



 UrbanMetaMapping



UrbanMetaMapping Semester Talks: Winter Term 2023 via zoom, 11.00 - 12.00 (CET)

Registration via: talks.urbanmetamapping@uni-bamberg.de

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Tracing landscape transformations of pre-war housing estates on the example of Wrocław, Frankfurt, and Berlin

The scientific work concerns the landscape of housing estates designed and built before 1945 as part of the modernist trend. The subject of interest is their original state of development, post-war transformations, and the role of greenery and water in shaping urbanised spaces. The starting point for the research was the observation that the pre-war German housing estates were planned in a functional way, and with the use of solutions that would now be defined as the elements of blue or green infrastructure. Thus, the pre-war method of development is in line with the contemporary postulates of sustainable development and of "resilient" cities. The results of the research on the Wrocław housing estates confirm that the designers treated greenery as an integral element of urban planning, while subsequent transformations of the way the housing estates were of degrading character. The pre-war state of development is largely illegible and can be reconstructed on the basis of archival materials, most of which have not been studied so far. Discovering the past method of urban planning is possible with the use of the comparative cartometric research method. It consists of juxtaposing sources from different times: aerial photos and topographic maps, in comparison with original projects. Part of the study was comparative research of housing estates from the same period in Wrocław, Berlin, and Frankfurt am Main. The research question asked was whether blue and green infrastructure solutions are local or can be brought to certain repetitive patterns of land development. Research on landscape transformations of residential estates of the interwar period through the prism of contemporary urban planning needs is a topic that has not been fully described so far and is a supplement to the research on the architecture of these estates described in the literature.



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