

HUS FORWARD!

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atelier rehwaldt
medium scale
LS 2023 | 2024

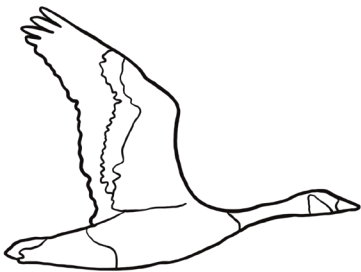
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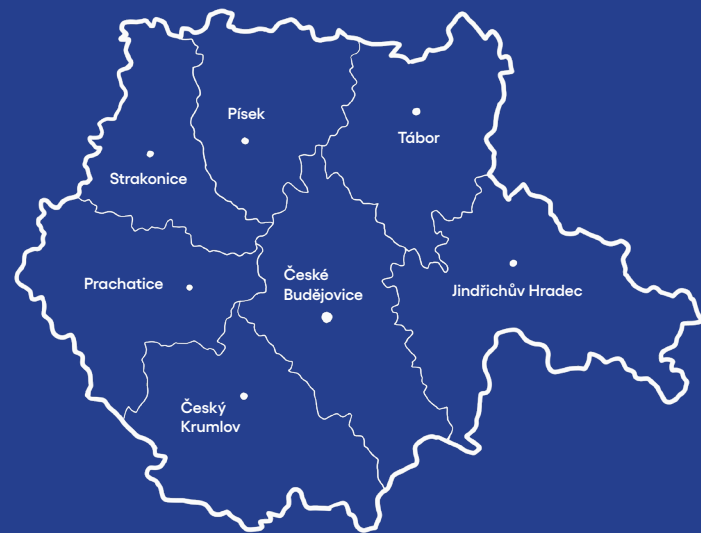
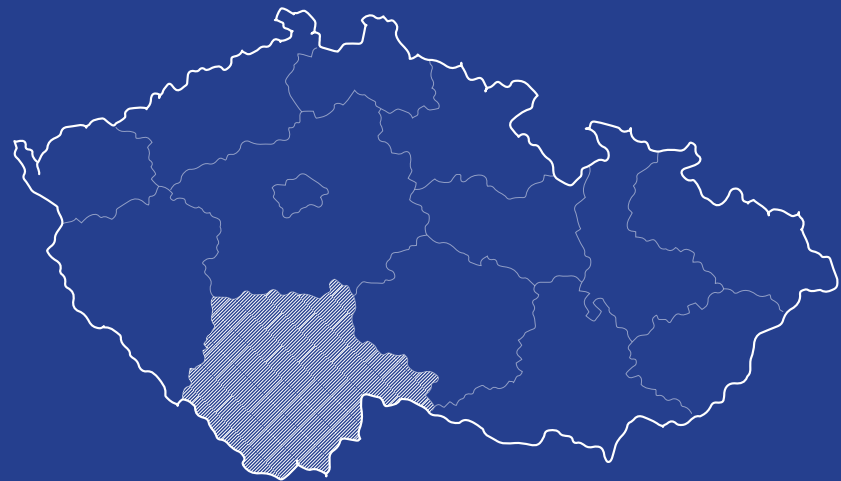
design

