

Composed by working party of: Czech Republic, Prague

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### 0. Tennis Courts on Štvanice Island



Depicted item: Interior court or court  
Source: Veronika Vicherková  
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date: 30 May 2018

#### 0.1 **accessibility** *public, club training facility*

		db code
<b>1.</b>	<b>Identity of building/group of buildings/urban scheme/landscape/garden</b>	
1.1	current name of building: Tennis Courts on Štvanice Island	3
1.2	variant or former name:	4
1.3	number & name of street: 38, Štvanice Island	5
1.4	town: Prague 7	6
1.5	province/state: Czech Republic	7
1.6	zip code: 17000	8
1.7	country:	9
1.8	Geographic GPS coordinates: 50°05'46.9"N 14°26'24.1"E	10
1.9	classification/typology: <i>sports facility</i>	11
1.10	protection status & date: none	12
<b>2</b>	<b>History of building</b>	
2.1	original brief/purpose: sports facility	13
2.2	dates commission/completion: 1981–1970,1983–1986	14
2.3	architectural and other designers: Josef Kales (16. 5. 1934), Jana Novotná	15
2.4	others associated with building: artists Karel Míšek, Ladislav Janouch, Jan Bartoš	16
2.5	significant alterations with dates :	17
2.6	current use: sports facility	18
2.7	current condition: good	19
<b>3</b>	<b>Description</b>	
3.1	<p>general description: The Tennis tournament facility on Štvanice Island is a subtle steel-concrete grandstand with outdoor courts situated within the natural environment of the biggest of Prague´s islands of Vltava river. The equipment consists of 10 outdoor courts, the central grandstand, the training and fitness hall, administrative and representative spaces and a snack bar. It serves as a residence of the oldest Czech Lawn Tennis Club (LTC).</p> <p>The site was designed with respect to the surrounding natural environment</p> <p>The training hall is situated at the basement, bearing the grandstand at its rooftop. The foundations are made of reinforced concrete slab, and the floor of the training hall is installed approx. 3 m above the 100-year flood level. However, in the case of flood, the hall might be filled with water to prevent the buoyancy deformation.</p>	20

The inner space of the hall has the minimal clear high, required for the tennis game. It is closed by a concrete shell vault with the span 30x38,6 m. The shell was executed by company Metrostav, using a special self-made shuttering head. The upper structure of the grandstand rests at the rooftop of the hall. The load-carrying steel supports are exposed, bearing the concrete stands, assembled of precast concrete blocks. Instead building the full circus of the stands, it is divided to four separate sectors of two different dimensions – to achieve more subtle shape, fitting better into the moderate area of the island. The visual impact of the building is based on the sculptural qualities of the structure itself, and the use of raw uncovered materials. The sculptural effect is enhanced by the rhythmic plasticity of staircases, leading to the open gallery of the grandstands.

3.2	construction: steel, concrete - reinforced concrete, concrete shell, precast concrete slabs	21
3.3	context: Štvanice Island has been the traditional place of sport activities since 16 <sup>th</sup> ct. The first tennis court at that place was established at the end of 19 <sup>th</sup> ct., in 1920 there took place the first tournament and 1921 the first Davis Cup. Since that time the Štvanice stadium hosts the regular championships, and it is well-known for its rare island location.	22
<b>4</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>	
4.1	Technical Original concrete shell of the hall and the tribune assembled of precast concrete slabs Experimental use of precast concrete blocks as structural elements	23
4.2	Social The residence of the oldest Czech tennis club, the place of regular tennis tournaments The stadium has been the venue of many important historical matches	24
4.3	cultural & aesthetic subtle steel-concrete structure exposed steel beamers and uncovered concrete slabs a blossom-shaped design settled in the natural environment	25
4.4	historical important example of sculptural architecture, still designed with respect to the its location and context	26
4.5	general assessment:	27

one of the nicest examples of the "Czech sculpturalism" or brutalism, designed with the respect to the natural and historical surroundings  
well-preserved, without bigger changes or adaptations, in good condition

## **5 Documentation**

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| 5.1 | principal references: Rostislav Švácha et al., <i>Naprej!</i> , Praha 2012, p. 244<br>Architektura ČSR, 1987, p. 385, 416.<br>Pavel Vlček ed., <i>Umělecké památky Prahy. Velká Praha, A-L</i> , Praha 2012, p. 529. | 28 |
| 5.2 | visual material attached<br>photography (Veronika Vicherková, May 2018)  | 29 |
| 5.3 | rapporteur/date 28. 6. 2018  | 30 |
| 5.4 | rapporteur email/other contact: <a href="mailto:vervicher@gmail.com">vervicher@gmail.com</a>   |    |

## **6. Fiche report examination by ISC/R**

name of examining ISC member:

sign and date of examination:

approval:

comments: