

Integration of parks in the urban environment

91

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Abstract

Space Syntax methods have a huge potential for open space planning, both at the strategic and the design level. This project aims at the adaptation of space syntax for open space planning purposes. It is guided by two assumptions.

Firstly, Space Syntax analyses can give valuable information about the level of integration of parks in the urban environment and also about their usability for the public. Secondly, parks rely strongly on visitors to generate social control. Within parks, space syntax analyses identify areas of good integration and high intensity of use as well as segregated “no-go-areas”.

On both planning levels the appropriate means have to be identified in order to make space syntax a tool for open space interventions. On the city level the leading question is about the representation of parks in the urban structure. This can be as axial line(s), a path network, or maybe only adjacent streets. On the park level the focus lies on the inner structure of parks, the description of spaces as isovists versus axial lines, and the importance of changing vegetation and topography.

In the poster session studies of the city of Hamburg’s green structure are presented.

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91.1

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