Oddíl 1 Portfolio studie bakalářské práce

Terrain of eternity

Václav Suchan

New columbarium design and
revitalization of an anteroom of the
Vinoř cemetery, Prague

FACULTY
OF ARCHITECTURE
CTU IN PRAGUE

01

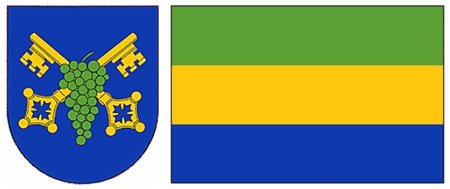
introduction

„In the middle of a columbarium, we are in a sphere of death art. Funeral peace and something from a breath of sacral spirit have to cling on this building.“

EDGAR, Emil. Kolumbária a popelnicové háje. Nakladatelství Borský a Šulc. Praha, 1923.

Prague - Vinoř

Vinoř is a municipal district on the north-east edge of Prague. Former small agricultural village became an important part of Prague's outskirts with a residential character during the last century. Built-up area is created mostly by small family houses and vilas. Geomorphologically it lays on the Middle-Elbe tableland and it is rounded by Vinořský and Ctěnický streams.

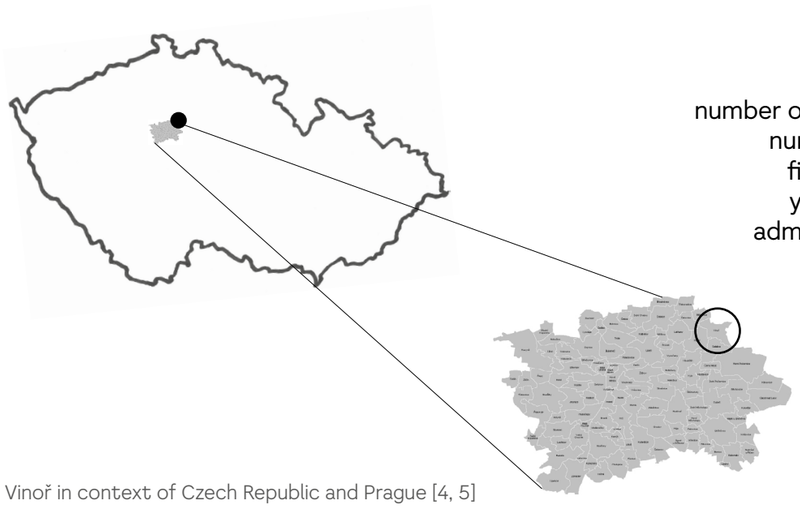


Emblem and flag of the municipal distrcit Prague-Vinoř [1,2]

[3]

in numbers

kadastral area: **599 ha**
the highest point: **268 m**
number of inhabitants: **4 071** (2019)
number of houses: **752** (2011)
first written mention: **1088**
year of joining Prague: **1974**
administartive ward: **Prague 9**



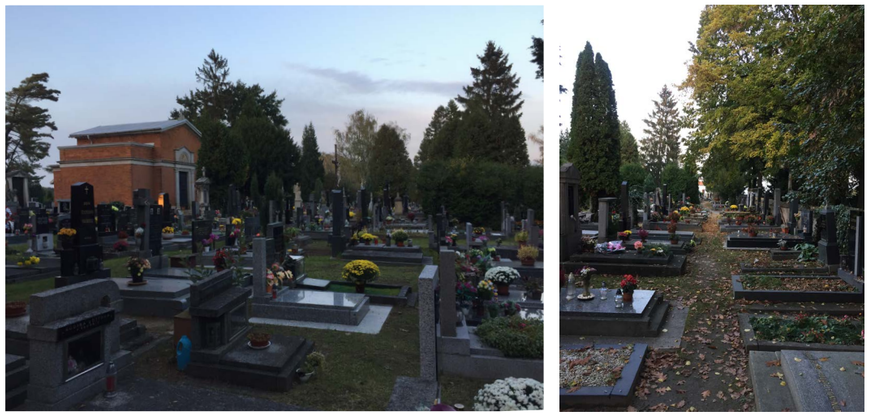
Vinoř in context of Czech Republic and Prague [4, 5]

Vinoř cemetery

- place of eternal rest unusually in the very centre of the municipality. why?

The graveyard in Vinoř was originally situated around the Church of Exaltation of Holy Cross which is located in the former centre of the district - on Vinoř square in the neighbourhood of the Vinoř castle. To the current location it was relocated on the end of 18th century when there was no housing as the place was on the edge of the village. Today's unusual situation of cemetery being a centre of the whole municipalitry is because the dynamic development during the 20th century (see History, page 22).

[6]



Graveyard and the Czernin tomb

The cemetery is 1,2 ha large, lays on a flat terrain and its surrounded by a small park, Mariapoli centre (catholic institute) and Mladoboleslavská street (main road going from Pargue through Vinoř in direction Brandýs nad Labem). Its dominant is a classicistic Czernin tomb built between 1805-1841 located in the centre of the older part of it.

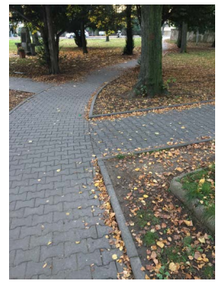
Administrator of the cemetery is Municipal district Prague-Vinoř.

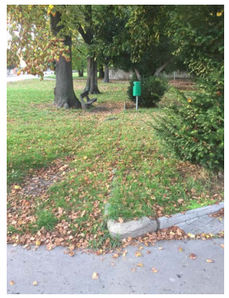
The oldest grave is from the end of 19th century but burial ground was there already in the prehistoric times how archeological finds showed in the 1950s.

