

Diploma project: **“Waldorf Preschool for Bulovka Community”**

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Objective

Following the design principles of Waldorf education, the thesis proposes a Waldorf preschool which would be located in Bulovka, Prague 8 - Libeň. This thesis focuses on finding a new way to design preschools, which enables children to discover themselves and the nature. The thesis highlights the principles of Waldorf education, its effect on architecture of the building and the author's design ideas.

Analytical part

The analytical part of the project is very detailed, including the Czech preschool education system, the history of Waldorf education method, and the built environment of Waldorf school. It gives a strong fundament for the design process.

Site plan

The project location is described very generally; it does not give a clear explanation, why particularly this plot was selected.

Pages 72-78 do not show the plot, so it is difficult to understand the context. The photos of the site on p.79 do not show the site itself, just (not very pleasant) surrounding.

Page 88 the Site plan in 1:1000 scale should show more of the surrounding context, the site boundary as well as the car and pedestrian entrances.

The proposed rooftop garden is designed on the southern part only. Why is not the overall roof using as an additional playground? Is the rectangular shape of the fence the given boundary of the plot or the car parking and the additional forest area on the east from the fence belong to the site? If so, why it is not used for the garden as well?

Design concept

The building is divided into 2 volumes which vary in form, volume and function. The southern part is designed as a rational rectangular 1 level volume with partial rooftop garden. It accommodates entrance, reception, bathrooms, kitchen, office, storages.

The second part is 2 storey more organic shaped volume with central atrium and 4 classrooms in hexagonal shape around the atrium.

For better understanding the layout plans would be useful to add square metres for each room label.

The selection of natural material is highly appreciated. Unfortunately there is not enough information about the load-bearing and non-bearing structures. One section without any labels is not descriptive enough. The overall view about the sustainability, energy consumption, and alternate sources is missing. More detailed work with the existing nature, the terrain and the existing trees would be an advantage of the project.

Presentation

Graphics generally are accurately provided. The plans, sections and elevations are on an average graphic level. At least some basic dimensions will help to understand the scale and the size properly.

The external perspective views miss the context of the surrounding landscape and existing buildings. The perspective views of the interior unfortunately miss the specific calm but joyful atmosphere of the proposed children centre.

Just a small comment: please read the text in portfolio once again before printing. There are couple of mistakes which devaluate the final product.

Conclusion

The hard work on the project, especially the analytical part, is obvious however there is still potential to push the final design further. Thank you and good luck with your future projects!

Proposed evaluation: C (good)

Ing. arch. Klára Doleželová 24/01/2022

