CTU CZECH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE

THESIS SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

I. IDENTIFICATION DATA

Thesis title: Adaptive Reuse of Brnky Castle Area, Prague

Author's name: Marion Mayfield

Type of thesis: master

Faculty/Institute: Faculty of Architecture (FA)

Department: Department of Architectural Conservation

Thesis supervisor: doc. Ing. arch. Tomáš Efler

Supervisor's department: Department of Architectural Conservation

II. EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUAL CRITERIA

Assignment

How demanding was the assigned project?

The subject of this diploma thesis is the premises of Brnky castle and its former agricultural farm complex and grounds. The castle is the heart of the village of Brnky, close to Prague. Long neglected, the structure has a complicated history which has contributed to its current derelict state. The castle has been under monument protection since 1958. The interventions in this project aim to maintain and reestablish the identity and historic value of the castle grounds, while creating a multi-purpose site that engages with and meets the needs of present and future generations of Brnky; revitalizing and regenerating what had once been considered the village center.

Fulfilment of assignment

fulfilled

challenging

How well does the thesis fulfil the assigned task? Have the primary goals been achieved? Which assigned tasks have been incompletely covered, and which parts of the thesis are overextended? Justify your answer.

Please insert your comments here.

Activity and independence when creating final thesis

B - very good.

Assess whether the student had a positive approach, whether the time limits were met, whether the conception was regularly consulted and whether the student was well prepared for the consultations. Assess the student's ability to work independently.

Please insert your commentary.

Technical level B - very good.

Is the thesis technically sound? How well did the student employ expertise in his/her field of study? Does the student explain clearly what he/she has done?

Please insert your comments here.

Formal level and language level, scope of thesis

A - excellent.

Are formalisms and notations used properly? Is the thesis organized in a logical way? Is the thesis sufficiently extensive? Is the thesis well-presented? Is the language clear and understandable? Is the English satisfactory?

Please insert your comments here.

Selection of sources, citation correctness

C - good.

Does the thesis make adequate reference to earlier work on the topic? Was the selection of sources adequate? Is the student's original work clearly distinguished from earlier work in the field? Do the bibliographic citations meet the standards?

Please insert your comments here.

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Additional commentary and evaluation (optional)

Comment on the overall quality of the thesis, its novelty and its impact on the field, its strengths and weaknesses, the utility of the solution that is presented, the theoretical/formal level, the student's skillfulness, etc.

The main task of student Marion Mayfield's diploma thesis is, based on the research and evaluation of the potential, to propose the revitalization, completion and cultivation of the surrounding environment of the heavily devastated area of the former castle and farm of Brnky, close to Prague, a place with rich cultural, social and economic significance since the Middle Ages.

I appreciate the work of the graduate in the field surveys and analyzes of the area under consideration, which is in a truly deplorable state. The work required courage and enthusiasm, despite the fact that the place itself and the jungle-like garden do not yet raise any hopes for a dignified resurrection of this area.

The diploma thesis is nicely and clearly presented in a cultivated graphic design and convincingly presents an adequate and long-term sustainable vision of the proposal for the regeneration of the devastated castle grounds.

Although the chosen layout and operational solution of the interiors has its reserves and the efficiency or economy of the proposed functions and individual layouts would certainly be the subject of economic and investment analyses, the overall layout and operational continuity of the individual parts appears favorable.

The presented design and visualization of the architectural modifications of the selected exteriors and interiors present a cultured approach to the rehabilitation of the historic building, the design of the new buildings of the accompanying buildings is simple, functional and unpretentious, presented impressively especially in the interior modifications, which, however, would require more detailed technical refinement. Similarly, the concept of outdoor areas and landscaping of the garden would deserve a more thoughtful treatment.

III. OVERALL EVALUATION, QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESENTATION AND DEFENSE OF THE THESIS, SUGGESTED GRADE

Summarize your opinion on the thesis and explain your final grading.

One can only hope that this courageous work becomes the basis, inspiration and stimulus for a more specific assignment of an architectural competition and professional proposals for the regeneration of this endangered site. The cultural and social potential and importance of the area for this peripheral location of Prague was confirmed by the proposal, therefore I recommend this stimulating work for defense.

The grade that I award for the thesis is **B** - very good.

Date: 4.6.2024

Signature: