

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN URBANISM AND LANDSCAPING

RELAȚIA DINTRE URBANISM ȘI PEISAGISTICĂ

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Abstract. *From the simplest forms of habitation organization to the most complex human settlements, it can be seen how nature was or was not integrated into urban space. A human settlement cannot be reduced to a simple accumulation of construction. The outer space or the space between constructions has specific functions and is governed by specific laws. The importance of this space in the complex structure of human settlements can be highlighted by reviewing the history of urbanism. In this process of evolution of the spatial component, an important role is played by the passageways or the urban transition areas. These areas are those where green spaces and/or landscaped zones are gradually emerging, increasingly performing more and more important functions. Why in this early age of the new millennium landscaping process has become an extremely effective tool of the urban science? Because in the context of accelerated pollution and degradation of the Earth, the urban regeneration is possible by interfering the urban and landscaping means of action, through functional solutions stemming from the real needs of the environment and inhabitants.*

Key words: urbanism, landscaping, space, functions

Rezumat. *De la cele mai simple forme de organizare ale locuirii și până la cele mai complexe așezări umane, poate fi observat modul în care natura a fost sau nu integrată în spațiul urban. O așezare umană nu poate fi redusă la un simplu cumul de construcții. Spațiul exterior, sau spațiul dintre construcții, are funcții specifice și este guvernat de legi specifice. Importanța acestui spațiu în structurarea complexă a așezărilor umane poate fi evidențiată prin trecerea în revistă a istoriei urbanismului. În acest proces de evoluție al componentei spațiale, un rol important îl joacă spațiile de trecere sau zonele urbane de tranziție. Aceste zone sunt cele în care apar treptat spațiile verzi și amenajările peisagere, îndeplinind de-a lungul timpului funcții din ce în ce mai importante. De ce în această epocă de început de mileniu peisagistica a devenit un instrument extrem de eficient al științei urbanismului? Deoarece în contextul poluării și degradării accelerate a Terrei, regenerarea mediului urban este posibilă prin interferarea mijloacelor de acțiune urbanistice și peisagistice, prin rezolvările funcționale izvorâte din nevoile reale ale mediului și ale locuitorilor.*

Cuvinte cheie: urbanism, peisagistică, spațiu, funcțiuni.

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INTRODUCTION

In the historical context, the various manners of organizing the human settlements were initially accompanied by the gesture of isolation from the environment through defensive arrangements. From the simplest forms of organization to the most complex human settlements, we can see how nature has or hasn't been integrated into the urban space (Toynbee, 1979). Initially, in the pre-urban times, the first earth-waves and ditches were created as a defense against attacks by animals and protection against extreme natural phenomena. Subsequently, the ramparts and fortifications was based on the need to defend against human attacks. The gesture of isolation from nature is a reaction that follows humankind throughout its history. Urban evolution has often manifested itself, in space and time, by the "apparent" exclusion of nature from the space of the built city. But this "appearance" still hides an "urban permeability" that could be defined as absorption of natural elements by the cores of traditional settlements (Krier, 2006). Thus, despite the efforts of the cities towards detachment and control, nature has always been more or less visible in urban structures and tissues.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

A human settlement can not be reduced to a simple cumulation of constructions. The outer space or space between constructions has specific functions and is governed by specific laws (Gheorghiu T. O., 2009). The importance of this space in the complex structure of human settlements can be highlighted by reviewing the history of their evolution. The emergence of the spatial component requires the study of the historical ratio between built-up urban volume and the unconstructed volume—usually the space between buildings. This report has put a characteristic mark on the personality of the settlements; throughout history, we notice that it is becoming more and more complex. By reviewing its various degrees of complexity, the gradual urban evolution from the individual level of the constructions to that of the assembled constructions, through the involvement of the spatial component, is highlighted.

In this process of evolution of the spatial component, an important role is played by the passageways or the urban areas of transition, areas in which the green spaces and landscaping will gradually appear later on. By their presence in urban tissues, green areas can play an important role, clarifying sometimes urban functional zoning. This paper analyzes how landscaping performs very important urban functions, thus highlighting the complexity of its relationship with urbanism science.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Observing and analyzing the evolution of human settlements, we understand more clearly the relationship between urbanism and landscaping, as well as its importance.

1. The maintenance of the inner-spatial organization of cities would be the first level. This level shows that over time there have been settlements that have included nature in their structures (such as the medieval eastern cities). In the

modern period of the nineteenth century and in the interwar period of the twentieth century, "garden towns" appeared, which, following the prescriptions of the Athens Charter (of CIAM), included nature in urban fabric - through green spaces, water and light - even if they did it in a functionalist-schematic way, pursuing more of its sanitary contribution.

2. The second level could refer to the city and site report. In the context of spontaneous development from pre-urban times, flexible adaptation is found, we could even say respectful to the natural environment of settlements to the characteristics of their locations (Gheorghiu, 2009). This denotes their wise desire for harmony with nature for the purpose of survival. The study of history reveals that this phase has been taken up by all civilizations. Today we call this attitude as sustainable. In parallel with the spontaneous development, there have also been situations of preconceived / guided developments that have often been either indifferent to the natural environment or hostile / aggressive, destroying it to make space and develop. At present, despite the collective concern of the city-nature report and the concern to preserve the quality of the environment, urban development continues to degrade and destroy the natural environment.

3. The intimate and subtle structures of the city, related to urban life and its needs, are the third level of observation. These needs dictated in time the evolution of human settlements. The fact that the two urban models - spontaneous and preconceived - coexisted in time, demonstrates that accumulation of experiences, correlation and synthesis of historical information about the city, have added to the urban ancestral memory and generated transcultural, transpatial and trans-natural urban manifestations and planning gestures (Dascălu Doina Mira, 2006). Urbanistic utopias that have characterized the various historical periods also show that urban patterns are going upward, towards the reintegration of the nature into the urban organism. Urban symbolic models remain deeply integrated in nature because they are based on ancestral "transcultural archetypes", as Carl Gustav Jung observes: "The city is substantially dependent on nature."

Most publications about cities use the generic name of "green spaces" or "planted spaces", referring to landscaped areas. Urbanism uses the generic name of green spaces, given that the city is "viewed from above" as a whole, and vegetation is the predominant element into these spaces. In urban planning science, this name must therefore be understood in its complex sense. From the urban point of view, the green spaces (landscaped or not) fulfill some important functions. Functional zoning is the one that organizes the city in terms of functions, dividing the city into areas characterized by a predominant function, or in areas that can accumulate a functional plurality from which one obviously dominates. By their presence in urban tissues, green areas play an important role,

clarifying many times urban functional zoning (Dascălu Doina Mira, 2016). In many cases of urban tissues there are vastly planted areas, which can themselves constitute areas with special functionality, both from urban and landscape perspective.

Depending on the size of the area occupied and the site, the planted and landscaped areas contribute to:

- separation between certain functional areas that disturb each other from certain points of view; here are some examples of areas between which the existence of such a "buffer" is necessary: circulation-dwelling, circulatory-educational area, road-pedestrian, housing-industry etc .;
- unification or transition between different urban spaces - for example, a historic center can be linked to a modernly built area through a planted and judiciously landscaped area;
- delimitation of the disordered growth of urban agglomeration.

Nowadays, due to the pollution of the urban environment, the townspeople want refuge in nature as close as possible to the dwelling areas. As a result, oases of nature in the form of multifunctional landscaping, complex design, have been created in increasing numbers, satisfying the need for sustainable and healthy urban refuge and relaxation. Most of them manage to be located in unused spaces between buildings, which are those transition areas mentioned above.

CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, through their presence in urban tissues, green areas can play an important role, often clarifying urban functional zoning.

In the context of the accelerated pollution and degradation of the Earth, the regeneration of the environment is possible by interfering with the urban and landscape means of action, through functional solutions stemming from the real needs of the environment and people.

Urban landscaping functional areas have a positive contribution to the improvement of comfort, quality and sanity of human life, especially through the sustainable and complex multi-functionality of the environment.

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