

Sketch by Zuzanna Kolasińska, inspired by Magdalena Wojnowska-Heciak

Intelligence. Nature. Light. Senses. Mental. Social. Future.

Each of the selected works for the Biennale, is an evidence to the profound influence of nature on design and human experience. Our choices highlight projects that integrate the positive impact of nature on our senses – Unseen Perception, fostering environments that promote mental well-being – The Wood Wisdom.

The projects feature innovative approaches to **Lightscape – discovering** the subtle and dramatic ways light interacts with natural forms, creating dynamic spaces. Crucially, these chosen works prioritize the **social relations development - Relations**, designing environments that encourage connection, community, and shared experiences amidst natural beauty.

A core theme running through the selection is the vision of a **positive future**, deeply rooted in the **Solarpunk** aesthetic, where lush greenery and sustainable practices intertwine to create vibrant, thriving urban landscapes. These works exemplify the belief that "we truly cannot invent anything more innovative than nature itself," showcasing design that emulates natural intelligence to address contemporary challenges and inspire a more harmonious coexistence with our planet.





Country/City
University / School
Academic year
Title of the project
Authors

Poland/Warsaw

Warsaw University of Life Sciences

2024/2025

The LIGHTscape

Anna Mierzwińska



Title of the project	The LIGHTscape
Authors	Anna Mierzwińska
Title of the course	Diploma
Academic year	2024/2025
Teaching Staff	PhD Ewa A. Rykała
Department / Section / Program of belonging Department of Landscape Architecture	
University / School	Warsaw University of Life Sciences
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Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

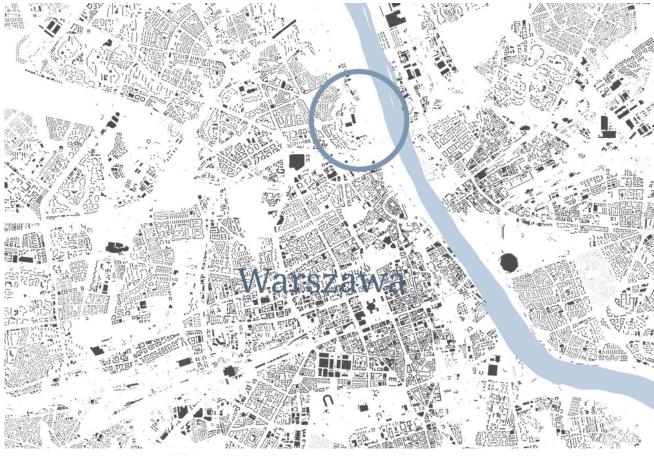
This study presents a landscape interior design project using the tool of light to shape the character of the place. The design idea is to strengthen the identity and bring out the character of the place, mainly through light. Work on this topic included small-scale research using field analyzes based on the five categories of Genius Loci according to Christian Norberg-Szchulz (1980). Based on scientific articles and our own research and observations, it was noticed that in public spaces, light is often an underestimated element shaping the night landscape of the city and the character of the place. The work is a response to this problem and provides examples of solutions that reduce and eliminate light pollution. By including light analysis (day/night) in the design process, you can increase awareness of the impact of this tool on shaping the character of public space and the positive perception of users. Through its helioplastic properties, light, on the one hand, can highlight the values of a place and, on the other hand, covers disharmonious elements, creating the right identity that builds the spirit of the place.

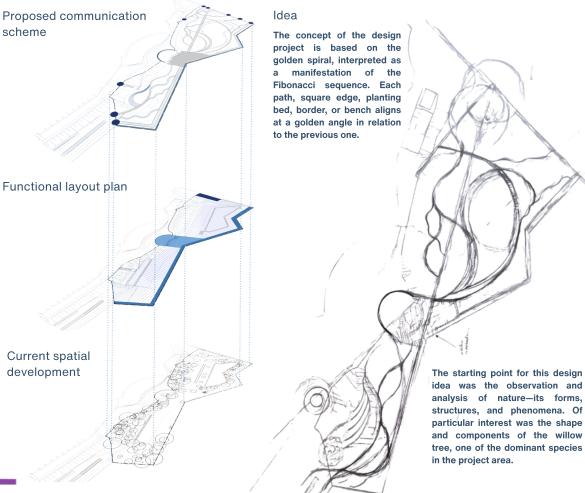
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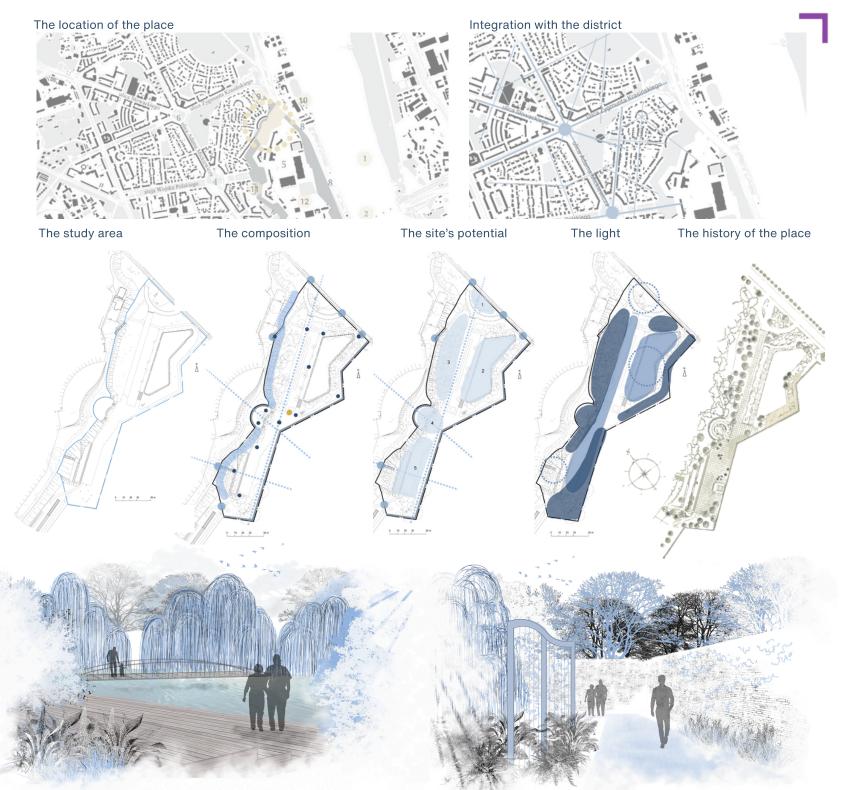
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The **LIGHT**scape

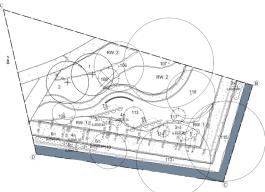
The project of a landscape, using light as an instrument of creating worth of place







- To enhance lighting and introduce color into the space, the southern section of the project area will include a colored stained-glass element within the trellis. Depending on the absorption or reflection of light, this will enrich the sensory experience and help integrate the space into the entire composition
- The pond, reflecting the surrounding willows, will act as a scenic "floor" of the interior, enhancing the space's visual quality and representativeness.
- The trellis, equipped with vertical steel cables, will reflect light and cast shadows onto the wall and the floor of the landscape interior.
- Tall trees, primarily willows, will form the "floor" and "vaults" of the interior. Their shadows will give texture to the ground, while their hanging branches will define the upper boundary of the space.



- A line of light along the main axis of the compositional layout strengthens its importance and acts as a visual guide leading deeper into the space.
- Ground-level illumination of the willow trees around the pond ensures their presence and symbolic value are not lost after dark but instead intensified through their reflection in the water.
- The square near the caponier has been equipped with integrated surface lighting, continuing the park's
 circulation paths. This not only reinforces the organic layout of pedestrian routes but also intuitively
 guides users through the space. The lighting also enhances the representational and central nature of
 this location.
- The Warsaw Citadel wall and the caponier have been illuminated with ground-mounted, subtle lighting that casts light onto the masonry, allowing its character to remain visible at night without interfering with the historical substance.
- Steps and terraces on the pond platform and the planted terrace have been softly lit, emphasizing the sculptural qualities of the terrain and improving functionality for users during nighttime hours.
- The natural zone has been left without artificial lighting to preserve its ecological character.
- The lighting system features low-intensity light with a neutral color temperature, ensuring visibility while allowing users to discover and experience the space.
- To minimize light pollution, the willow tree lighting system will only be activated on Saturday evenings.





Country/City **University / School**

Warsaw University of Life Sciences Academic year

Title of the project

Authors

2024/2025 The Wood Wisdom: A therapeutic journey for mental wellness Zuzanna Kolasińska



Title of the project	The Wood Wisdom: A therapeutic journey for mental wellness
Authors	Zuzanna Kolasińska
Title of the course	Diploma
Academic year	20024/2025
Teaching Staff	dr inż. Izabela Myszka
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University / School	Warsaw University of Lifesciences



Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

The project applies the principles of natural intelligence by creating a therapeutic path in Bemowo Forest, balancing human well-being with environmental respect. Located on the border of Warsaw's Bemowo district and the Stare Babice municipality, the concept is based on site analysis, infrastructure inventory, vegetation studies, and field observations. Nature's intelligence is expressed through forest therapy, sun therapy, and Zen-inspired practices, harnessing its innate healing power. Trees release phytoncides that reduce stress and boost immunity; sunlight supports vitamin D production and regulates circadian rhythms; Zen philosophy fosters mindfulness and calm. The design promotes mental, physical, and emotional balance while aligning with nature's rhythms.

The layout includes thematic zones reflecting user needs and nature's therapeutic potential. The Zen zone features wooden platforms for meditation and yoga, inspired by Zen gardens. The recreation zone encourages social interaction with benches, movable seating, and platforms built around existing trees, enabling gatherings immersed in the forest. The sensory zone stimulates multiple senses using wood, gravel, sand, and concrete, offering swings, ramps, and tactile games for mindful exploration.

Accessibility was a key focus, ensuring inclusive experiences for all. Wooden walkways intersect organically shaped sensory trails, and rest areas include hammocks, tables, and spaces for group activities. Through minimal ecological disturbance, sustainable materials, and thoughtful design, the project embodies natural intelligence—harmonizing human presence with nature's wisdom to foster health, connection, and care for the environment.

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Perception Unseen Localization The designed space for visually impaired children is located in the eastern part of the premises of the Society for the Care of the Blind, situated in Laski, within the Izabelin commune, near Kampinos National Park. The garden currently consists of a chaotic arrangement of vegetation, and apart from the plants, Idea The main goal of the therapeutic-educational garden is to support children, especially those with visual impairments, in developing spatial orientation, locomotion, and body awareness. The space is designed to encourage movement and stimulate key senses such as kinesthetic, olfactory, and auditory—crucial for blind or visually impaired children. It aims to be a safe, engaging, and accessible environment throughout the year, promoting play, learning, and therapeutic development while supporting their physical, emotional, and social growth Functional and spatial arrangement recreation zone quiet zone walking zone smell zone representative zone walking and educational zone circulation area A sensory wall made of natural materials A passage under a pergola with climbing A sensory wall made of metal plates mounted on the building's wall, designed to engage touch and sound through varied textures and tones. plants and hanging bells that gently like wood slices, bricks, and plants, chime, serving as a gateway and aiding designed to engage touch and sight

Country/City **University / School Academic year** Title of the project

Authors

Poland/Warsaw

Warsaw University of Life Sciences - SGGW

2024/2025

Perception Unseen

Agata Lewandowska, Franciszek Mieteń



through varied textures

visually impaired people through sound.

Title of the project
Authors Agata Lewandowska, Franciszek Mieteń

Title of the course Diploma
Academic year 2024/2025
Teaching Staff dr inż. Ewa Kosiacka-Beck
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University / School Warsaw University of Life Sciences



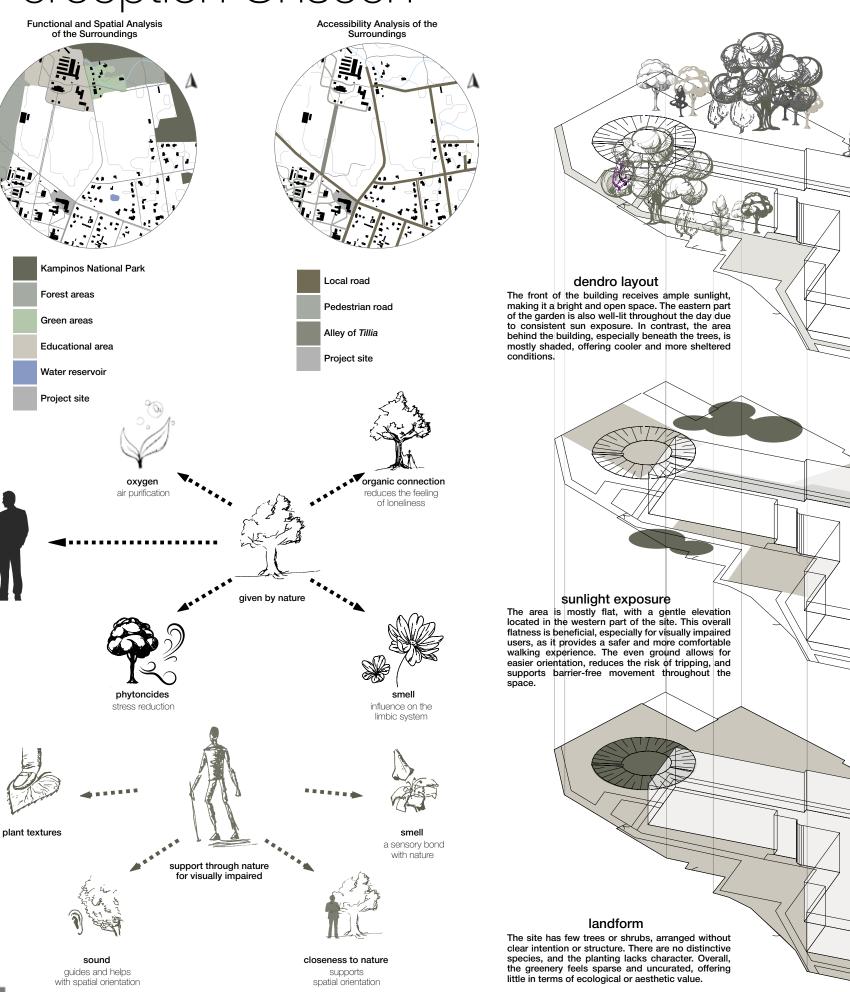
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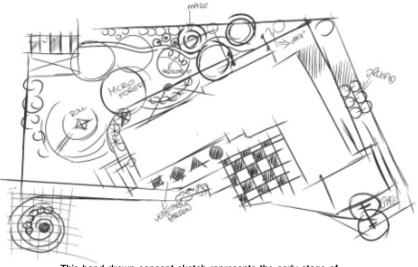
Verdant Senses is a multisensory healing environment where plants become intelligent agents of emotional and physical restoration. At the heart of the experience is the natural emission of phytonoides—volatile compounds released by trees and other plants. These invisible messengers travel through the air, calming the nervous system, lowering cortisol levels, and gently reducing stress and anxiety. Touch is central to the project: curated plant textures, both soft and rough, invite visitors to engage with nature through their fingertips. These tactile experiences are intentionally arranged to guide visually impaired individuals through space, allowing them to sense boundaries, directions, and transitions using touch alone. In addition, aromatherapy is seamlessly integrated throughout the environment. Scents such as lavender, pine, and eucalyptus are carefully diffused, directly stimulating the limbic system, the brain's emotional center. This olfactory design enhances mood, evokes memory, and promotes calm. Plants are also deliberately chosen for their ability to attract through fragrance and form, subtly drawing people into areas of rest, interaction, or reflection. The spatial layout emphasizes biophilic cues—curved paths, dappled light, and natural soundscapes—that ground the visitor in the present moment and foster connection with the living world. Perception Unseen is not just a garden—it is an interactive ecosystem that listens, responds, and heals. Whether through scent, touch, or the unseen chemistry of plants, the project redefines how nature and technology collaborate to restore human well-being.