What was the assignment?

a/ design a new columbarium in an empty part (approx. 12 x 50 m)
of the existing cemetery

b/ revitalize a park and surroundings in front of the main entrance to the cemetery





02

analysis

border relations

nature

castle park
Ctěnice
Ctěnice grove
Ctěnický stream
Cukrovarský pond
Vinořský stream
future new
square
anteroom of
the cemetery
pond Velká Obůrka
pond Malá Obůrka
V Podskalí
park in front of
the Vinoř castle
pond
U Pohanků
Biologický pond
PR Vinořský park
0
250 m

routes and transportation

history

1088 first written mention about Vinoř - king Vratislav II. gave village to Vyšehrad chapter

1690 chapels of Via Sancta -pilgrimage route from Prague to Stará Boleslav- were built, six of them in Vinoř

1728 baroque Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross by F. M. Kaňka was built

1805 the cemetery was relocated from the surroundings of the church to today's location

1914 first cremation of Vinoř inhabitant

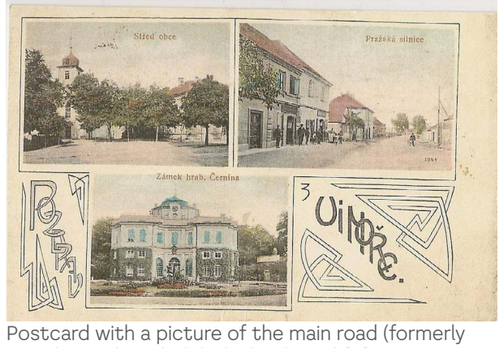
1945 bombing of Prague outskirts on the end of WWII - 300 deads in Vinoř enlargemeent of the cemetery

1948 meeting of members of the secret anticommunist resistance movement (among others also Milada Horáková) on the Vinoř clergy house

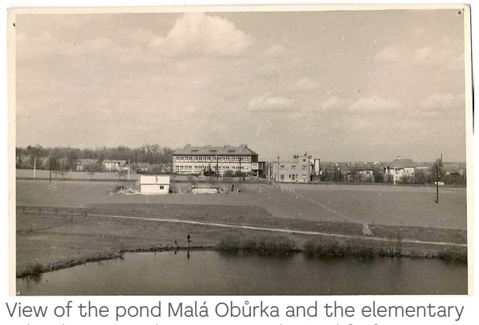
1974 Vinoř was joined to Prague, dynamic housing development

Original painting of the Via Sancta route chapel (Pakenská - the one next to the cemetery) [7]

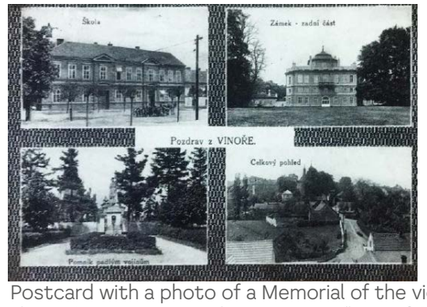
Engraving of the Vinoř castle (end of 18th cent.) [8]



Postcard with a picture of the main road (formerly Pražská, today Mladoboleslavská st.) [9]



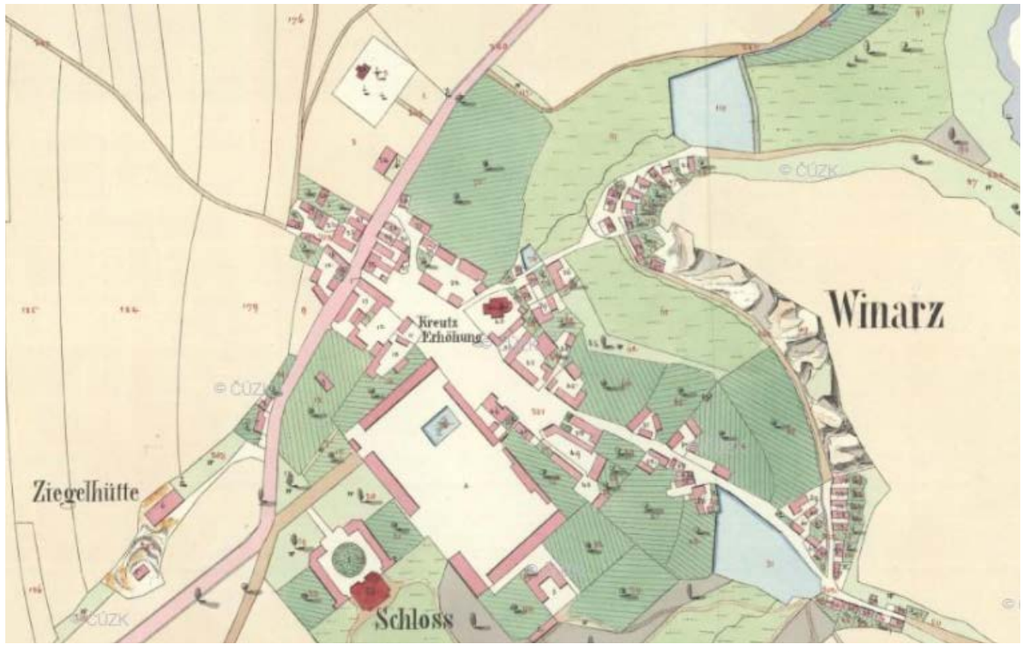
View of the pond Malá Obůrka and the elementary school next to the cemetery (1920s) [10]



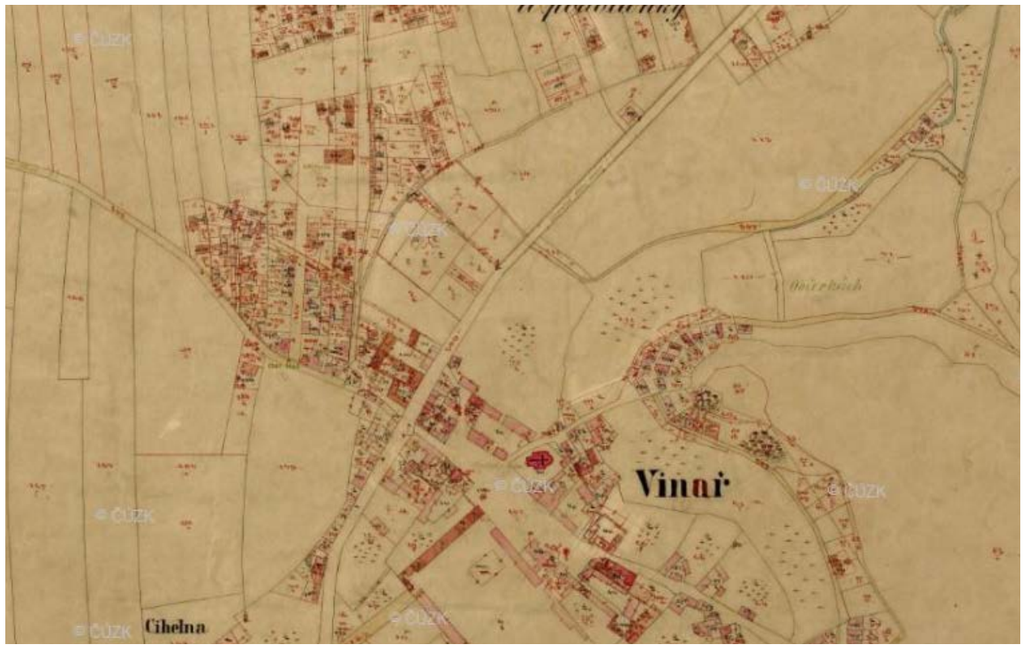
Postcard with a photo of a Memorial of the victims of WWI in front of the main entrance to the cemetery (beg. of 20th cent.) [11]

Aerial photo of Vinoř - still solitary (and also smaller) cemetery on the left side (1924) [12]

old maps



Stable cadastre (1841) - we can see newly replaced cemetery on the northern edge of the village [13]



Stable cadastre (around 1900) - Vinoř is enlarging so new houses are built in the surroundings of the cemetery [14]

1945

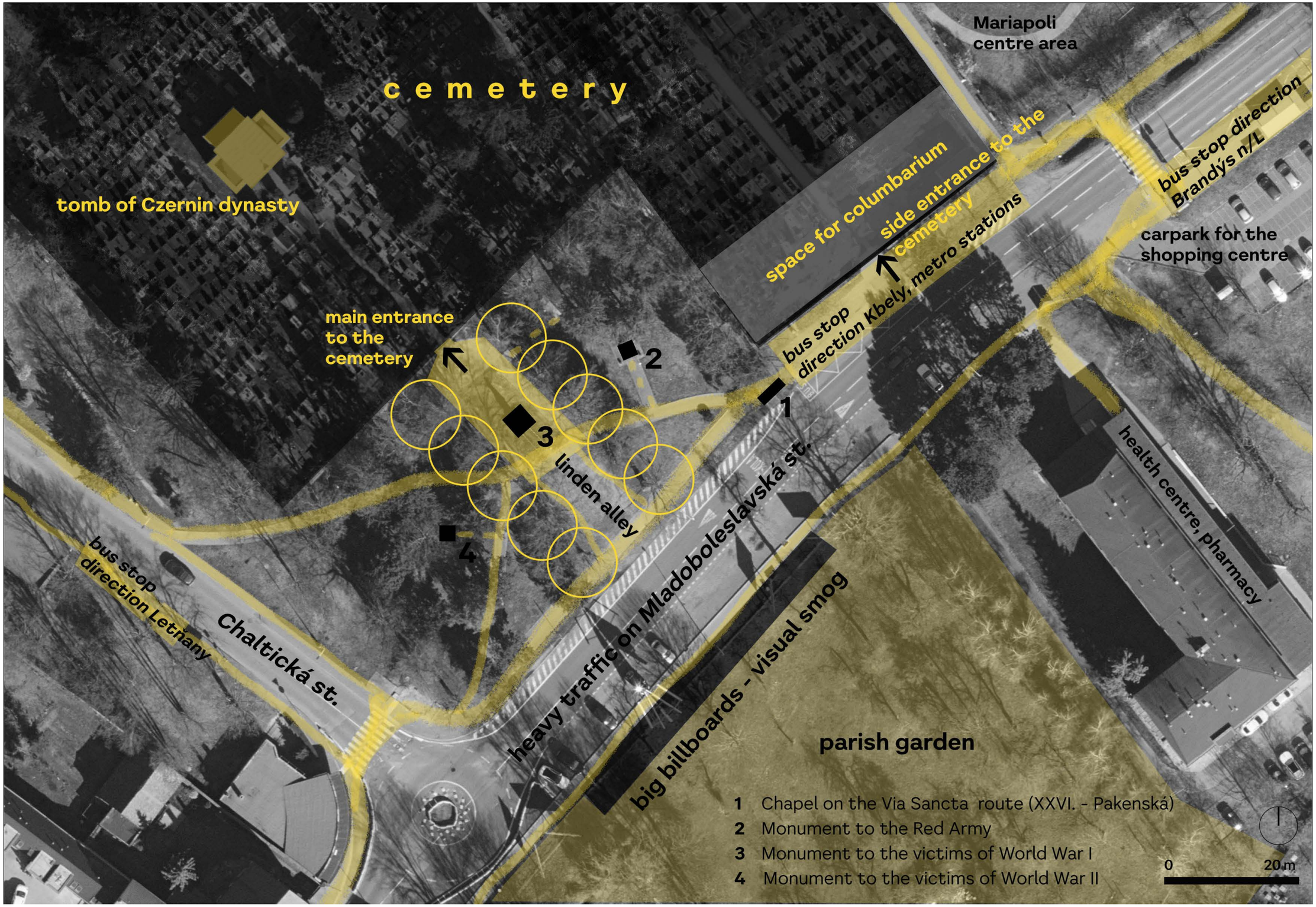
1975

1999

2020

[15, 16, 17, 18]

the site


cemetery
tomb of Czernin dynasty
main entrance to the cemetery
space for columbarium
side entrance to the cemetery
bus stop direction Kbely, metro stations
Mariapoli centre area
bus stop direction Brandýs n/L
carpark for the shopping centre
1
2
3
4
linden alley
Mladoboleslavská st.
health centre, pharmacy
bus stop direction Letňany
Chaltická st.
heavy traffic on Mladoboleslavská
big billboards - visual smog
parish garden
1 Chapel on the Via Sancta route (XXVI. - Pakenská)
2 Monument to the Red Army
3 Monument to the victims of World War I
4 Monument to the victims of World War II
0
20 m

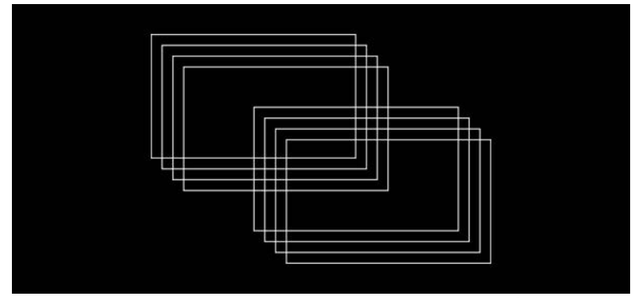
03

concept

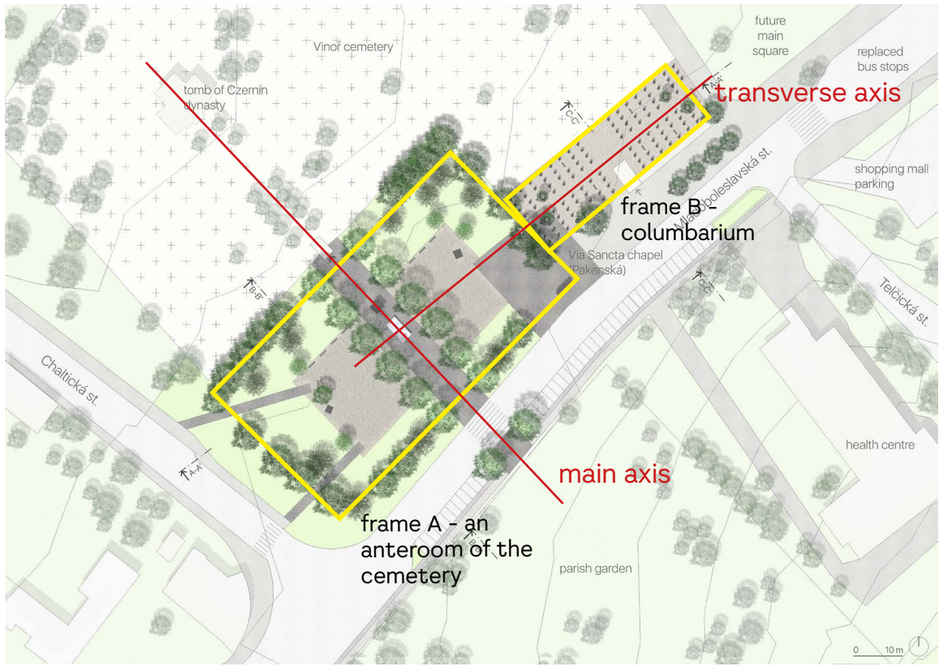
Life is *repeating*. Verticals,
horizontals, days, nights,
joys, sorrows, loves,
hates, births, deads. Life is
reflecting. Gratitudes, angers,
indifferences, regrets. Life is
connecting. People, knowledge,
beliefs. Life is *layering*. Feelings,
moments and remembrances.
Frames which are bounding our
memories.

The area is divided into two parts - bigger one /park in front of the cemetery/ and smaller one /space of columbarium/.

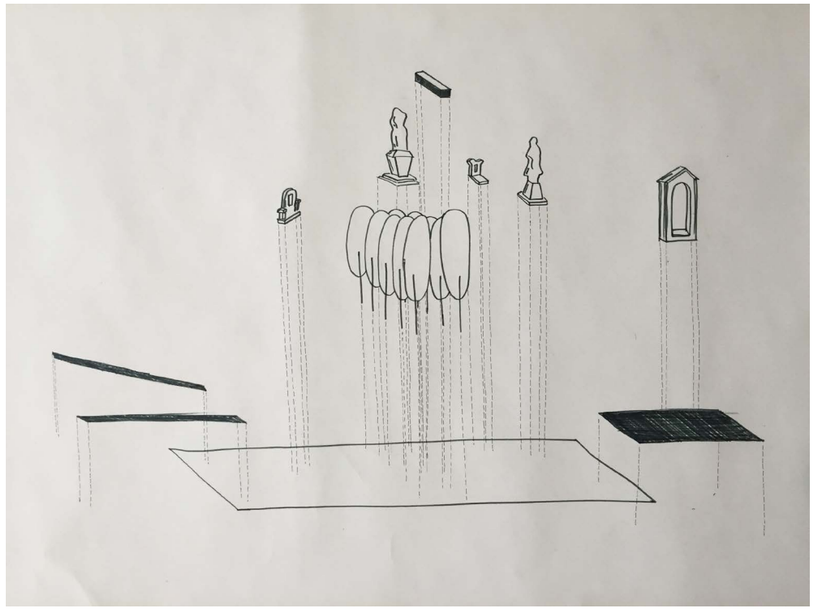
Both of them have their one atmospheres /lively, open, busy/ x /intimate, calm, enclosed/.
Both of them have their own *frames* created by vegetation (trees and climbing plants).
Both of them are *connected* by a transverse axis, materials and *reflexctions* of two water surfaces.
One of them is based on *layering*, the second one on *repeating*.



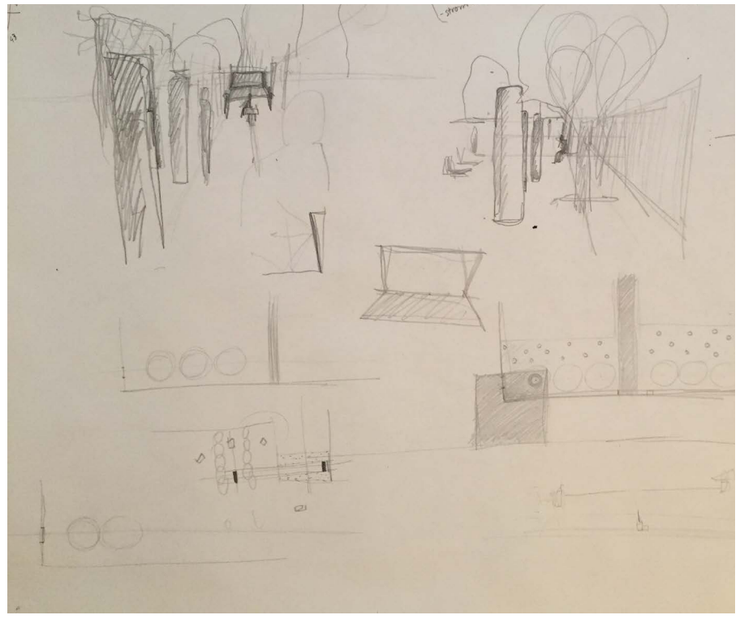
Logo of the project



layering



repeating



04

design

site plan

new columbarium

_2 m high **columns made from corten**
_composition in a grid along a transverse axis
_gaps in the grid are used for placing benches and trees
_intimate atmosphere created also by a **climbing plants construction**

separated service space

_place for **dustbins and back area** of the cemetery service
_made from subtile corten wall
_from the side of the street serves also as a **notice board** for all local associations, groups, companies, clubs etc.

replaced bus stop (dir. Letňany)

_new location in front of the Norma shopping centre
_just **beside a future new square**
_same position as the stop from Letňany (opposite side of the street)

around the chapel

_creating a **dignified place around** this historic sight
_**narrowed road** allows to come to the chapel also from the front side
_informational panel about history in the paving

main axis

_fundamental compositional element of the site
_highlited by a **wide strip of dark cobblestone paving**
_water feature

central area

_place for stopovers, meetings, entering the cemetery or just passing through
_gravel surface for an **easy water soaking**
_cutting down three yews which made this place dark and disorganized
_benches

linden alley

_completing an old alley with **4 more lindens**
_prolongation to the next side of the road - contiunuance to the parish garden
_potential **entrance to the parich garden** - to join it smoothly with cemetery and other places of greenery in Vinoř (Obůrka ponds, Vinořské náměstí, Vinořský park, Vinořský stream valley)

longitudinal section A-A‘

Chaltická street

Memorial of victims of World War II

main axis with the linden alley,
Memorial of victims of World War I,
water element

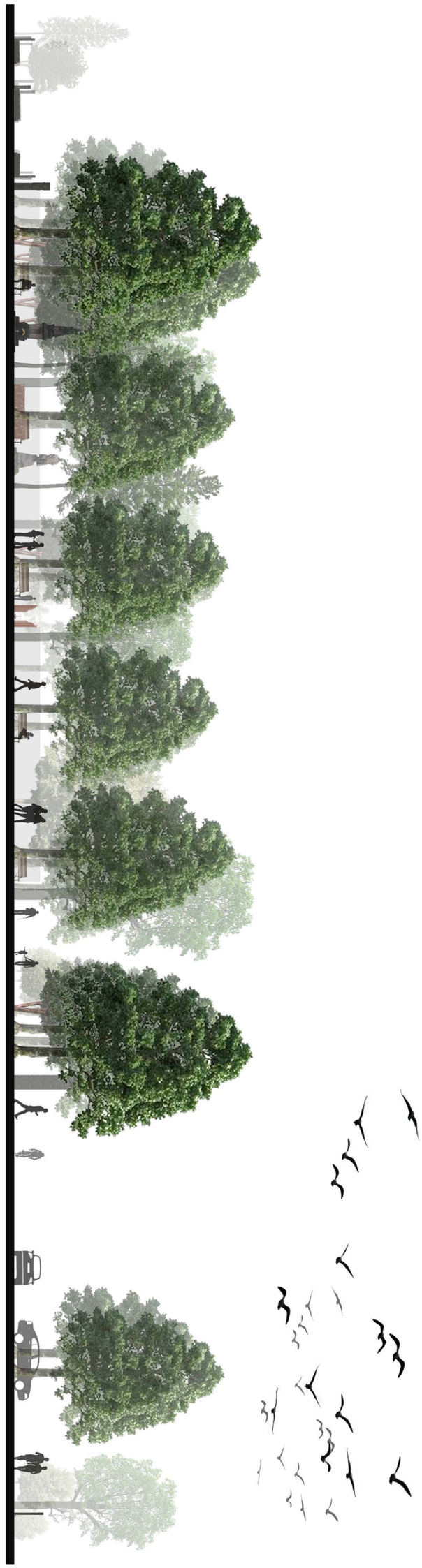
Memorial of the Red Army

newly created entrance to the
cemetery - tranvers axis from the
park to the columbarium

side entrance to the cemetery
from Mladoboleslavská st.

