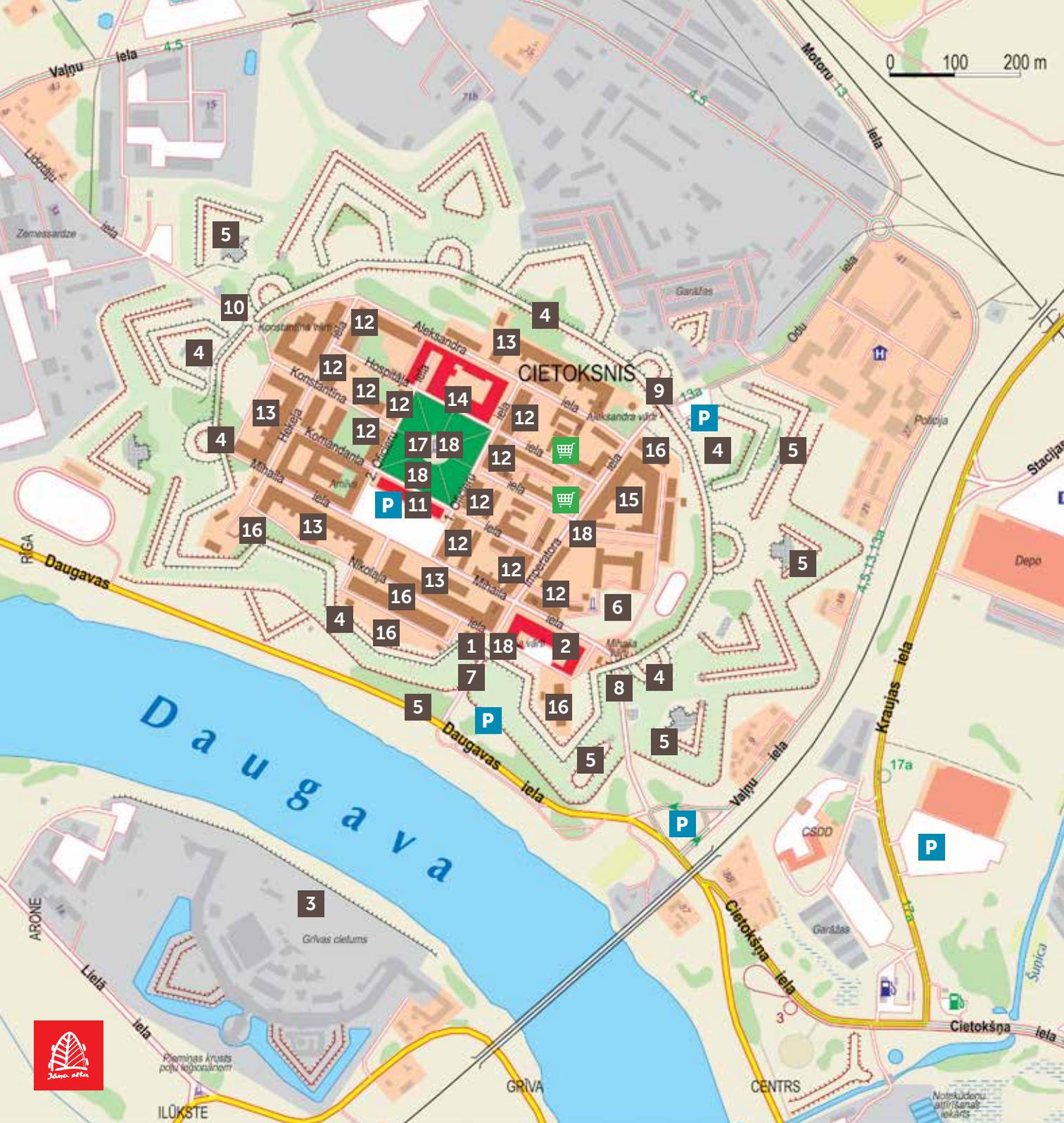


taking a microbus No 13A (corner of Lāčplēša Street / Mihoelsa Street – terminus "Marka Rotko mākslas centrs") ~ 10 minutes



taking a bus No 4 or No 13 (corner of Lāčplēša Street / Alejas Street – bus stop "Cietoksnis") ~ 7 minutes

by car, crossing the motorway P67 and Vaļņu Street and taking Mihaila Street. Coordinates: 55.883832 | 26.497497 ~ 6 minutes



SHORT HISTORY OF THE FORTRESS

- 1810** Russian Emperor Alexander I validates the fortress construction plan in Dinaburg according to the project by Colonel – engineer J. Heckel
- 1812** Marshal N.-C. Oudinot from Napoleon's Army attacked the Dinaburg fortress for several times, but all his attempts to conquer the fortress were unsuccessful. Russian soldiers led by Major-General G. Ulanov courageously fought off enemy attacks
- 1831** Fortress garrison participated in Polish uprising
- 1833** Grand consecration ceremony of the fortress, fortress flag and standard took place attended by the Emperor Nicholas I
- 1863** Fortress garrison participated in suppression of Polish uprising
- 1863** Warsaw fortifications for protection of the bridge and railway section Saint Petersburg – Warsaw are finished
- 1878** Construction of the Dinaburg fortress complex is completed
- 1897** Rank of the Dvinsk fortification is lowered by naming it a fortress – warehouse
- 1914–1917** World War I brings the fortress at war. The 5th headquarter of the Imperial Russian Army is located here at the end of 1917
- 1918–1920** Fortress is temporarily occupied by Bolshevik, German and Polish military forces

- 1920–1940** Fortress hosted three infantry regiments and an artillery regiment of the 4th Zemgale division of the Latvian Army
- 1941–1944** Nazis arranged a Jewish ghetto and a camp for Soviet prisoners of war in the fortress territory "STALAG – 340"
- 1948–1993** Daugavpils Military School of aviation engineers was established in the fortress territory
- 2011** Fortress Culture and Information Centre starts its work in the reconstructed water tower building
- 2013** Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre is opened in the reconstructed building of artillery arsenal
- 2013** Latgale regional department of the Latvian State Police has moved into the repaired premises of the former Commandant's house and dwelling house of military officers
- 2013** Reconstruction of the Nicholas gate is finished, a part of Nikolaja Street (Nicholas Street) with buildings is reconstructed
- 2014** 1st coast lunette with corps de garde (guardroom) is restored

I have visited Daugavpils fortress



RULES OF CONDUCT IN THE FORTRESS

Dear inhabitants, tourists, guests!

Daugavpils fortress is a specially protected area. We ask you to take care after its cultural and historical values.

Daugavpils fortress is also a residential part of the city, due to this reason we ask you to respect inviolability of private space. According to the Law of the Republic of Latvia "On Protection of Cultural Monuments" and Binding Regulations of Daugavpils City Council regarding requirements for protection of cultural heritage and culture monuments, it is allowed to stay in the fortress territory while observing the following regulations:

It is allowed to:

- view, take pictures and videos of all freely accessible fortifications and buildings;
- walk on the protection rampart (by observing personal safety; particular attention should be paid to children) and on all streets and yards inside the territory (if there are no movement limitations);
- ride bicycles on special bicycle lanes along pavements, to use bicycle parking spots;
- use and leave vehicles in specially designated areas;
- take pets for a walk (using a lead and a muzzle if required and taking necessary means for gathering pets' excrements);
- make fires and use grill devices only in expressly provided places;
- use only public toilets.

It is forbidden to:

- **without special agreement**, take any historical or other values (elements of buildings or fortifications – bricks, stones, road-paving blocks, wooden and metal elements and structures, utilities, etc.) out of the fortress territory;
- tear down and destroy buildings or fortifications, plantations, monuments, ornamental and information objects;
- **without any permission**, carry out works of earth digging, use metal

detectors;

- disturb, tease or hunt animals in the fortress territory;
- disturb, tease or hunt bats residing in fortress fortifications and buildings;
- go by bicycle on the upper part of the protection rampart (you can fall down from 11 meters!);
- walk around the upper part of the protection rampart during the dark time and in bad weather conditions (strong wind, rain, snow, fog) as it is possible to slip and fall in the moat;
- be rude to or cause inconvenience by one's behaviour to other visitors of the fortress or its inhabitants;
- **without any permission**, organize mass meetings or events;
- throw rubbish in any place apart from expressly provided places, litter the rampart, the moat, casemates or other fortifications.

Be warned that according to the legislation of the Republic of Latvia non-observance of these rules and laws as well as violation of other regulations will lead to administrative and criminal liability!



CAFES AND SHOPS

Café "Arsenal"

The first floor of the Mark Rothko Art Centre hosts a cosy café. Its interior is strongly kept in the style of the former artillery arsenal, yet supplemented with modern pieces of art. The café offers vast menu of European cuisine, rich business lunch for fair price. When it is warm, the fortification territory around the café looks especially impressive when regarding it from the café terrace. The café "Arsenal" has become a popular place used by city inhabitants to celebrate their wedding, anniversary and graduations festivities. During the summer period it is advised to learn about possibilities of reservation of places. Credit cards are accepted.

*Mihaila Street 3. +371 27757872
www.arsenalcafe.net;
cafearsenals@gmail.com
Open: 10:00 – 22:00 (daily)*

Food shops

The corner of Imperatora Street and Konstantīna Street is the place where one can find a small shop offering both food products and main household goods. Each morning one can buy here freshly baked bread and sweet pastry. Credit cards are accepted.
Open: 8:00 – 22:00 (daily)

The shop at Hospitāļa Street 4 offers also a wide assortment of drinks alongside with basic food products. Credit cards are accepted.
Open: 8:00 – 22:00 (daily)

DAUGAVPILS FORTRESS CULTURE AND INFORMATION CENTRE

After finishing the renovation works in 2011, Daugavpils Fortress Culture and Information Centre was established in the former Water Tower building. Once the building that was built in 1865-1866 assured water supply system for the whole fortress. The vessel of 3000 buckets in volume located in the building was filled from three wells on the bank of the River Daugava using a steam-driven machine. The vessel has been preserved till nowadays in a very good condition, and till now it is a part of the industrial heritage of this building.

The centre offers the main information on the fortress history, current events and development plans. Here one can see a small exposition presenting historical drawings, photos, military uniforms and artefacts that have been found in the fortress during previous years. The working office of the fortress administrator – modern civil "commandant" – is also located in

the Water Tower building.

*Free admission
Nikolaja Street 5. +371 654 24 043
artjoms.mahlins@daugavpils.lv
Order fortress tours:
+371 654 22 818*



1

DAUGAVPILS MARK ROTHKO ART CENTRE

Mark Rothko Art Centre is located in the building of the artillery arsenal (1830-1833). It is a place where the past has regained its second wind and is in step with the time, thus creating a unique place for varied creative manifestations.

Some day the place was used to keep cannons, ammunition wagons and prodgy, swords and rifles, regimental colours and drums. The building is architectural monument of State significance.

In the Art Centre one can see the original pieces of the world-known artist Mark Rothko, born in Daugavpils, as well as to visit the exhibition devoted to this artist.

Mark Rothko (b. Marcus Rothkowitz) was born September 25, 1903. In 1913 his family emigrated to the United States of America. He is one of the most outstanding and remarkable artists of the second half of the 20th century, founder of the abstract expressionism movement.

In the art centre it is also possible to visit changing personal and group exhibitions of well-known Latgalian, Latvian and foreign artists. The total

surface of the exhibition halls is 2000 m².

One may visit expositions and exhibitions independently or accompanied by a guide. The tour around all art centre exhibitions takes 1 hour and 30 minutes, the tour of the A sector (M. Rothko biography and creative works) takes 45 minutes. The art centre also offers ordering tours around the fortress. Tours can be ordered by phone: +371 654 30279, +371 65430273, +371 20364226.

Opening hours of Mark Rothko Art Centre:

Monday – closed;
Tuesday and Sunday – from 11:00 to 17:00;
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday – from 11:00 to 19:00.

*Mihaila Street 3. +371 654 30 253
www.rotkocentrs.lv, rotkocentrs@daugavpils.lv*

OTHER SERVICES

Residences

Cosy rooms for dwelling of creative persons are arranged in the left wing of the former artillery arsenal (10 rooms with 14 places). The residence also offers a common kitchen where residents can cook their own meals, as well as to wash their belongings in a washing machine. The place creates favourable conditions for solitary life of residents and their creative work – artist studios. Participants of creative residences often stay here.

*Mihaila Street 3. +371 654 30 278
www.rotkocentrs.lv; rotkocentrs@daugavpils.lv*

Conference halls

The right wing of the former artillery arsenal comprises a conference hall for hosting up to 100 people, as well as two rooms for seminars and business meetings (each for 25 places). They are equipped with all the necessary audio and video equipment for organizing various events. The centre also offers a separate room for coffee breaks, a wardrobe room and a comfortable parking lot. The conference hall has a separate entry.

*Mihaila Street 3. +371 654 30 279
www.rotkocentrs.lv; rotkocentrs@daugavpils.lv*



BRIDGEHEAD

Bridgehead (bridge protection, *tête-de-pont*) – it is a defence position with the aim to cover the bridge crossing.

In 1810 the construction of the new Dinaburg fortress started with vicinity levelling and measurement on both banks of the Zapadnaya Dvina (the Daugava). At the moment when the French Army was approaching the fortress in 1812, only the digging of a moat and making a rampart alongside the right bank of the river was started. On the left bank of the river, a moat was already dug and ground bastions of the bridgehead were outlined. This was the part of the fortress that ensured the main protection. When the Russian-French war ended, the rebuilding of the bridgehead was started in 1814. A tension-structure pontoon bridge was established between both parts of the fortress; it was dismantled during winter time and kept in a special harbour.