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Perception Unseen

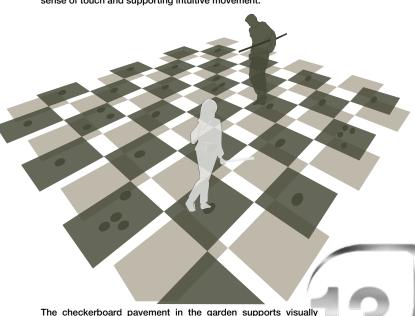




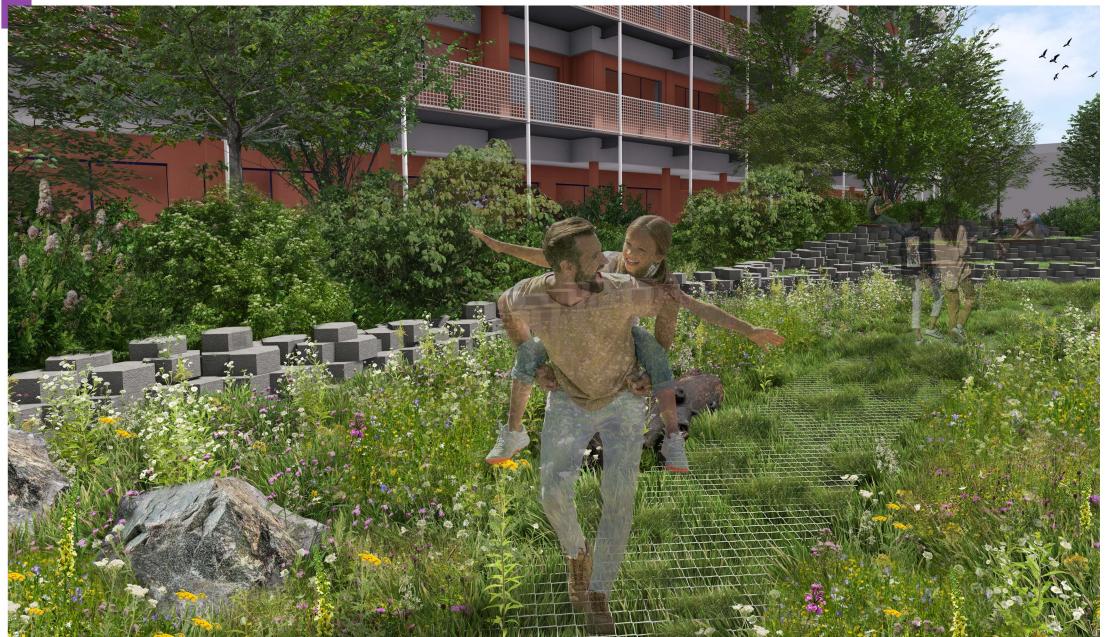
This hand-drawn concept sketch represents the early stage of the design process, where intuitive exploration of form and spatial relationships was guided by organic lines and fluid motion. The inspiration stemmed from the idea of tactile paths and natural rhythms — elements that evoke a sense of orientation and engagement beyond visual perception.



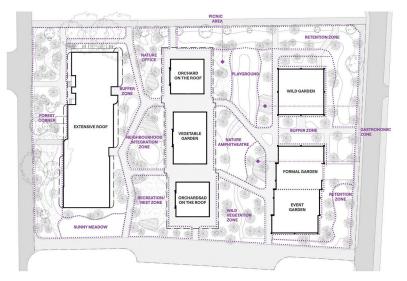
The sensory path is made of natural materials like wood chips and lined with tall grasses that gently guide by touch. Users can feel textures underfoot and interact with the plants, engaging the sense of touch and supporting intuitive movement.



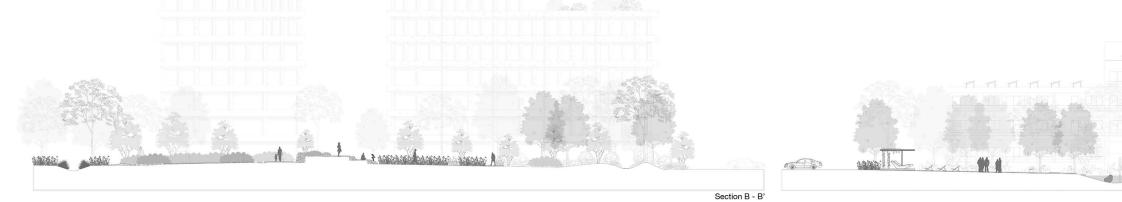
The checkerboard pavement in the garden supports visually impaired individuals in developing spatial orientation. The rhythmic arrangement of the surface encourages body awareness, movement coordination, and intuitive, safe exploration of space.



Relations. Neighbourhood changer







Section A - A'

Country/City **University / School** Academic year Title of the project Authors

Poland, Warsaw

Warsaw University of Life Sciences

2024/2025

Relations. Neighbourhood changer



Title of the project
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Relations. Neighborhood changer
Adam Dudek

Diploma
2024/2025

Teaching Staff
Department of Landscape Architecture

University / School
Warsaw University of Life Sciences

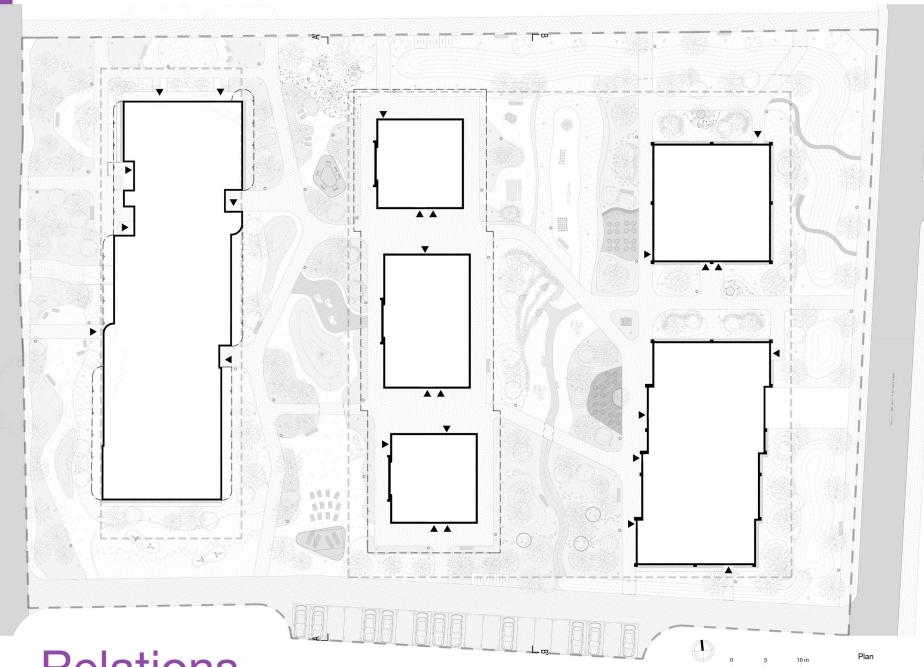


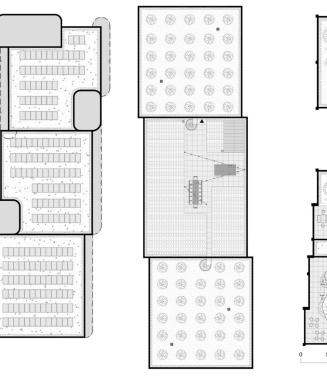
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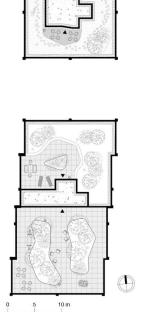
The intensifying phenomenon of climate change, observed through rising average annual temperatures and the increasing frequency of extreme rainfall, poses a growing threat to urban areas. Currently, the site at Księcia Trojdena Street in Warsaw is occupied by above-ground garages, which are to be replaced by four residential blocks with underground parking and green spaces in between. The concept behind the new neighbourhood was to design a sustainable, climate-adapted, and resident-friendly environment. Social acceptance is key to the project's success, which is why, in addition to solutions aimed at water retention, temperature reduction, and increased biodiversity, the design also incorporates numerous features that support residents in working, relaxing, engaging in recreation, and spending time together in green areas. The author aimed to create a place for neighbourly interaction, where nature remains close to the residents and enters into a meaningful relationship with them. The project successfully manages stormwater across the entire development area, introduces fully permeable surfaces at ground level, utilizes rooftop spaces, preserves all large existing trees on-site, and repurposes demolition materials for elements such as retaining walls and dry stream beds.

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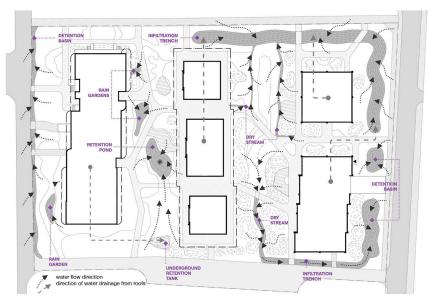
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Water retention and infiltration system in the neighbourhood

Relations. Neighbourhood changer



Site information

Location: Księcia Trojdena Street, Warsaw (Ochota), 3 km in a straight line from the city center Area: 10,436.65 m²

Greenery: 47 trees and shrubs

Current land cover: impermeable surfaces (64.41%), mainly garages and yards paved with concrete slabs **Designed buildings:** 4 (with underground garages)

Climate hazards in the neighbourhood*

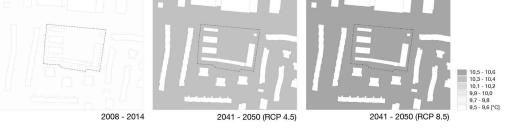
- Increase in the number of very hot days to approx. 45 by the mid-21st century — each day with a maximum temperature above 30°C results in 5 additional deaths in Warsaw

 Decrease in the number of days with maximum
- temperature below 0°C from the current approx. 35 days to approx. 25 by the mid-21st century
- Increase in the number of tropical nights from the current 5–6 to 11–12 by mid-century

