

REVAMPING A PARK FROM ANOTHER CENTURY

REAMENAJAREA UNUI PARC DIN ALT VEAC

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Abstract. *Dumbraveni village, located on about 20 kilometers from Suceava, on the road to Botosani, benefits by the existence of historical park, belonging to the manor house of Leon Ghica. Here, lived and worked the tax collector Gh. Eminovici, the father of the national poet, at this manor house, most of the family life was spent here, not far away there are the graves of two of his sisters. After the World War 2, here, it was organized the activity of a hospital that owes a large part of the land and public park of a surface of about 38.000 m². In spite of that fact that there is a rich arboreal plantation, with many secular species, the passing of the time, the lack of funds, the lack of some absolutely necessary maintaining works, all of these create an unfavorable image to the park. We focused on reorganization from a compositional-landscaping point of view of the entire park, redefinition of areas of concern, creating of a lake, creating various land areas for leisure games, differentiated on age groups, alleyways redrawing, rehabilitation of external lighting system, endowment with specific urban furniture and, not in the least, improving the vegetal structure, by completing and marking of some concern landmarks, with trees and plants of various species, complementary regarding the size, texture and color. The expected effects by this intervention focus on the increasing of life quality and population health, as well as increasing of environment factors quality, providing at the same time a visual identity definition specific to the Dumbraveni village.*

Key words: revamping, historical park, secular species.

Rezumat: *Satul Dumbrăveni, aflat la cca 20 de kilometri de Suceava, pe drumul către Botoșani, beneficiază de prezența unui parc istoric, aparținând conacului boieresc al lui Leon Ghica. Aici a activat căminarul Gh. Eminovici, tatăl poetului național, o bună parte din viața familiei desfășurându-se la conac, în apropiere fiind înmormântate două dintre surorile sale. După cel de al doilea război mondial aici s-a organizat activitatea Spitalului, care deține o bună parte din teren și un parc public în suprafață de aproximativ 38.000 m². În ciuda existenței unei plantații arboricole bogate, cu multe exemplare seculare, trecerea timpului, lipsa fondurilor, a unor lucrări de întreținere absolut necesare, fac ca imaginea generală să nu fie favorabilă. S-a avut în vedere reorganizarea sub aspect compozițional-peisagistic a întregului parc, redefinirea zonelor de interes, crearea unui luciu de apă, alocarea unor suprafețe de teren pentru jocuri, diferențiate pe grupe de vârstă, retrasarea aleilor, reabilitarea sistemului de iluminat exterior, dotarea cu mobilier urban specific și nu în ultimul rând îmbunătățirea structurii vegetale, prin completarea și marcarea unor puncte de interes, cu arbori și arbuști din specii diverse, complementare sub aspectul taliei, texturii și culorii. Efectele scontate prin această intervenție au în vedere creșterea calității vieții și sănătății populației, precum și creșterea calității factorilor de mediu, asigurând în același timp definirea unei identități vizuale, proprii Dumbrăvenilor.*

Cuvinte cheie: reamenajare, parc istoric, specii seculare.

INTRODUCTION

Dumbraveni village, located at about 20 kilometers from Suceava, on the way to Botosani, benefits of the presence of a historical park, belonging to the boyar's manor house of Leon Ghica. Over here, worked the tax collector Gh. Eminovici, the father of the national poet, a great deal of his family life was at this manor house. Near by, two of his sisters are buried here.

After the Second World War, the activity of a hospital was organized here, to which a part of the land belongs to, as well as a public park with a land surface of about 38.000 m².

Despite the existence of a rich arboreal plantation, with many centuries old species, the passing of the time, lack of funds, and lack of absolutely necessary up keeping works resulted in an unfavorable present general image.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

We focused on reorganization from a compositional-landscaping point of view of the entire park, redefinition of areas of concern, creating of a lake, creating various land areas for leisure games, differentiated on age groups, alleyways redrawing, rehabilitation of external lighting system, endowment with specific urban furniture and, not in the least, improving the vegetal structure, by completing and marking of some concern landmarks, with trees and plants of various species, complementary regarding the size, texture and color. The expected effects by this intervention focus on the increasing of life quality and population health, as well as increasing of environment factors quality.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Geologically and structurally, the emplacement belongs to the Moldavian Platform having a foundation made of crystalline rocks. The sedimentary covering is transgressively and discordantly displayed over this foundation and can reach a thickness of 7000 m, including the time span between Vendian and Quaternary. The latter closes the geosynclinal evolution of Moldavian Platform and is made of loessoid deposits, of sands and gravels, fossil soils etc.

From the point of view of tectonics, the foundation and the sedimentary covering is going deeper towards west and south-west under the Carpathian orogen, under an angle of about 15 degrees. At the same time, it was revealed a slight inclining to south, south-east with about 5-8 m/km, e.g. to the regression direction of the Sarmatian Sea.

Concluding, the present relief genesis of the Moldavian Platform is tributary to the nature of accumulated rocks, to the emergence of Carpathian orogen, to the diastrophic and epirogenetical movements, all these in direct connection with the external erosion factors that in time formed and brought the platform areal to the present morphology.

Seismically, the region is affected by the "Moldavian earthquakes" which hearth is located in the Vrancea area, but the propagation and intensity of seismic

movements depend by the position of the emplacement in regard to the hearth, magnitude, system energy, geological constitution etc.

In close compliance with the presented geological elements, by orientation, altitude, vertical and horizontal fragmentation degree, exposition and slope, the relief represents an important factor in formation and evolution in time of the water flow and deposits of Siret River. This river and its tributaries cross distinct geomorphological units and represented by the mountain and plateau areas.

The geographical area where the Dumbraveni Park is located can be framed in the temperate-continental climatic type, with moderate touches due to direct influence of the continental air masses, of Asiatic origin, in winter with dry and cold air masses and in summer with warm and dry air masses.

Because of its framing in the climatic level of low hills with altitudes between 200-500 m, Siret corridor is individualized as a physical geographical structure with a complex microclimate where the following specific microclimates are obvious: of meadow, of steps and terraces, of forest and versants, with exposition towards the four cardinal points.

Monitoring the multi-annual temperature values, we may notice warm years and cold years, observing the continental degree of the climate:

- Multi-annual thermal amplitude = 22.7°C
- Record low temperature = -31.8 C
- Record high temperature = 38.6 C
- Record high amplitude = 70.4 C
- Average monthly number of frost days = 128.7, the first frost comes in the first decade of October and the last in the third decade of April
- Number of frosty days = 96
- Relative humidity = 84%
- Absolute humidity = 10.1 g/mc
- Saturation deficiency = 2.9 mb
- Nebulosity = 6.0
- Rainfall conditions (basic element in climate definition) are characterized by monthly and multi-annual average rainfall

Rainfall conditions are due to the thermal and frontal convection, determined by the movement of cyclonic areas, including Baltic masses, recording high values in the warm season and low values in cold season.

The wind conditions, determined by morpho-hydrologic aspect and the position of barometric centers are characterized by the fact that the north-west and south-east winds have high frequencies and speeds. These conditions record variations depending on the general circulation conditions of the atmosphere and both indicators present negative and positive aspects regarding the natural framework and human activity.

Climatic and topoclimatic regional distribution of Siret Valley imposes the differentiation of meadow topoclimate, characterized by thermal inversions, reduced amplitude of temperature, high air humidity, increased intensity of wind and frequent hydrometeorological phenomena.

The emplacement area presents the following hydrogeological structures:

- The hydrogeological structure belongs to the alluvium of the major and minor river bed (terraces and meadow steps), supplied from the hydrographical network as well as from rainfall, having free level
- The hydrogeological hydrostructure of platform geological formations, located in sandy-clayish strata and presenting a discontinuous aspect, discharging only by strata ends (low rate spring)

The flow rates from the alluvionary hydrostructure are dynamic in time as a hydric potential because they are influenced by the porosity coefficients of the constituent rocks.

According to the hydric balance values, the hydrographic basin is located in the area of variable humidity in which the rainfall contributes with values of 604.5 mm.

The supplying conditions in the area is of pluvo-nival type, moderately underground, the Siret River rendering in the group of eastern rivers of Romania.

The flood emergence in the hydrographic basin of Siret River is due to some natural and antropical factors.