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analysis

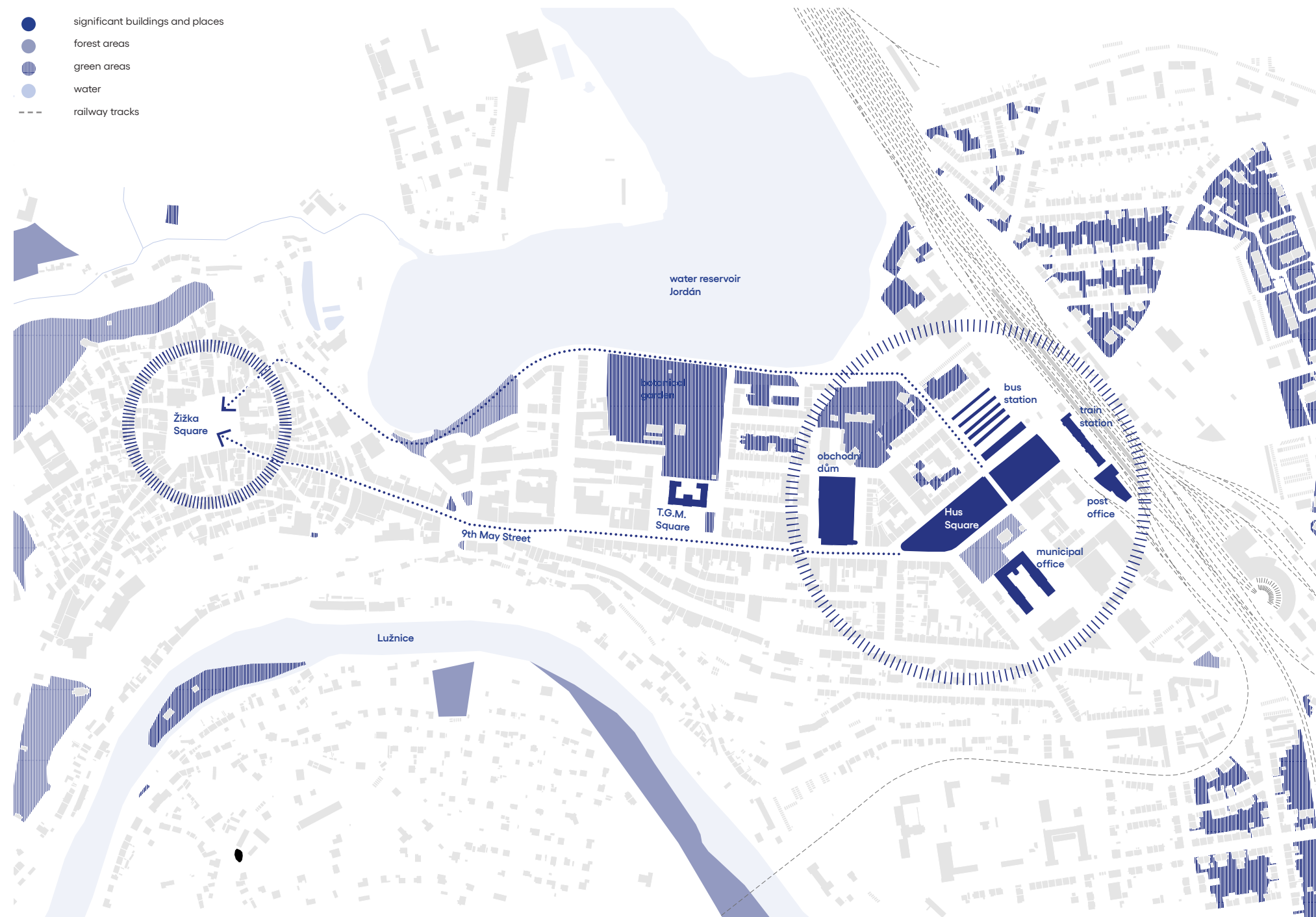




The town of Tábor is the second largest town in South Bohemia with more than 35,000 residents, and it has become an important transportation, economic, and cultural center of the region. It lies on the Lužnice River. The historic center is a protected area, not only for its Gothic street structure. Tábor is an important road and rail junction as well as a regional center for tourism. Visitors are particularly interested in the history of the Hussite movement, as it was the Hussites who founded the town in 1420.

The town center is composed of three main squares: in the historic core, there is Žižka Square, in the "new town," whose development is directly related to the introduction of the railway, there is Hus Square, and connecting them on 9th May Street is Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk Square.

Hus Square is the symbolic gateway to the town and a transit point, in direct contact with both the bus and train stations. Additionally, the post office and the municipal office are located here. An important connection to the historic core is also the more natural path around the Jordan reservoir.







1920?



1935?



1910-20?

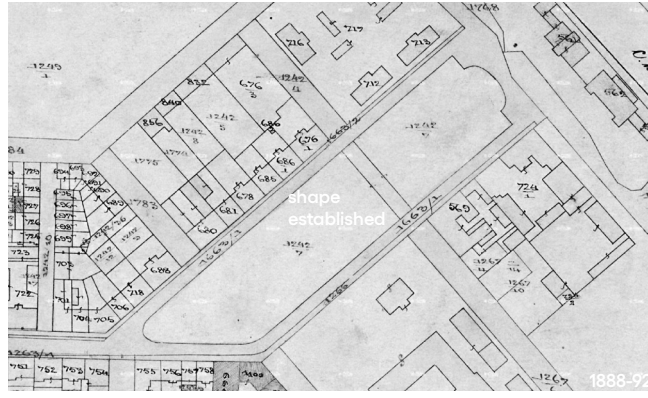
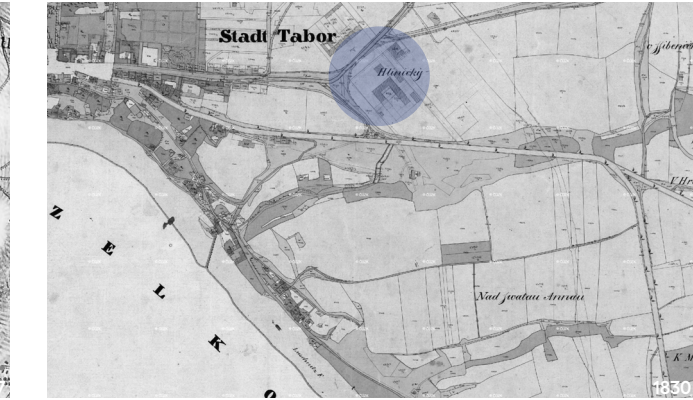


The creation of the park is directly related to the introduction of the railway to Tábor in the first half of the 19th century and the subsequent development of the new town, which needed its own central space. The layout is typically block-style. In the cadastral map from 1888-92, we can see the formal establishment of the park. Originally, the park was founded as an arboretum, a collection of living trees and shrubs. There is also an apparent connection to the typology of the English park, with an effort to retreat into nature, walk around, admire, and isolate oneself from the mundanities of the modern industrial city. The section towards the center had a more square-like character with a bosquet.

The statue of Jan Hus by sculptor František Bílek was added to the park in 1928. The monument is meant to commemorate significant historical events that greatly influenced the history of Tábor, an open book of Hussite history. A centrally led path was created for it, and the section was incorporated into the park.

The first significant change in the area was the construction of the bus station in 1965, which brought increased traffic and divided the park into two parts with a road. Probably in the 1990s, the most significant changes occurred, with paths being repaved with concrete tiles. The park began to isolate itself even more from its surroundings.

Today, we can see that the park is not well-maintained, and the passage of time has left its mark on the planting of trees and shrubs without much planning. What was originally a representative space has become a place people prefer to avoid. The original glory is only recalled by the old mature trees in the central part of the park.





All tourist routes in Tábor pass through the square. The blue, green, and yellow routes start at the train station. The red route here is part of the Central European long-distance trail Via Czechia, which is 569 km long, and it is also the starting point of the South Bohemian Way of St. James, which is 213 km long and continues through Europe to Santiago de Compostela. Thus, it is a very significant tourist spot, also in terms of the town's history.

Mobile transportation today creates a noticeable barrier for pedestrians in the area. Another obstacle is the parking, which now extends around almost the entire perimeter of the streets. Crosswalks often do not seamlessly connect to the sidewalks. The busiest intersections are certainly those in front of the train station. Here, pedestrians from various directions mix with moving cars, parked cars, and buses. Traffic is mostly one-way but not very logically arranged. The current traffic solution further isolates the park from its surroundings, making it almost an inaccessible island.

potential vegetation

We are located on the border between the oak-hornbeam forest and the beech/fir-oak forest.

beech/fir-oak forest

Structure and species composition: consist of stands dominated by pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) with an admixture of silver birch (*Betula pendula*), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), sessile oak (*Quercus petraea* s. lat.), and many species typical of North European boreal forests: downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), trembling aspen (*Populus tremula*), European rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia* subsp. *aucuparia*), and possibly Norway spruce (*Picea abies*). In the shrub layer, alder buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*) is often present. The herbaceous layer is dominated by purple moor-grass (*Molinia arundinacea*), occasionally accompanied by quaking grass (*Carex brizoides*), along with species typical of moist acidic soils such as common loosestrife (*Lysimachia vulgaris*) and tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*). A moss layer is regularly developed.

Ecology: Shallow depressions, plateaus, undrained shallow valleys in lowlands and foothills, typically between 200 and 400 meters above sea level, occasionally in shallow depressions amidst acidophilous beech forests at elevations around 450 meters. The soil type consists of intermittently moist, highly acidic pseudogley or pseudogleyic cambisols, temporarily waterlogged by stagnant precipitation water and highly prone to drying out during dry summers or autumns.

oak-hornbeam forest

tructure and species composition: Forests predominantly consisting of common hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), sessile and pedunculate oak (*Quercus petraea* s. lat. and *Q. robur*), with frequent admixtures of small-leaved lime (*Tilia cordata*). In the shrub layer, there are lower individuals of canopy trees and other species such as dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), and fly honeysuckle (*Lonicera xylosteum*). In the herbaceous layer, the liverwort (*Hepatica nobilis*) has particularly significant indicative value, along with other woodland species such as wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*), wall hawkweed (*Hieracium murorum*), spring vetchling (*Lathyrus vernus*), nutgrass (*Melica nutans*), wood meadow-grass (*Poa nemoralis*), lungwort (*Pulmonaria officinalis* s. lat.), and tansy ragwort (*Tanacetum corymbosum*). The moss layer is sporadically developed.

Ecology: Nutrient-rich, typically deep soils on slopes and plateaus in warmer regions. The substrate consists of various types of rocks, ranging from acidic crystalline rocks to limestone, shale, and even Tertiary and Quaternary sediments. On heavier soils, localized waterlogging may occur. (river Lužnice)

portal.nature.cz



geology

Within the park area, there are two geological substrates. The first is composed of clays, clayey sands, diatomite, and diatomaceous earth. Diatomite is a rock composed of at least 40% microscopic silica shells of diatoms (algae). Silica is a valuable resource. The second substrate consists of pararula and migmatite, which are not very significant metamorphic rocks.

arcgis.com

soil types

The soil type across the entire area is gleic luvisol. Given the presence of clays in the geological substrate, the presence of gleization is not surprising. These soils are less valuable in terms of productivity compared to modal luvisols. They are utilized both agriculturally and for forestry, mostly with spruce stands nowadays. The humus horizon typically has a thickness of only a few centimeters. The pH ranges from 4 to 5, indicating that it is slightly acidic according to the scale.

mapy.geology.cz

phytogeography

The region falls within the Czech-Moravian Mesophytic Zone. It forms a transition between the warm-loving and cold-loving flora and occupies the largest part of the territory. It includes the supracolline (hill) and submontane (foothill, upland) levels.

In the lower altitudes of the mesophytic zone, climax communities of oak-hornbeam, lime, pine, and fir forests can be found. In certain altitudes and on some extreme habitats, communities with species from warmer or colder (northern) vegetation zones occur