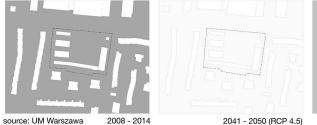
 Increase in the number of days with heavy rainfall
- per year from 12 to 15 (around 2050), and an increase in maximum daily precipitation above 80 mm/m² (causing flooding and disruptions)
- Decline in the number of species

*Data based on BAiPP (2018)

Changes in the average annual air temperature in the area of the neighbourhood



Changes in the average annual rainfall in the area of the neighbourhood



620,1 - 630,0 2041 - 2050 (RCP 8.5)

Selected implemented adaptation solutions

- Blue infrastructure (water retention and infiltration elements)
- Green roofs (intensive and extensive)
 Permeable surfaces Elements improving user comfort during heatwaves — fountain, water curtains, drinking
- fountain, and pergolas Vegetation adapted to the local habitat: trees (including fruit trees), shrubs, perennials, vine, wildflower meadows, flowerbeds, and a vegetable
- garden Photovoltaic panels
- Elements supporting biodiversity: decaying logs, erratic boulders, insect hotels, bird baths, and nesting boxes

Social aspect of the project's functioning

The estate concept includes numerous spaces designed to foster neighborly encounters and relationship building, encouraging residents to actively engage in co-creating and caring for the

Effectiveness of the proposed solutions

- Increase in the number of trees to 270 (an increase of 831.03%)
- Reduction of impermeable surfaces from the current 6,723.24m² to 384.04m² (a decrease of 94.29%)
- Biologically active area currently amounts to 1,426.32m², while in the proposed design it will be 7,723.25 m² (including a 50% coefficient for green roofs), representing an increase of 441.48%
- Decrease in average air temperature by 0.9 °C*
 17.825 m³ of rainwater retained annually*
- Reduction in energy consumption by 35.01%*
- Increase in biodiversity by an average of 45.66%
- *Calculated based on the simulation game



SOLARPUNK

RECLAIM THE FUTURE



Country/City **University / School Academic year** Title of the project **Authors**

Poland, Warsaw

Warsaw University of Life Sciences - SGGW 2024/2025

Solarpunk- Reclaim the Future

Klaudia Koszyk



Title of the project	Solarpunk- Reclaim the Future
Authors	Klaudia Koszyk
Title of the course	Diploma
Academic year	2024/2025
Teaching Staff	dr inż. Ewa Kosiacka-Beck,
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University / School	Warsaw University of Life Sciences - SGGW



Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

Our vision of the future dictates the one we build. Current narratives, often dominated by concrete and automation, need to evolve.

We must embrace a future where technology serves nature, rather than opposing it. This project, set at Warsaw's former Scientific and Technical Printing House, embodies this shift. Inspired by solarpunk principles, the design transforms a paved, post-industrial site into a thriving landscape of regeneration, community, and natural intelligence. The layout subtly references the original building and old railway lines, now repurposed as green corridors, honoring the site's history while looking forward. Natural processes are fundamental to its transformation. Bioretention swales manage runoff, climbing vines cool shaded areas, and semi-permeable surfaces crafted from salvaged concrete introduce new textures.

Technology is integrated thoughtfully: solar lighting and energy-generating bicycles for an open-air cinema are not spectacles, but rather quiet facilitators. The space is designed to foster human connection and ecological awareness. Zones for rest, interaction, and learning are carefully planned. This includes seating arrangements that encourage conversation, edible community gardens for education, flexible dining areas, and shaded nooks. Each element promotes participation, strengthening the bond between people and their environment. This project is more than just a design; it's a proposal for a new way to engage with the future—not as a distant concept, but as something we actively create, one space at a time. It's a tangible step towards a future already quietly taking root.

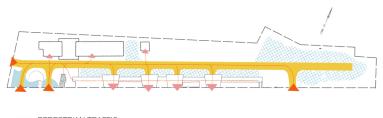
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SOLARPUNK

RECLAIM THE FUTURE

COMMUNICATION ANALYSIS



- PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC ▼ ENTRY TO THE STUDY AREA
- MAIN BUILDING ENTRANCE OTHER BUILDING ENTRANCE
- P OFF-SITE PARKING
- UNREGULATED PARKING ZONE
- PARKING
- VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

- CLEAR DELINEATION OF TRAFFIC ZONES
- RELOCATE CAR PARKING OFF-SITE. ADD BIKE AND E-SCOOTER PARKING GUIDELINES TO PROMOTE ECO-FRIENDLY
 - TRANSPORT. EMPHASIZE BUILDING ENTRANCES

PHYTOSANITARY ANALYSIS



GUIDELINES

- VRY GOOD HEALTH CONDITION
- GOOD HEALTH CONDITION
- MODERATE HEALTH CONDITION
- POOR HEALTH CONDITION

- INCREASE IN VEGETATION COVERAGE/SHARE
- IMPROVEMENT OF SOIL QUALITY
- REDUCTION IN THE PRESENCE OF INVASIVE PLANTS
- INTRODUCE NATIVE SPECIES

MATERIAL **ANALYSIS**

ART

NOUVEAU

ASYMMETRY

PLANARITY

LINEARISM

UPCYCLING

REPURPOSING

USING EXISTING

ELEMENTS

INSPIRATIONS OF JUGAAD

VISUAL **IDENTITY OF** SOLARPUNK AND

INSPIRATIONS:

LEARNING FROM



WITH URBAN ARCHITECTURE

CLIMBERS

RUDERAL PLANTS

CREATIVITY MAP

THIS PANEL VISUALIZES AN ITERATIVE DESIGN PROCESS, BORN FROM NATURAL INTELLIGENCE AND ARTISTIC SENSIBILITY. IT EXPLORES THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF SOLARPUNK IDEALS, EMPHASIZING CRUCIAL INSIGHTS GAINED FROM LOCAL CLIMATE ANALYSIS AND THE HUMAN CAPACITY TO INSTINCTIVELY PERCEIVE A PLACE'S AMBIANCE AND COLORS—A DEPTH BEYOND PURELY TECHNICAL ANALYSIS. THIS IS A LIVING COLLAGE OF SENSITIVITY TO ART, IDEAS, AND OUR PROFOUND CONNECTION WITH THE

> NTERGENERATIONAL JUSTICE LEGACY & REPAIRING PAST HARMS

PUBLIC ACCESS NON- HUMAN

JUSTICE ART & NARRATIVE AS TOOLS JUSTICE AS FOUNDATION

TECHNOLOGY IN SERVICE HARMONY WITH NATURE

INTERCOMMUNITY

INTELLIGENT, RESPONSIBLE SOLUTIONS

JUSTICE

RENEWABLES. AGROECOLOGY,

NATURAL INTELLIGENCE ALTERNATIVES

ECOSYSTEMS BIOMIMICRY & BIODESIGN

SOLAR PANELS,

HARNESSING REDUCED CARBON

NATURE'S WISDOM FOOTPRINT SELF-SUFFICIENT UNITS

> VALUING CRAFT & TRADITIONAL SKILLS

POST-APOCALYPTIC VISUAL EFFECT

BLENDING NATURE

BUILDING HOPE & ACHIEVABLE UTOPIAS **EDUCATION &** INCLUSIVITY ECOLOGICAL

EDUCATION

COMMUNITY

DECISION-MAKING PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

DECENTRALIZATION LOCAL PRODUCTION

FROM FORM

TO

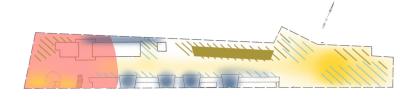
CONCEPT

ANALYSIS OF THE PLACE'S AMBIANCE

COLOR

ANALYSIS

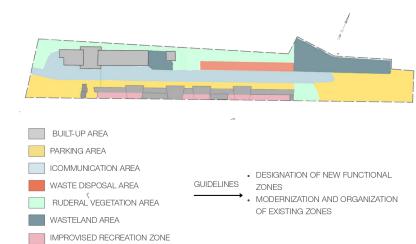
DISAMENITY ANALYSIS



- HEAVILY SHADED AREA
- HEAVILY SUNLIT AREA
- NOISE AREA IN THE 50-65 DB GUIDELINES
- WASTE STORAGE AREA
- LITTERED AREA
- SPONTANEOUS PARKING AREA

- · DESIGNATION OF A PARKING AREA
- REORGANIZATION OF THE WASTE
- SITE TIDYING
- BEDUCTION OF SUBFACE HEATING
- · MINIMIZATION OF NOISE NEAR
- CHODAKOWSKA STREET
- INCREASE IN LIGHTING
- REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS ELEMENTS

ANALYSIS OF CURRENT STATE OF PRESERVATION



NEW SPATIAL PLAN

