
Steffan Robel

Bürgerpark Weinstadt — Blending Park and Landscape into Smart Park

Abstract

The perception of landscape is a reflection of our pluralist society; a perception spanning the breadth of society is no longer possible today. Over the ages people's association with landscape has also undergone transformation. From the standpoint of the Anthropocene, the human era with its culturally altered environment, two postulates can be derived. The first is that city and landscape are no longer opposites; indeed, landscape is becoming a functional component of the city. The second is that everything is designed by humans and has a cultural, artistic basis. In practice, this dissolution of the oppositional relationship between city and landscape creates the possibility of allowing landscape and nature to become functional components of the city. Following from the discussion of the *Smart City*, this new typology has appropriated the term "Smart Park" — a hybrid open space that collocates various functionalities. In practice, several examples combine the park's classic role of recreation with additional, functional benefits. A further aspect that influences the planning of contemporary parks is the strong demand for civic participation in our individualized society. As for *Bürgerpark Weinstadt* (literally, *Citizens' Park Weinstadt*), the realization of the presented design was accompanied from the beginning by comprehensive civic involvement. The hybrid park gives the administrative amalgamation of five villages a common, identity-inspiring, green center, where recreation and productive agriculture combine in a bold framework to form the *Smart Park*.

Keywords

Smart Park, Anthropocene, Hybrid Park, Citizens Park, Participation