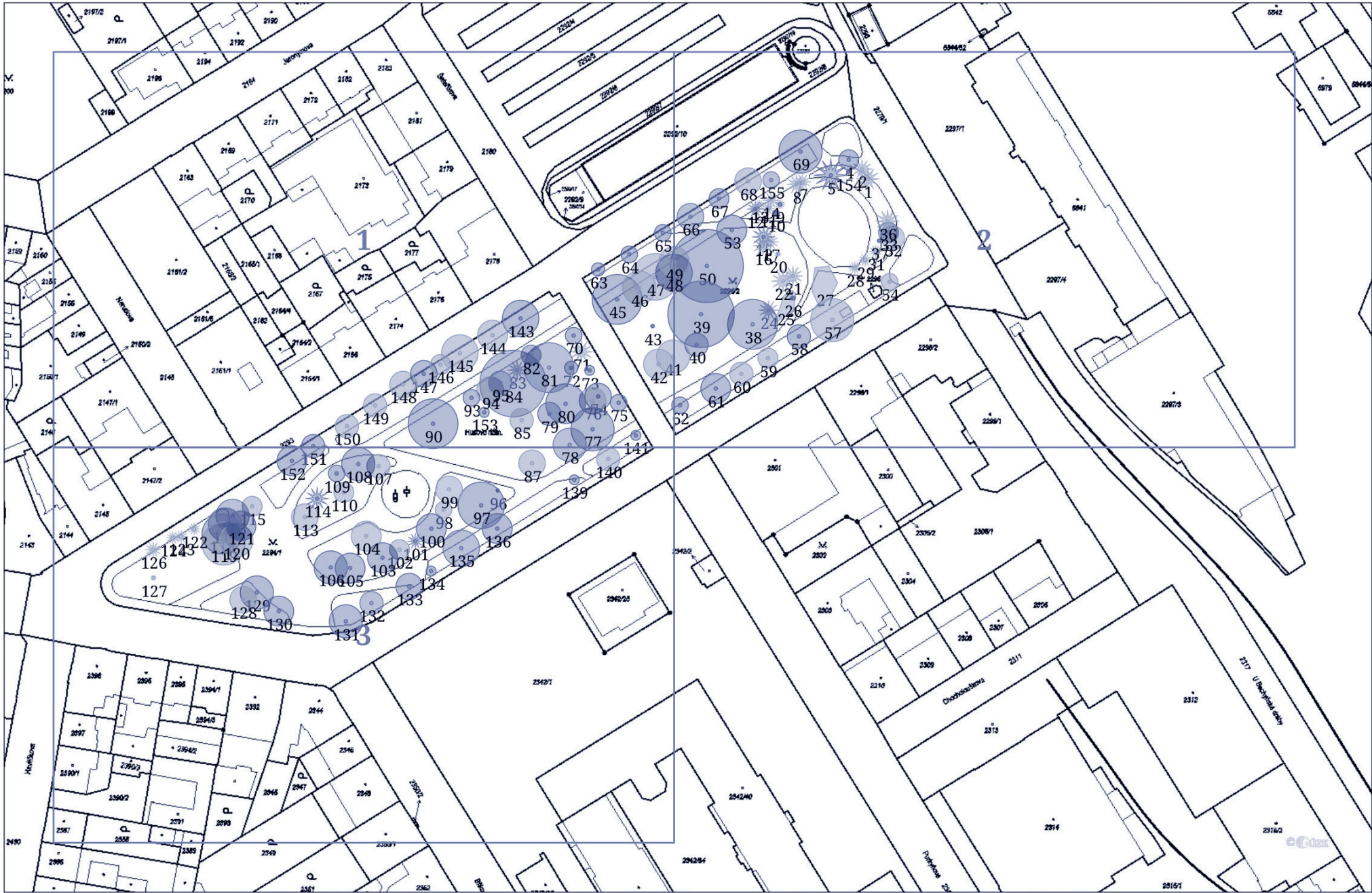
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climate

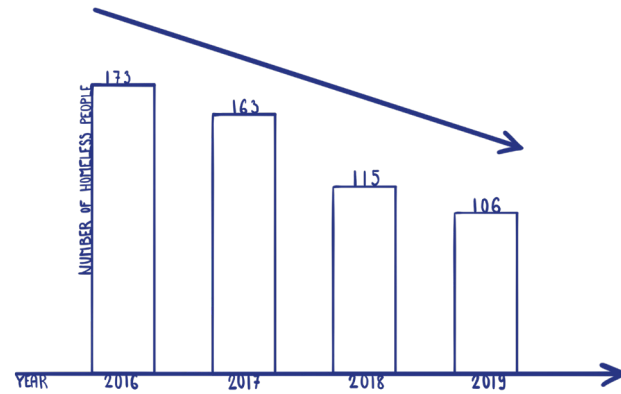
According to the Quittová climate classification, Tábor falls into the MT7 category (mild temperate climatic region). Spring is short and mild, summer is mild, moderately dry, and typically long, autumn is short and mild, and winter is mildly cool, dry to moderately dry, and typically long.

počet letních dní	30-40
počet dní s prům. teplotou 10 +	140-160
počet dní s mrazem	110-130
prům. počet dní se srážkami 1mm+	100-120
suma srážek ve vegetačním období	400-450
suma srážek v zimním období	250-300
počet dní se sněhovou pokrývkou	60-80?
počet zatažených dní	120-150
počet jasných dní	40-50

http://moravske-karpaty.cz



01	Pinus nigra	74	Tilia platyphyllos	143	Tilia cordata
02	Pinus nigra	75	Tilia cordata	144	Tilia cordata
04	Malus sp.	76	Tilia platyphyllos	145	Tilia cordata
05	Pinus nigra	77	Acer platanoides	146	Carpinus betulus
07	Pinus nigra	78	Acer platanoides	147	Acer ginnala
08	Pinus nigra	79	Tilia platyphyllos	148	Tilia cordata
09	Ginkgo biloba	80	Robinia pseudoacacia	149	Tilia x euchlora
10	Fagus sylvatica "Dawyck Purple"	81	Quercus rubra	150	Tilia cordata
11	Pseudotsuga menziesii	82	Fagus sylvatica	151	Carpinus betulus
12	Pseudotsuga menziesii	83	Pseudotsuga menziesii	152	Tilia cordata
13	Pseudotsuga menziesii	84	Quercus rubra	153	Acer platanoides "Crimson King"
14	Pseudotsuga menziesii	85	Tilia cordata	154	Fagus sylvatica "Dawyck Purple"
15	Pinus nigra	87	Betula pendula	155	Malus sp.
16	Abies concolor	90	Acer platanoides "Schwedleri"		
17	Pinus ponderosa	93	Acer tataricum		
20	Abies grandis	94	Tilia platyphyllos		
21	Taxus baccata	95	Tilia cordata		
22	Taxus baccata	96	Ginkgo biloba		
24	Pinus sylvestris	97	Quercus rubra		
26	Ginkgo biloba	98	Acer ginnala		
28	Picea Omorika	99	Quercus palustris		
29	Picea Omorika	100	Acer tataricum		
31	Picea Omorika	101	Taxus baccata		
32	Malus sp.	102	Gleditsia triacanthos f. inermis		
33	Malus sp.	103	Gleditsia triacanthos		
36	Pinus nigra	104	Liriodendron tulipifera		
37	Fagus sylvatica "Dawyck Purple"	105	Tilia platyphyllos		
38	Acer platanoides	106	Tilia cordata		
39	Quercus robur	107	Acer tataricum		
40	Acer platanoides	108	Platanus x hispanica		
41	Tilia platyphyllos	109	Acer rubrum		
42	Tilia platyphyllos	110	Liriodendron tulipifera		
43	Betula pendula "Fastigiata"	113	Acer saccharinum		
45	Quercus rubra	114	Taxus baccata		
46	Fagus sylvatica	115	Tilia cordata		
47	Platanus x hispanica	116	Tilia cordata		
48	Acer platanoides	117	Tilia cordata		
49	Acer platanoides	118	Tilia x euchlora		
50	Acer platanoides	119	Tilia x euchlora		
53	Tilia platyphyllos	120	Tilia x euchlora		
54	Tilia x vulgaris	121	Tilia cordata		
57	Tilia cordata	122	Abies concolor		
58	Tilia cordata	123	Abies concolor		
59	Tilia cordata	124	Abies concolor		
60	Tilia cordata	126	Abies concolor		
61	Tilia cordata	127	Ginkgo biloba		
62	Tilia x vulgaris	128	Tilia x euchlora		
63	Tilia x vulgaris	129	Tilia cordata		
64	Tilia x vulgaris	130	Tilia cordata		
65	Tilia x vulgaris	131	Tilia cordata		
66	Tilia cordata	132	Acer tataricum		
67	Tilia platyphyllos	133	Tilia cordata		
68	Tilia x euchlora	134	Tilia cordata		
69	Tilia platyphyllos	135	Tilia cordata		
70	Fagus sylvatica sv.	136	Tilia cordata		
71	Pinus nigra	139	Quercus robur "Fastigiata"		
72	Acer saccharinum	140	Tilia cordata		
73	Amelanchier arborea	141	Tilia cordata		



The current park has a safety problem. Due to its lack of visibility and dark corners, it is an ideal place for homeless people to gather, who often stay overnight at a nearby hostel. Although the number of these people is gradually decreasing, new challenges are emerging in the area. Newspapers are particularly writing about child gangs. Locals prefer to avoid the place. Social segregation, but in reverse. However, public space should allow for the coexistence of all groups. Natural social control is a tool more powerful than the police.



S

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rainwater management
better connection with streets and transport station
space for intergenerational relationships
creation of a meeting place
traffic under control
decrease of parking spots
shared space

