Oddíl 1  Portfolio studie bakalářské práce
Terrain of eternity
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New columbarium design and revitalization of an anteroom of the Vinoř cemetery, Prague
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. “
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 villas. Geomorphologically it lays on the Middle-Elbe tableland and it is rounded by Vinořský and Ctěnický streams.

**Prague - Vinoř**

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

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

**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**
- administrartive ward: **Prague 9**

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 Prague 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.

**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 municipality is because the dynamic development during the 20th century (see History, page 22).

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.

Graveyard and the Czernin tomb

Emblem and flag of the municipal district Prague-Vinoř
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
routes and transportation
first written mention about Vinoř - king Vratislav II. gave village to Vyšehrad chapter

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

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

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

first cremation of Vinoř inhabitant

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

enlargement of the cemetery

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

Vinoř was joined to Prague, dynamic housing development

1088 1690 1728 1805 1914 1945 1948 1974

Original painting of the Via Sancta route chapel (Pakenštěská - 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]

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

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]
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]
the site

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
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 reflexions of two water surfaces.

One of them is based on layering, the second one on repeating.
layering

repeating
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

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

separated service space
- place for dustbins and back area of the cemetery service
- made from subtle corten wall
- from the side of the street serves also as a notice board for all local associations, groups, companies, clubs etc.

main axis
- fundamental compositional element of the site
- highlighted 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 - contiuance to the parish garden
- potential entrance to the parish 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 - transvers 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′

- main entrance to the cemetery
- Memorial of victims of World War I
- water element on the main axis
- transverse axis - new entrance to the cemetery
- broadened pavement on the place of replaced bus stop
- chapel of the Via Sancta route (XXVI., Pakenská)
- broadened pavement with a cycle lane
- Mladoboleslavská st.
- newly planted lindens as a prolongation of the alley
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 shelves (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

**climbing plants construction**

- to amplify an intimate atmosphere and a feeling of being in a "room," steel construction for climbing plants is designed there
- two 4 m high parts
- visual enclosure 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
cross-section

sectional view

layout of columns
surfaces

dark granite cobble 7x7
-main axis + access paths to the central area + place around chapel

white granite cobble 5x5
-pavement in front of the side entrance to the cemetery + pavement along Mladoboleslavská st.

compacted gravel
-central area of the anteroom + columbarium
-easy water soaking to the soil

concrete
-entrances to the cemetery
-highlightening of them - contrast with the dark granite cobbles
1 *Tilia platyphyllos*  
completion and prolongation of the alley and the frame around the site  
8 pieces

2 *Taxus baccata*  
completion of the frame around the site  
1 piece

3 *Betula pendula*  
in the columbarium  
soft, light, subtle character  
2 pieces
mobiliar

anteroom

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

columbarium

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