water element on the end
of the transvers axis

transverse section B-B‘



transverse section C-C‘

graves

construction for climbing plants

transverse axis with a water element

side entrance to the cemetery

place for dustbins and back area of a cemetery service; integrated notice boards

broadened pavement on the place of replaced bus stop

Mladoboleslavská st.

parking

broadened pavement with a cycle lane

around the Via Sancta chapel

anteroom of the cemetery

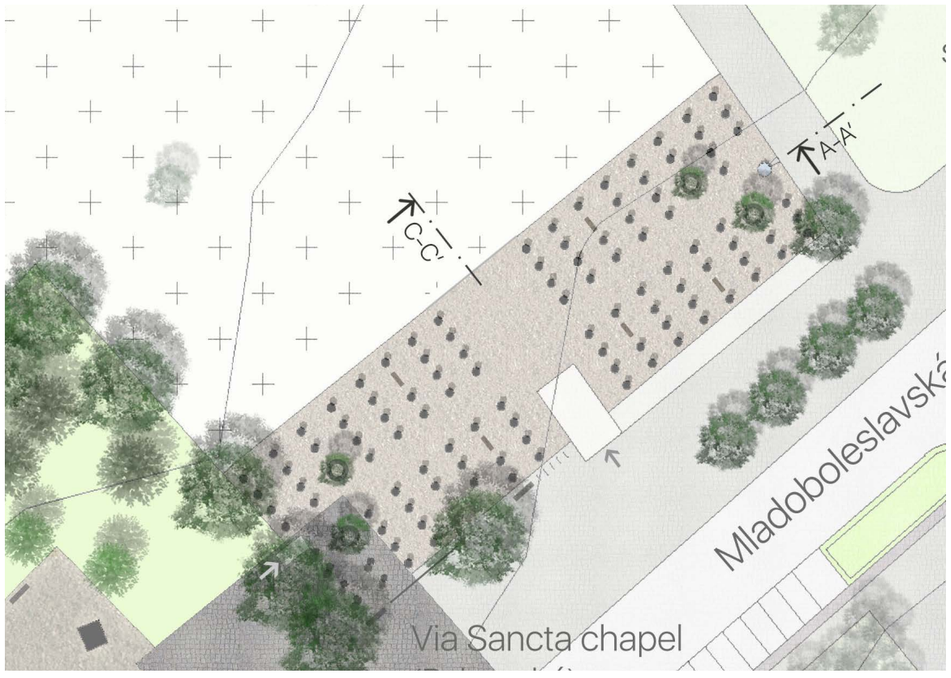
new columbarium

_designed as a 109 **solitair columns**
_material: **corten** 3 mm
_composition in a grid along a transverse axis
_gaps in the grid are used for placing benches and trees

_each column has three shelfs (45 cm high) and it is possible to place up to five urns on each of it (when we count with the max. size of each urn Ø 20 cm (standard size is Ø 16-19 cm))

maximum capacity

_109 columns
_327 boxes
_1635 urns



[19]

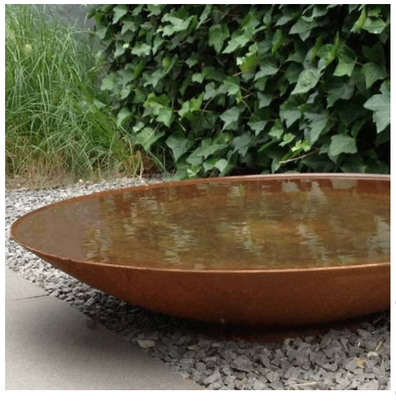
[20]

climbing plants construction

_to amplify an intimate atmosphere and a feeling of being in a „room," steel con struction for climbing plants is designed there
_two 4 m high parts
_visual enclosement of the space
_passes through from each aisle of the columbarium

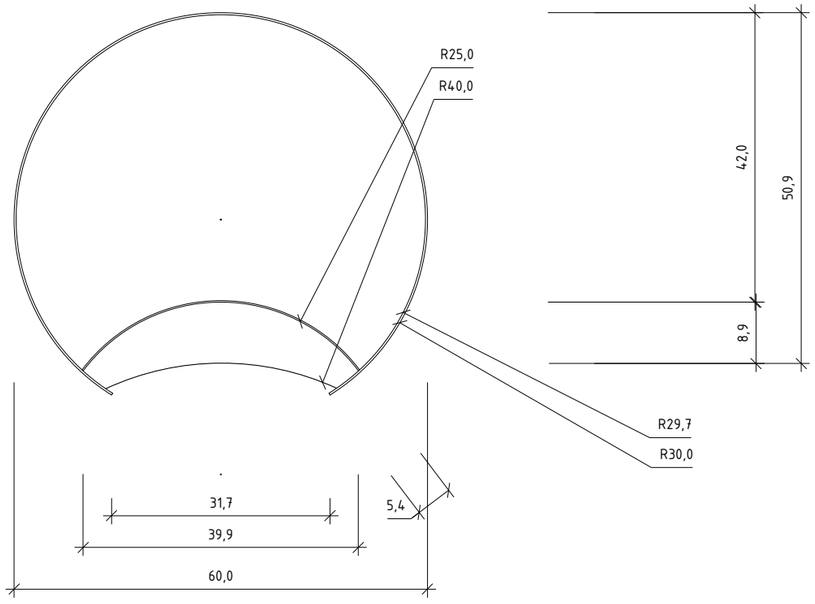
water feature

_two basins on the opposite edges of the tranverse axis
_"**bowl**" on the side of columbarium
_"**cube**" in the park (on a crossing with main axis)
_both of them with a calm surface and an overflow
_material: corten

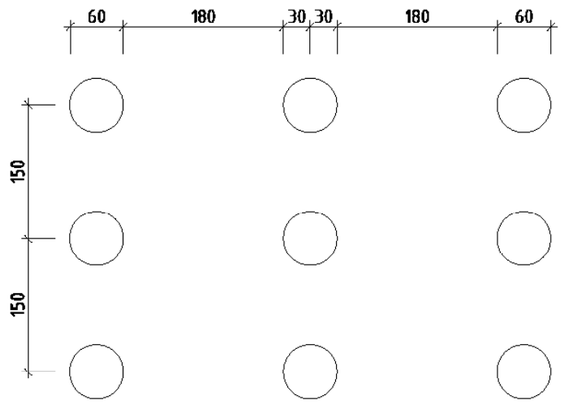


[21, 22, 23]

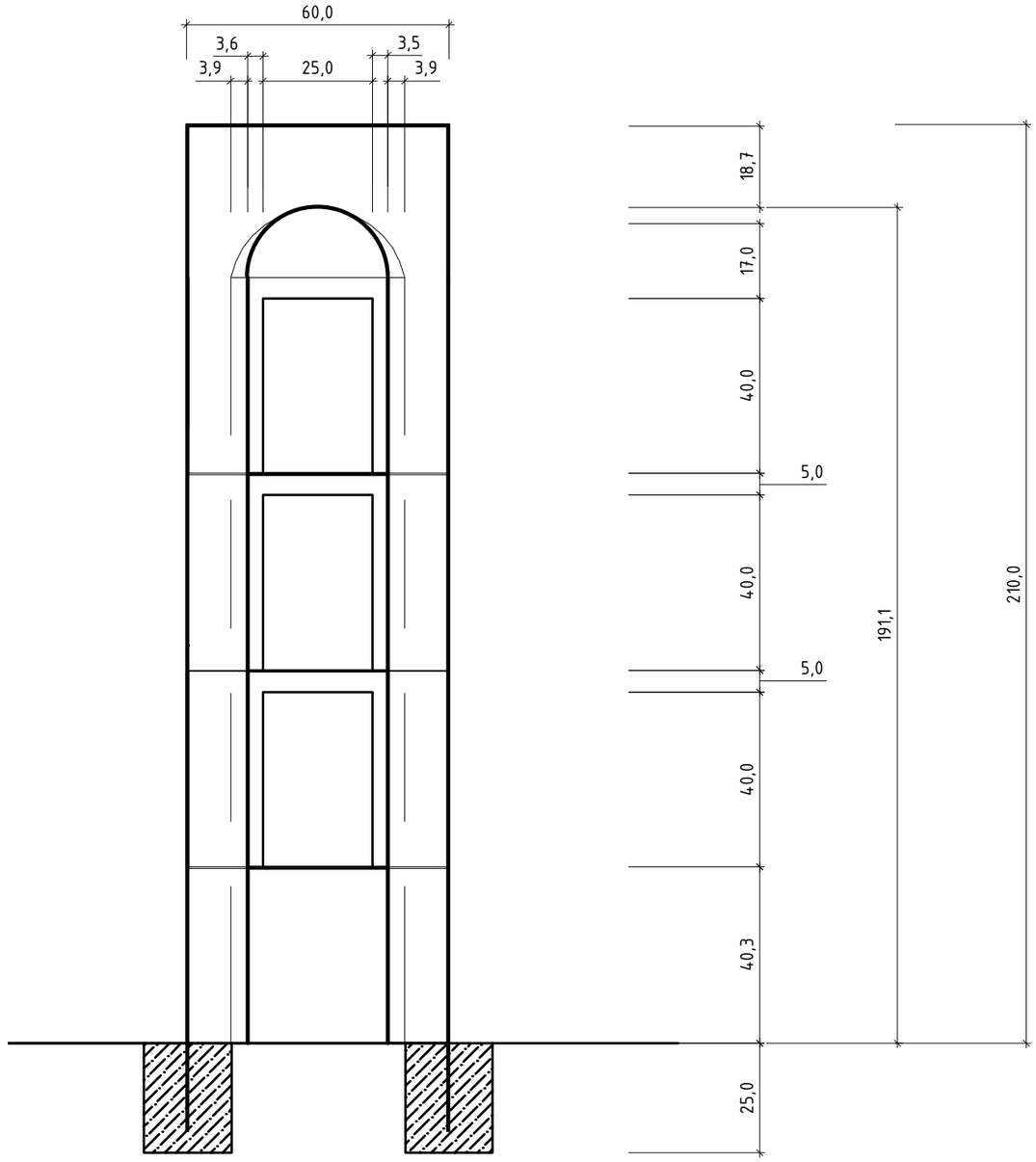
cross-section



layout of columns



sectional view



surfaces

[24]

dark granite cobble 7x7

_main axis + access paths to the central area + place around chapel

[25]

white granite cobble 5x5

_pavement in front of the side entrance to the cemetery + pavement along Mladoboleslavská st.