In 1837 a horseshoe-shaped two-storey stone defence barrack

building of 550 m length was built containing 142 casemates for disposition of troops and necessary supplies. Later the inner rooms of the barracks were rebuilt for several times according to the garrison needs – different workshops, rooms for soldiers with families were located there.

In 1941-1942, the Nazis established the Jewish ghetto in the bridgehead where Daugavpils Jews, people from surrounding regions of Latvia, Lithuania, and Belarus were taken. Practically all ghetto inhabitants were shot in woods of Mežciems on the right bank of the river behind the fortress.

Since 1961 the bridgehead was turned into a prison that is functioning as such also today.

The bridgehead can be viewed from the main rampart of the citadel between the 7th and 1st bastion, or from the right bank of the river.

3



MAIN RAMPART

The main part of the fortification complex – the citadel – is situated on the right bank of the River Daugava. A complex defence system was made around the citadel with seven firing grounds and a two-kilometre long esplanade. The main rampart was commanding the fortress defence that was elevated over the rest of fortifications – its length exceeds 3 km, height – 10-12 meters, thickness – 20-25 meters. From 1819 to 1827 the main rampart was “dressed up in a stone garment” – it was fastened with a scarp wall from granite blocks. The broken lines of the rampart enclose the internal buildings of the fortress. The wall is built as three bastions along the river bank – these are pentagonal fortifications with open yard side (neck line). Six curtain

lunettes – semicircle fortifications with casemates inside them – nestle up the rampart. Access to the curtain lunettes and independent fortifications in the moat area can be gained through secret passages (posterns) in the wall. The Dinaburg fortress has 17 of them. Posterns were covered by wooden gates from both sides. The posterns leading to the five free-standing bastions were fortified with bascule wood bridges. Look around the casemates of the 7th and 8th bastions – premises for troops cover inside the wall, go up the very wall in order to see the external fortifications and the surroundings.

4



EXTERNAL FORTIFICATIONS

In order to prevent the enemy from approaching the main rampart of the fortress, its walls were detached from the external fortifications with the help of a moat. In case of an attack the moat could be flooded with water. In the moat, six redouts (inner fortification, shelter) were built fortified with earth ravelins (triangle-shaped constructions), but bastions were covered by contre-guards that were reinforced by artillery caponiers.

In addition three redoubts (closed fortifications) were built in the

fortress esplanade some way from the moat; two of them have been preserved till modern days.

To view the external fortification part, use the thematic route "Defender's Track" (on the main rampart) or "Scout's Track" (through the moat) – follow the indications on the map that can be obtained at the Daugavpils Fortress Culture and Information Centre (Nikolaja Street 5).



FORTRESS CATHEDRAL

To commemorate the victory over Swedes, in 1626 the Polish voivode A. Gonsevsky built a wood church in Dinaburg and a Jesuit collegium was affiliated to it.

A new stone church in place of the old one was built in 1737-1746. There exist several versions about the author of the architectural design. For several centuries the "Jesuit" church was the architectural dominant of the town – the height of the both towers reached 60 m.

In May 1811 the Jesuit church was turned into Orthodox church, but in August – into the fortress cathedral. Monastery premises were used as barracks and for provisions storage.

Complete overhaul of the building was carried out round 1870. The

shape of the roof and the facade was changed considerably.

The garrison Lutheran community was functioning in the church form 1928 to 1940. People recollect that during that time altars for Lutherans, Catholics, and Orthodox were present in the church.

In 1944 the main facade with towers was destroyed during artillery attack. In the 1950s ruins and building remains were torn down, while a square was created on the church foundation.

A city school was working in the building of the Jesuit collegium from 1948 to 2003.



NICHOLAS GATE

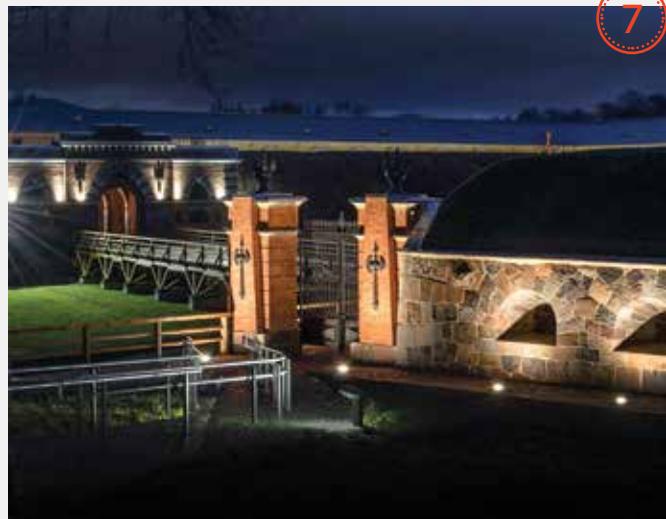
The Dinaburg fortress had four gates that were named in honour of Emperor Alexander I and his brothers – grand dukes.

The Nicholas gate is exposed to the bridgehead; it welcomed travellers arriving at the fortress from Europe. The gate was built from 1824 to 1827 in Neo-Gothic style. The Nicholas gate (the gate is named after the future Emperor Nicholas I) is different from other gates of the fortress in the way that it has lateral chambers on both sides of the central passageway – in tsarist days they were used as guard and prisoner rooms.

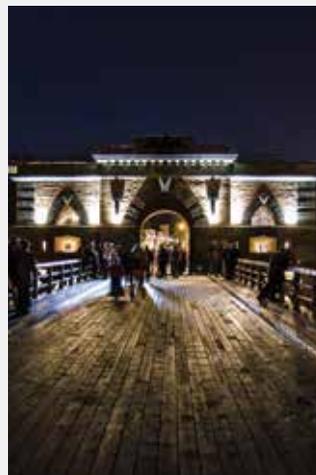
In the 1920s the old wood bridge leading from the 1st coast lunette to the gate over the moat was taken down. During the Soviet times the gate was bricked up from the moat side and used to store vegetables. Gate restoration took place from October 2012 to December 2013. Using anastylosis (installation of fallen genuine elements), the attic of the external façade of the gate and the roof structure were reconstructed; gate wings of the internal façade that

have been miraculously preserved as well as internal premises were reconstructed; the foundation and underground gallery removing rain and ground waters from the fortress into the moat were fixed. On façades cast-iron ornaments were renewed: representation of the coat of arms of the Imperial Russia in the stylistics of the Alexander I era, double-sided halberds (battle-axes) and the gate name in the original writing. Gate rooms are now fitted with modern lighting enabling to use them as exhibition halls. Historical foundations are currently used to bear the reconstructed 55m long and 8 m wide wood bridge that can now be used to get into the fortress from Daugavas Street.

The restoration of the 1st coast lunette with corps de garde (guardroom) and barrier gate covering the way to the Nicholas gate bridge was finished in October 2014.



NICHOLAS GATE



MIKHAIL GATE

The Mikhail gate was built in 1820-1821 and is created after the Franz fort gate of the Prussian Koblenz fortress. The massive external granite façade is nowadays still decorated with the stone-cut depiction of the Russian Imperial two-headed eagle. Pay attention to two arched grooves in the inner passageway – exactly like in the Nicholas gate, also here in case of continued defence, the plan was to close the passageway with stones and sandbags with the help of transverse crossbars. The Mikhail passageway consisted of three wood bridges with bascule sections

– from the Mikhail gate to the arch gate of the 7th semi contre-garde, but from the arch gate – to the right front of the 6th ravelin, and further on – from the barrier gate of the 6th ravelin corps de garde to the road going through Esplanade to the modern-day city centre. In 1850 inscriptions with gate names were placed on facades of all the gates according to the edict of Grand Duke Mikhail – Artillery Chief of the whole Empire – in honour of whom this gate was named.



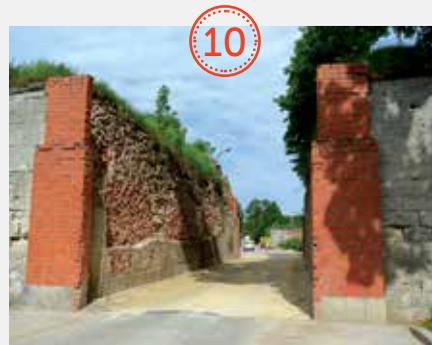
8



ALEXANDER GATE, CONSTANTINE GATE

The similar-type Alexander and Constantine gates were built in 1820-1822 on the basis of the project presented by A. Shtaubert, the in-service architect at the Imperial Russia War ministry. All the fortress gates had to have this appearance. Though later the appearance of other two passageways was changed. The Alexander gate is directed at Saint Petersburg, while the Constantine gate led to a summer hospital and through it people could get on

the old Riga road. Unfortunately in 1962 the gate named in honour of the vicegerent of the Kingdom of Poland Constantine was destroyed due to the reason that it was necessary to bring large-size equipment into the territory of the aviation school. Support elements ensuring additional fastening of closed gate wings from the inside have been preserved in the Alexander gate.



10



9



COMMANDANT'S HOUSE

Construction of the Commandant's house according to the A. Shtaubert's project was finished in 1818. Services of the fortress commandant as well as a hotel for visitors were located in the Commandant's house. A telegraph office was operating in the mezzanine of the building.

The Senate decree from July 16 (28), 1826 changed the direction of the Vienna high road – now it was going through Dinaburg. Since then, when going to Europe or returning to the capital, the Emperor and his family members were going through Dinaburg. The Commandant's house provided them with special apartments for rest after exhausting trip in a carriage.

During the Soviet period, the building was occupied by the headquarters of the aviation school. After tearing down several buildings, a square was laid out in the yard of

the former Commandant's house; it was later turned into a parking lot during the building reconstruction.

The building is architectural monument of State significance. In the building it is possible to see the genuine ornamented metal stairs of the central entrance. Two cast-iron cannons with 112mm bore diameter dating back to the last quarter of the 19th century are placed on both sides of the central entrance.

After reconstruction, since 2012, the Commandant's house and its neighbouring officer house are occupied by the Latgale regional department of the Latvian State Police.

Komandanta Street 7, Konstantina Street 8



11



OFFICER HOUSES

Houses for officers were built in the 1820s-1830s on both sides of the Commandant's house and the fortress garden. 1. Oficieru Street has still preserved two houses (No 2 and 8) also for officers at the commandant and committee of the military registration office, yet the architecture of these houses differs from that of other buildings. Officer Assembly with its own club and library was functioning in the fortress.

In the 1920s-1940s the building was occupied by headquarters and other services of Zemgale division, different clubs were situated there as well.

In order to view internal buildings of the citadel, choose the thematic route "Commandant's Route" visible on the map that you can receive in Daugavpils Fortress Culture and Information Centre (Nikolaja Street 5).



12



SOLDIER BARRACKS

In the 1820s-1850s four spacious two-storey stone barracks to house soldiers were built not far from the fortress gates. Three of the buildings have also a semi-basement floor that was used for kitchen, lavatory and washing rooms. Toilet blocks, utility rooms and wells were located in barrack courtyards.

In the 1920s-1940s soldiers of Zemgale division regiments were lodged in these buildings.

The premises were considerably rebuilt during the Soviet times to meet the needs of the aviation school cadets. A third floor was built on the Nicholas barrack (Nikolaja Street 2), while the new Nicholas barrack (Mihaila Street 11) was turned into a school canteen. Today these spacious buildings are not used.

13



MILITARY HOSPITAL

The premises of the military hospital were built from 1820 to 1827 after the design of architect A. Shtaubert.

Initially the hospital was meant for 500 patients, but later it was enlarged to 900 beds. Throughout all the rules and regimes, the military hospital continued to fulfil its direct functions as a medical institution. It was equipped with the most up-to-date equipment; its personnel were known by their high professionalism. The building used to house a pharmacy as well.

From 1921 to 1940 the building was occupied by Daugavpils military infirmary.

From 1941 to 1944 the German Army used the building as sick quarters.

From 1944 to 1994 the building was occupied by a military hospital of

the Ministry of Defence of the USSR.

When the Russian Army left the fortress in 1994, the hospital ceased to exist as a separate military formation.

The building is architectural monument of State significance. It presents partially preserved distinct and peculiar ventilation and heating system, genuine metal window frames and wing door.

Detailed technical plan of the building reconstruction has been developed. By attracting private investments, the building can be used for different goals in future.

Since 2013, a theatre festival – workshop "TELPA" ("ROOM") is being organized in the hospital premises.

Hospitāļa Street 6



14



ENGINEER ARSENAL

The impressive two-storey building of the engineer arsenal is built close to the Alexander gate most probably from 1840 to 1844. The length of the Empire-style external façade of the three joint buildings is 275 m. Surface of the building is 7000 m². The courtyard is 2000 m² large. The former arsenal building is architectural monument of State significance. The building has preserved its ramps (rampants) going to the second floor of the building from the yard.

The engineer arsenal was used to make and repair armament supplies, tooling for fortification and combat engineer measures. The building included paint, carpenter, wheel, turners, woodworking, locksmiths,

casting, drawing, pattern and other shops.