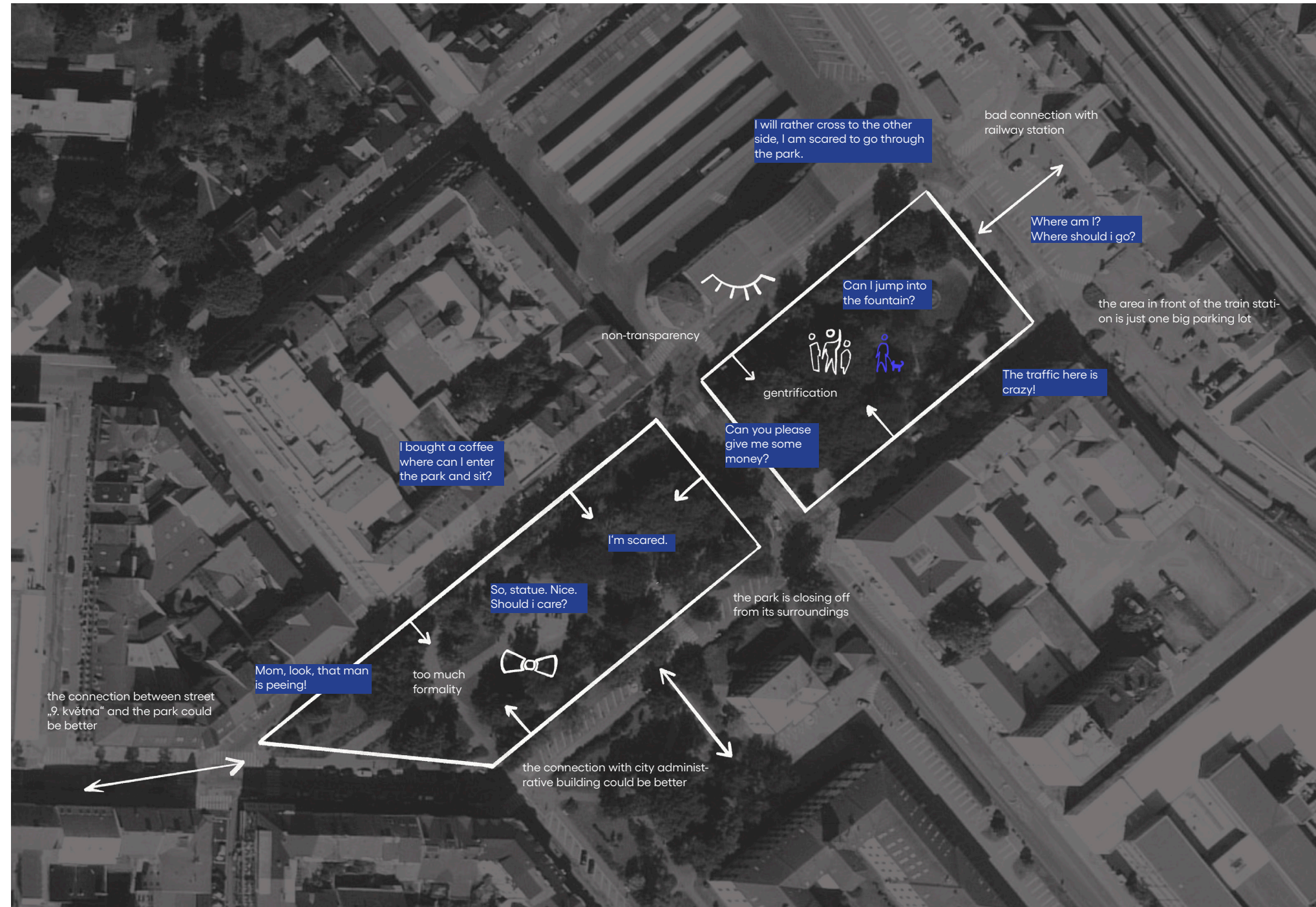
high diversity of trees --- arboretum
various age of trees
central location in the city
big potential hidden inside
town gate

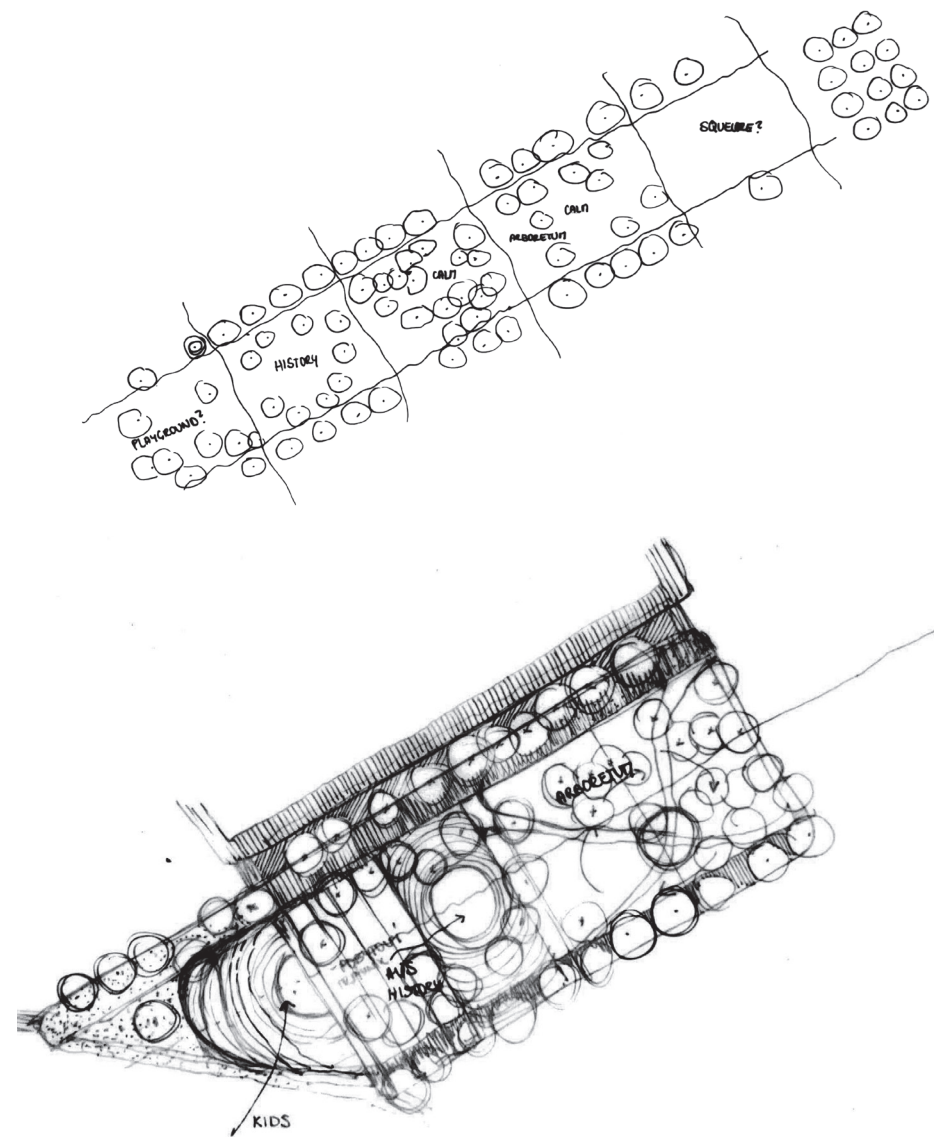
unsteady social situation
aging and overgrowing of vegetation
gentrification
transportation prioritized over people
negligence

separation from the streets --- one big roundabout
only passive activities inside of the park
lack of maintenance
nobody is crossing through
high intensity of transport mobility
the visibility throughout the park is very low
lack of light

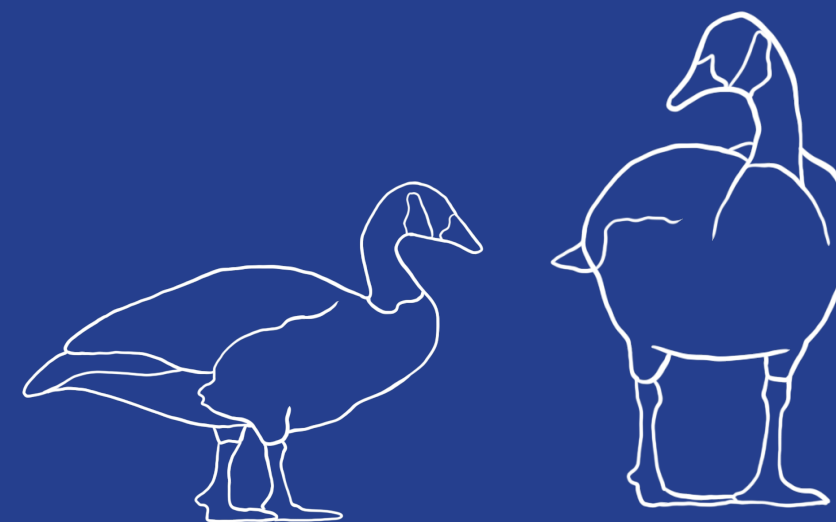
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design





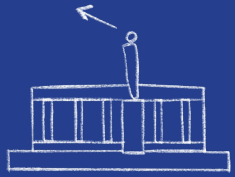
rainwater management



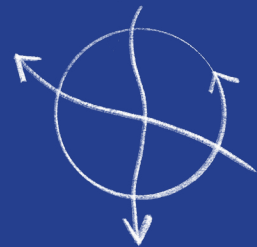
priority of people
over transportation



respect for existing trees
+ planting new one



link to the past



through
and around



visibility
transparency



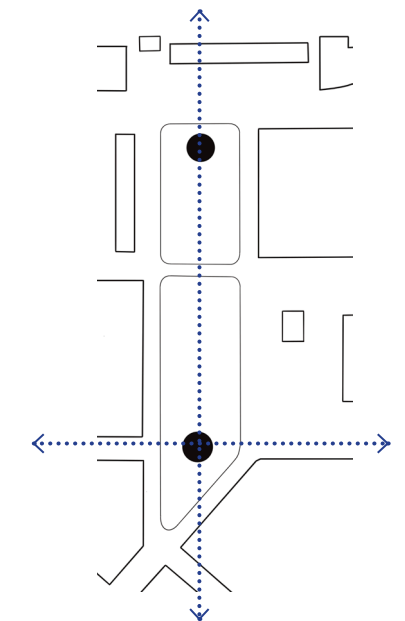
meeting point



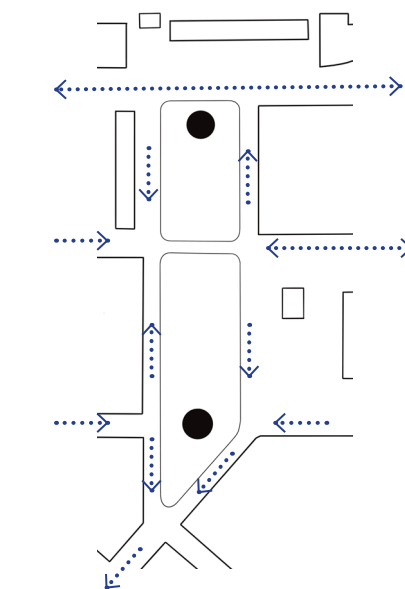
creating atmospheres
and spaces

The key concept of the design is to unite the currently physically and visually separated areas. This involves creating one large, single-level space, serving as a dignified symbolic gateway to the city. The design focuses on visual openness, enhancing light and enabling movement within and around the area. It aims to streamline traffic and prioritize pedestrians over mobile vehicles, while respecting the current values of the park, including the century-old trees and the Jan Hus Memorial, and complementing them with contemporary elements. A lively street frontage that directly interacts with the park creates a functional shared space. The design fosters activity, habitation, and the division into busier and quieter zones. These are the main principles guiding the proposal.

