

Based on an extensive and thorough analysis, the author develops a comprehensive concept for the activation of the Southern Town in Prague. In doing so, she correctly recognizes that this is a complex task that cannot be solved by the means of landscape architecture alone. Therefore, the concept is developed on the basis of already existing urban planning considerations, which have examined the Southern Town in different planning levels.

By integrating these plans, the author then succeeds in focusing on the specific landscape architectural strategies. She certainly recognizes the qualities of the existing structures with their partly generous spaces and extensive green areas and tries to preserve these values. The approach to consider the necessary activation of the public spaces differentiated according to their intensity of use and to present principle solutions for this is very good. While the intensively used spaces near the traffic hubs are mainly upgraded in terms of design and function, new approaches are developed for peripherally located areas, for example. The idea of saving maintenance costs by extensivizing the care of green spaces on the one hand and developing sustainable vegetation structures adapted to the location on the other hand is innovative and thus also responds to climate change. This is necessarily accompanied by changes in the previously accustomed aesthetic quality of public green spaces. The author recognizes this necessary change and explains it with impressive spatial images. The concept also explores the productive potential of open spaces. The cultivation of useful plants as well as animal husbandry can help to reduce permanent maintenance costs, promote the regional production of products and educate the people in the neighbourhood.

The presented master plan shows in a very clear way the open space planning strategy, both the functional places and the green infrastructure system. Despite the complexity of the area and the task, this conveys the planning very clearly. Initially, goals and principles are developed for the entire district, from which a functional-design guideline is elaborated. This is explained very clearly in various graphic representations, which refer to the different typological spatial situations (e.g. inner courtyard, public park). Thus, it is conceivable that the strategy can also be implemented in further planning steps in a very practical way.

After developing the overall strategy, the author presents a well-reasoned concept for the central park. Taking into account the original planning approach as well as the current situation, the space is divided into different sequences inspired by the typologies of Czech landscapes. Thus, a park with diverse atmospheres is created, which, however, does not lose its spatial coherence. The offers of use also follow the principle of diversity, the path connections are well thought out and link the park with the surrounding spaces. With very impressive spatial sketches, the author succeeds in explaining the different landscape sceneries in an understandable way.

Overall, the work is characterized by a very smart and innovative approach, which is convincingly explained and developed in detail. The methodology follows a clear line, even complex contents are structured in a well comprehensible way. With the precise and self-explanatory graphic representations as plans, schematics and perspective sketches, the concept is conveyed very professionally but also charmingly.

Mark: A