Among the natural factors we mention the rainfall with torrential character, the previous humidity of soil, slope and lithographical nature, not favoring the infiltration.

Among the antropical factors we observe the high degree of deforestation, non-calibrated hydrotechnical constructions at increased solid transport, poor maintenance of minor and major river beds, overloading of major river beds by afferent constructions of some neighboring placements.

Following the beneficiary order, we assume the reinvigorating of this concern point, located in the central area of the site, so that to allow the display of some social-cultural manifestations (folklore festivals, poetry festivals, village day, artistic tours). Its mission is to complete and to increase the activity run in the two existing endowments, the Library and the Cultural Center, proposed to be the object of some distinct revamping work. This place should be the daily relaxation location of various age groups, starting from children, youth and till the elderly, offering distinct ways to relax for everyone.

At the same time, we focused on organizing, from a composition-landscape point of view, the entire park by retracing the alleys, redistribution of concern areas, provision of specific urban furniture, revamping the amphitheatre and stage area as a central point of the composition, as well as suggestion in two variants of recovering the east side of the park.

In the first variant, it was suggested to vamp an artificial lake on a heavy clay stratum with a maximum depth of 1.8 m, having as natural water source the springs in the area and additionally the input of the existing street supplying water network.

In the second variant, in the same area, instead of the lake, it was suggested to vamp three sporting grounds, accompanied by specific provisions (cloakrooms and sanitary facilities).

Another important target is the improving of vegetation structure by completing and outlining some concern points with trees and bushes of various species, complementary as size, texture and color.

Sustaining the area distribution of the assembly by suitable furniture, the following areas were defined:

- Parallel to the national road DN 29, it was suggested a vamped area with geometrical style, linearly, with finished pathways cu prefabricated footway slab and rest benches
- Intersecting this longitudinal axis, it was suggested a transversal axis, perpendicular to the street and the outdoor amphitheatre, aiming at an easy access to the central area of the park, outlining the major function of representative manifestation place for the community life. At the same time, the concern was to intensify the activities run in the Cultural Center by opening the ground floor to the west and south sides, to the access alley and amphitheatre area.
- It was suggested a system of sinuous pathways, suitable for walks to the other areas: children playgrounds, chess players club, lake area or to the sport grounds and to the botanical mini-gardens in the area of children playgrounds.

By chaining these areas, it is offered various types of activity and increasing the addressability of various age groups.

The vamping of the playing place was dictated by the following principles:

- Provision of playing conditions on age groups (specific endowments depending on the physical and psychic development stage of the child)
- Provision of users' security (materials reducing the ecological injury hazard)
- Provision of supervising the children by the accompanying adults and offering them a proper psychic relation environment

Vamping of the green areas was our major concern for functional rehabilitation and started from a still existing heritage, with arboreal century old plantation mainly made of species like poplars, maples, lime trees, birches. By suggested corrections and by new tree and bush plantations, our concern was to obtain some interesting perspectives, framing of the worthy constructions, outlining and pointing out some esthetical quality areas, hiding some not worthy places, spatial separation of functional areas, setting of some fair relations between light and shadow, forming contrasts, harmonizing the colors and textures, spreading of aromas. Along main axes, it was suggested rebates, platbands and floral massifs for perennial plants of large size by also for the annual and bi-annual ones. Their selection is carried out depending on the blooming season, the colors of the flowers, leaves and fruits, aromas. The park lawn plays the role of a green carpet, making up the main background for arranging the other elements. It was suggested works for rehabilitating some surfaces in order to improve the constituent species composition.

The proposed urban furniture pieces, slabbed footways, grass footways in the amphitheatre area, the stage and the protection covering, the benches, dustbins, drinking fountains and lighting posts have the mission to functionally improve the park ambience with modern elements carried out of high quality materials, esthetically compatible.

CONCLUSIONS

In the initial stage of setting the solution, some consulting activities were carried out with the local decision makers in order to emphasize the participation of local people, to take over their claims and to find out the functional, technological and economical optimal solution.

The anticipated effects of this intervention aim at increasing the life quality and health of the population as well as the increasing of environment quality factors, providing at the same time the definition of a visual identity specific to Dumbraveni village.

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