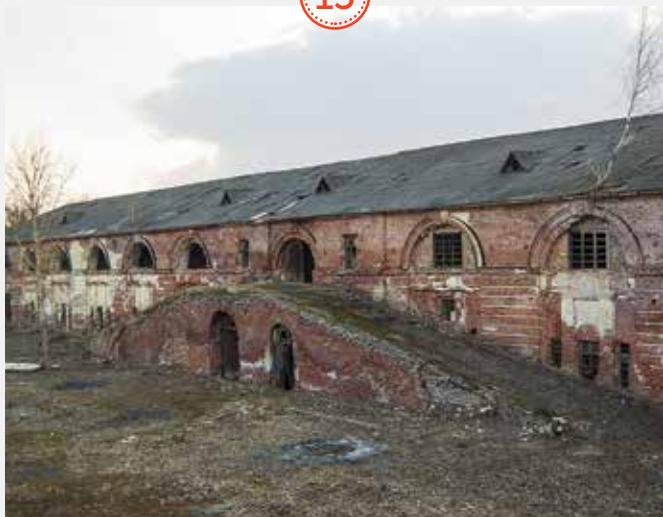
For the time being there is not enough information on the use of the building from 1918 to 1947.

During the Soviet years the building was used as job training workshops and garages. Since 1993 the building is not used anymore and is decaying. It is expected that in future the building could house a museum of Daugavpils fortress history.

Imperatora Street 8



15



WAREHOUSES

To support the garrison needs, a considerable number of various warehouses were located in the fortress territory. Three bastions facing the bridgehead were used for powder magazines. Today two of them can be seen in the 7th and 8th bastions. The inside of the bastion is made as a room surrounded by a safety gallery (to protect from fire and humidity) – here gun powder was kept in special barrels. It is probable that originally powder magazines were thatched with turves.

In the yard of the 8th bastion a long

provisions magazine building (1834-1837) is located that was used to store the fortress food supplies. This building was particularly guarded during the Soviet years since it was used as baggage and armament magazine (Nikolaja Street 9).

A warehouse for pontoons of the Birago system was placed in the citadel corner opposite to the 3rd bastion (head of Aleksandra Street). These sheds have been partially preserved till our days.



16



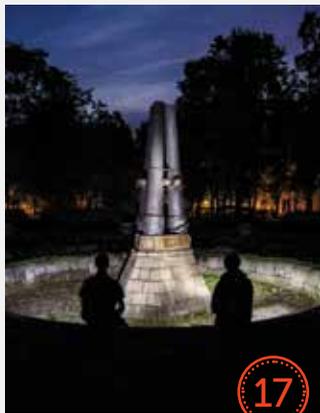
FORTRESS GARDEN

With the loss of military significance in the second half of the 19th century a garden was created in place of the former fortress square in front of the main facade of the Commandant's house. In 1866 a fountain was erected in the centre of the garden, water to the fountain was supplied from the water tower. In 1912, while celebrating the centennial anniversary of the victory over Napoleon in 1812, an unusual monument – a fountain made from three cast-iron large-calibre cannons – was erected in the centre of the garden at the expense of the soldiers and officers of the Dvinsk fortress – warehouse. A sculpture of a two-headed eagle with its wings spread wide was rising above the cannonball placed on top of the

cannons; this sculpture was lost at the outset of the World War I.

The base of the monument devoted to the killed soldiers from the 10th Aizpute infantry regiment of the Latvian Army (opened in 1924) has been preserved in the garden. After the World War II the monument was considerably transformed and used as the base to Stalin's bust. The old pergola has also been preserved.

Today the shady lanes of the fortress garden are a popular resting place of fortress inhabitants and its guests. In winter the greatest open-air skating-rink in the city is made around the fountain. In summer different festivals and concerts take place here.



MEMORIAL PLACES

In May 1822 the Lieutenant-General at the Prussian Royal Service Gustav von Rauch visited the fortress; this was celebrated by placing a memorial stone in the curtain wall of the main rampart opposite to the 2nd bastion, this memorial stone is preserved till this day.

From 1827 to 1831 Wilhelm Küchelbecker (1797-1846), the well-known Decembrist and lyceum-time friend of A. Pushkin was pining in the walls of the fortress – prison. Even nowadays it is not clear yet where exactly in the fortress W. Küchelbecker was kept. In 1975 a memorial plate to the prisoner was set on the wall of the former Commandant's house – it can be viewed from the parking lot side.

In the territory of the former fortress cathedral the grave of the Dinaburg fortress commandant G. Pilenko (1817-1884) is preserved, his thread of life was cut in the fortress in 1884 while on duty.

In 1936 a memorial plate was opened on the building at 1. Oficeru

Street 2 in tribute to Jānis Balodis (1881-1965), Commander-in-Chief of the Latvian Army, who lived in this building from 1902 to 1904. The memorial plate did not last till nowadays.

In 1942, the famous Tatar poet Musa Dzhaliil (1906-1944) was pining in the concentration camp "STALAG-340" behind the fortress. In 1975, a memorial plate to M. Dzhaliil was opened in the wall of the arch gate of the 7th semi contré-garde – it is attracting people even today.

On July 9, 2013, the presidents of Latvia and Poland opened a monument devoted to Count Leon Plater (1836-1863) – the local leader of the Polish uprising, who was held in the fortress during the investigation period – near the artillery arsenal.



FORTRESS CANNONS

Today history in the fortress territory is witnessed by historical large-calibre cannons. In these days nine old cannons can be found here: five of them are from cast-iron, while four – made from steel. They were manufactured in the second half of the 19th century in an ordnance plant in Perm and in Obukhov steel casting plant (Russia).

All cannons are made with threading in a gun tube, which increased the range of a missile and improved accuracy and close pattern of shooting. Two of the cannons are placed at the main entrance of the Commandant's house facing the fortress garden. In the very middle of the garden three cannons enrich the fountain.

The steel mortar gun (bore diameter 205 mm, model of 1872) of the fortress is placed on the "Wallgang" (a protected place on the upper part of a rampart) of the main rampart curtain between the Nicholas gate and the 7th bastion – in the way how cannons were placed when the fortress switched to defence emergency. One more steel cannon with the bore diameter of 107 mm (model of 1887) on the original Venglovski gun-mount is placed at the intersection of the streets Imperatora and Konstantina.

Two steel artillery tubes were installed at Hekelja Street 3, yet now they are moved to a warehouse belonging to the building proprietor.

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SOVIET HERITAGE

From 1947 to 1993, the whole territory of the fortress citadel was under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defence of the USSR – the Military School of aviation engineers was located here. The ramparts, moat and inner territory were kept in perfect order. Yet many historical buildings underwent considerable rebuilding to comply with the needs of the school. Almost all old sheds and auxiliary buildings in yards were taken down. Five multi-story dwelling houses and two training buildings were raised on the old

foundations. The most exceptional exhibit item in the hangar of training flight simulators (Komandanta Street 8) was the airplane MiG-25P that was jacked from the USSR to Japan in 1976. In honour of the 25th foundation anniversary of the school, an airplane MiG-19S with the tail number "25" was erected on the hill near the foundations of the fortress cathedral in 1973. Today only the base of the monument is left.



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Publisher of the tourism guide: Daugavpils City Council

Text: Mg. hist. Artjoms Maļņins, Dr. hist. Henrihs Soms, Dinaburg fortress documentation centre (<http://dcdc.lpi.du.lv>)

Translation: Sandra Celmiņa

Photo-material: Māris Grunskis, Artjoms Maļņins, Jevgēnijs Nikitins, stock of Daugavpils Regional and Art Museum, Daugavpils Fortress Culture and Information Centre, Daugavpils District Tourism Information Centre, Mark Rothko Art Centre, personal archive of T. Pumpuriņš.

Map: SIA „Karšu izdevniecība Jāņa sēta”

Design: SIA „Norrskog”

Prepared for publication by: SIA „13.STĀVS”

Printing-house: SIA „Latgales drukā”

Issue: 2000 copies (in English)

FREE ISSUE

First cover: Nicholas gate. Photo: J. Nikitins.

Fourth cover: Historical Emperor's flag of Dinaburg fortress. Photo: M. Grunskis

Daugavpils 2014

This brochure is issued within the framework of the project **“Preservation and Promotion of the Cultural and Historical Heritage in Daugavpils City and Grodno City”** (D-G HERITAGE, LLB-2-246) of the Latvia, Lithuania and Belarus Cross Border Cooperation Programme 2007-2013 within the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument.

Project objective: to contribute to the preservation of cultural-historical heritage and promotion of tourism through the implementation of joint actions.

Implementing partner (beneficiary) of the project: Daugavpils City Council.

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The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies.

Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

The Latvia, Lithuania and Belarus Cross-border Cooperation Programme within the European

Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument succeeds the Baltic Sea Region INTERREG IIB Neighbourhood Programme Priority South IIIA Programme for the period of 2007-2013. The overall strategic goal of the programme is to enhance the cohesion of the Latvian, Lithuanian and Belarusian border region, to secure a high level of environmental protection and to provide for economic and social welfare as well as to promote intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity.

Latgale region in Latvia, Panevėžys, Utena, Vilnius, Alytus and Kaunas counties in Lithuania, as well as Vitebsk, Mogilev, Minsk and Grodno oblasts take part in the Programme. The Joint Managing Authority of the programme is the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania. The web site of the programme is www.enpi-cbc.eu.



Šo projektu finansē Eiropas Savienība
This Project is funded by the European Union