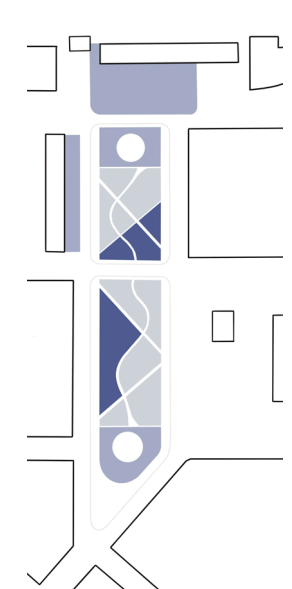




geometry
A significant change is the relocation of the memorial to Master Jan Hus. From its somewhat obscure position inside the park, it has been moved forward. The current location, at the notional intersection of axes with a view directed towards the city center, emphasizes the importance of this figure for Tábör.

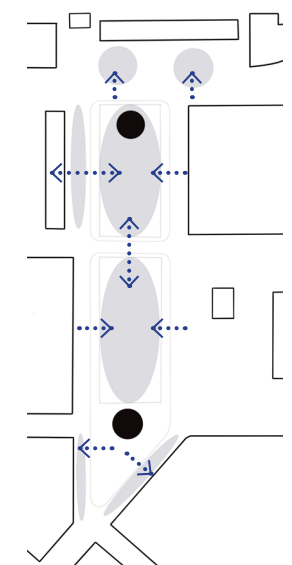


mobility
The traffic scheme remains essentially the same as the current state. However, a significant change includes the reduction of the driving profile, removal of parking spaces, widening of sidewalks, and the conceptual addition of a parking garage in the area of the current parking lot.



functional zones

- squares
- calm areas
- active areas



rainwater management
Rainwater is channeled by slope from the paved areas towards the trees. Around the trees themselves, permeable surfaces are primarily used to direct the water straight to the roots.

In the design, I propose a slight thinning of existing trees, especially in the area in front of the station, which currently appears very dark and unfavorable due to the use of conifers. For the planting of new trees, *Acer saccharinum* is predominantly used, and *Platanus × hispanica* is utilized in front of the parking garage. Lawns are minimized compared to the current state and designated for recreational use. In other green areas, shade-tolerant perennial underplantings are used under the trees, flowering in various seasons, which will help retain water better in warm periods and simultaneously increase biodiversity in the area.



trees
Platanus x hispanica
Acer saccharinum

solitary plants
Carex pendula

group plants
Aster macrophyllus
Bergenia "Schneekuppe"
Campanula trachelium
Helleborus x hybridus
Hosta 'Frances Williams'
Smilacina racemosa

ground cover plants
Concallaria majalis
Vinca minor

bulbous and tuberous plants
Anemone blanda 'Blue Shades'
Anemone blanda 'White Splendour'
Eranthis hyemalis
Scilla siberica



I'm heading to the train. It's one of those summer days when the sun sets late, and everyone is still full of life. I pass by hikers with giant backpacks who seem to be heading for Via Czechia. Children are still playing in the water, waiting with their grandparents to board the train back home. It's time to go! End of people-watching.



Checkmate! shouts one of the men. I see them here every day, at the same time. They've got nothing to do, retirees. A group of friends is playing ping pong. We also regularly come to play after school. We've even tried petanque, but one has to mature for that. Today, I've come to read. I'll grab a book from the book dispenser and settle somewhere in the shade.

Today, I'm heading to Vlkov with my group to go cycling and sunbathe at the local sand quarry. On my way from home, I pass through Hus Park. The place is just buzzing with activity. There are cyclists everywhere, probably had the same idea as me. Normally, you also see lots of people on the street sipping coffee and enjoying those delicious pastries they have at the bakery on the corner. But it's still early in the morning, so the cake will have to wait a little while longer.



Boo! Who's there! Hey, pass the ball quickly! I might fall!
Wow, what a shot! Ouch, that hurts! Mom? Can we go for ice cream?





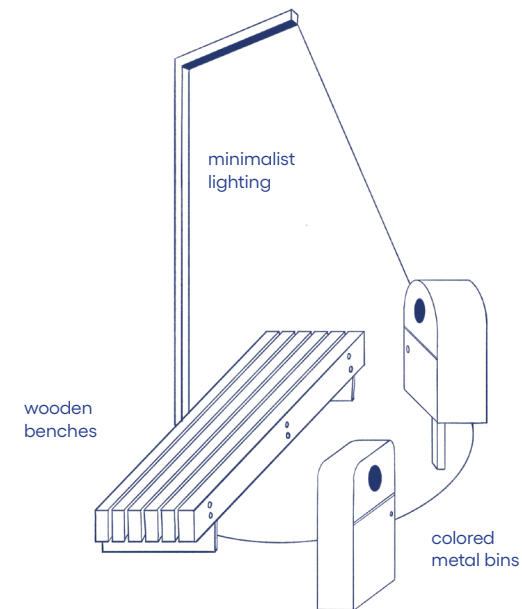
Today's atmosphere is simply delightful! The sun is shining brightly, casting a warm glow over the park. Everywhere you look, people are enjoying themselves—some are having picnics with delicious snacks like club sandwiches and hummus, while others are engaged in lively games of volleyball and frisbee. Laughter fills the air as friends and families come together to bask in the beautiful weather and create lasting memories.



A-A'
1:500



B-B'
1:500



mobiliar
The elements of the street furniture are as simple as possible to merely complement the overall complexity of the space.



materials
The materiality is chosen to be as neutral as possible. For the areas around existing trees with highly developed root systems, hoggin is chosen. Furthermore, granite cobblestones, wood mainly for furniture and play elements, metal for details and drainage channels, grass pavers, and classic cut paving are used in the design.