[26]

compacted gravel

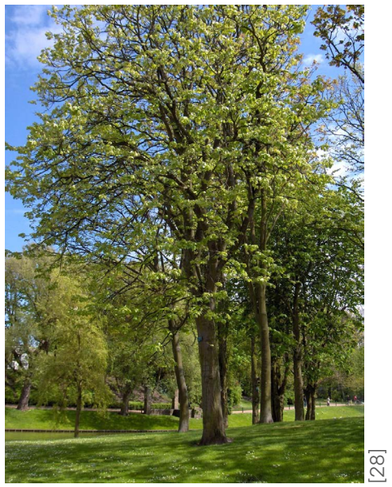
_central area of the anteroom + columbarium
_easy water soaking to the soil

[27]

concrete

_entrances to the cemetery
_highlightening of them - contrast with the dark granit cobbles

vegetation



[28]

1 *Tilia platyphyllos*

_completion and prolongation of the alley and the frame around the site
_8 pieces

[29]

2 *Taxus baccata*

_completion of the frame around the site
_1 piece

[30]

3 *Betula pendula*

_in the columbarium
_soft, light, subtile character
_2 pieces

mobiliar

anteroom

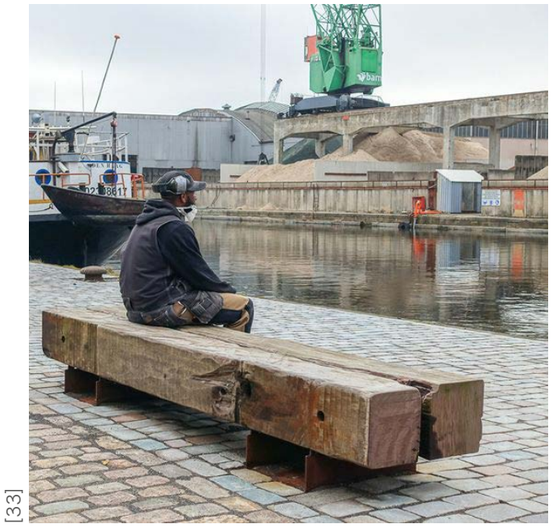
_unified Prague mobiliar from IPR (benchces, waste bins, cycle stands)
_designed by Olgoj Chorchoj studio

[31]

columbarium

_solid wood benchces (producer: Street Life, model Drifter bench)
_round benches around trees (producer: Streetpark; model Radiano LRA11 000)

[32]

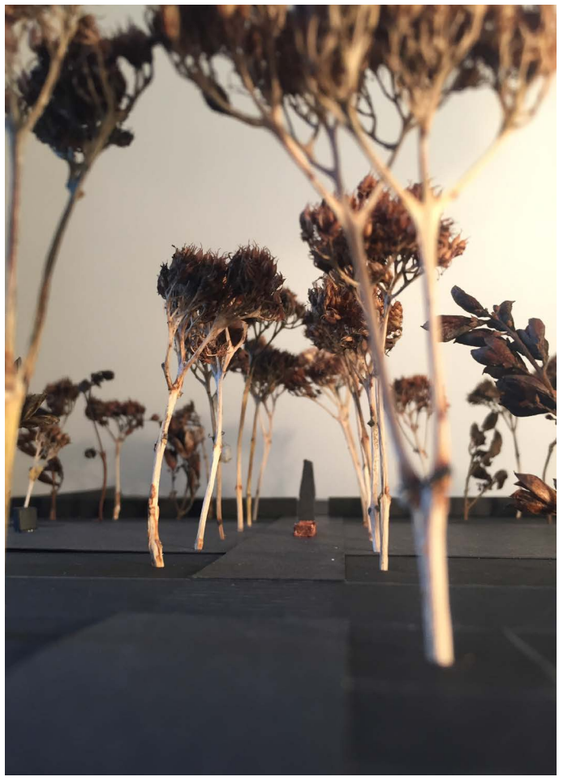


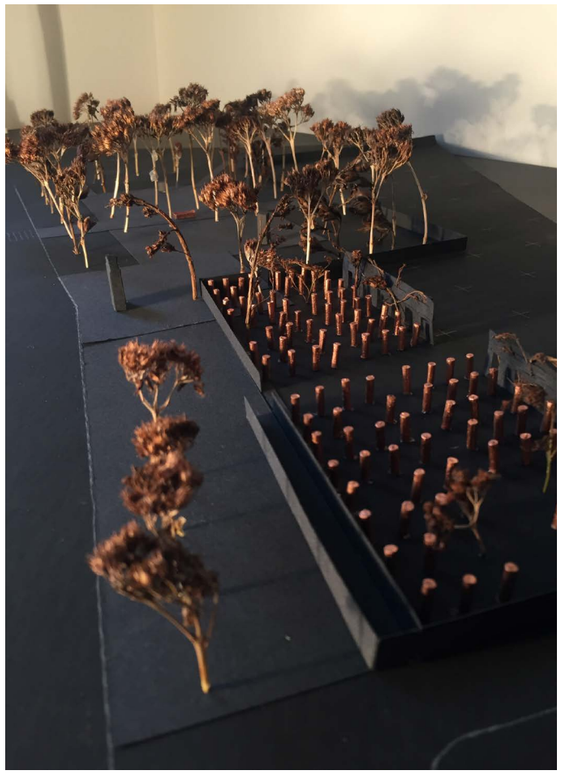
[33]

[34, 35]

05

model





sources

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