“Green cities”: preservation, renovation and revitalization of emblematic urban areas through sustainable government and development

Kliment Ivanov
PhD Candidate, Assistant Professor
Department of Architecture
New Bulgarian University (NBU), Bulgaria
Old town, Prague, Czech Republic

“Stare mesto”
Old town, Prague, Czech Republic

“Stare mesto”
Old town, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

“Hissar Kapia”
Old town, Plovdiv, Bulgaria
Sustainable interventions in the city tissue

Scope
− Industrialised countries
− Large and middle-size cities
− In or near the city centre
− Mixed use areas - public or mixed residential

Reasons
− 75-90% of the European citizens live in the cities
− Concentration of culture
− Potential for development
City area schemes

Plovdiv
Map of the city

Old town
Central area
City boundary
Municipal boundary

Old town
City boundary
City area schemes

Concentric intermediate areas

Secondary city centres

Old town
Intermediate area
City boundary

Old town
Intermediate area
City boundary
Secondary city centres
Temporal scheme

- Renaissance
- 19th century
- Socialist 20th century
- Post-socialist 20-21st century
- Recent
- Contemporary
- Present and contemporary past
- Future

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Temporal architectural environment

- Renaissance
- 19th century
- Socialist 20th century
- Post-socialist 20-21st century
- Recent and contemporary past
- Future

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Sustainable architecture

Key questions

- What is sustainable architecture?
- How do we define sustainable architecture?
- Can we create sustainable architecture?
- Do we understand the process of creation of sustainable architecture?
Organization of architectural environment

Architectural environment

- Spacial context
  - Temporal context
  - Material imprints
  - Spiritual imprints
Sustainable architectural environment

Sense of place

- Memory
- Meaning
- Belonging

“My place” - my home, my house, my neighbourhood, my city

“The place where we can dwell rather than merely reside.”

P. Buchanan

Aliveness

“Quality, conveyed by the form and fabric of the building and spaces”

P. Buchanan
Approaches

- Find a place that already has accumulated memory
- Find a place that conveys aliveness through different pattern and composition
- Find a place that is endemic for this city
- Find a place that had already been alive, though with another type of activity
Approaches

Main street
Ivan Vazov Street, Plovdiv
Approaches

Small street
Plovdiv
New Concordia Wharf, London, UK

St Saviour’s Dock
Apartment house
Converted warehouse - loft

The first commercially developed lofts in London
50 loft apartments, 10 penthouses, 12 office units, 50 cars basement parking, 1 swimming pool
New Concordia Wharf, London, UK

St Saviour’s Dock
Apartment house
Converted warehouse - loft

- 1st Prize - The Times/RICS Conservation Awards
- Gold Medal - the Europa Nostra Conservation Awards
- The Civic Trust Award, presented by The Prince of Wales in 1987
New Concordia Wharf, London, UK
New Concordia Wharf, London, UK

Mill Street, London, SE1
3 bedroom flat
Converted warehouse - loft

Price: £3 750 000
New Concordia Wharf, London, UK

Mill Street, London, SE1
3 bedroom flat
Converted warehouse - loft

Sold
Tobacco Warehouses, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Warehouse 1

Warehouse 2
Tobacco Warehouses, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Warehouse 3

Warehouse 4
Tobacco Warehouses, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Warehouse 5

Warehouse 6
Tobacco Warehouses, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Warehouse 7

Warehouse 8
Tobacco Warehouses, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

“We see Tobacco Dock as a future priority because it is too large and important a site to be left standing empty. It is one of the most important buildings in London and if brought back into use it would reinvigorate the whole area.”

An English Heritage spokesman
Academic projects, NBU

“Nikotiana” Hotel - adaptation and reconstruction of tobacco warehouses, Plovdiv
Diploma project, Architecture Programme, New Bulgarian university (NBU)

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Thank you!

Kliment Ivanov
PhD Candidate, Assistant Professor
A  Department of Architecture, New Bulgarian University (NBU), Bulgaria
T  +359 2 8110 508, +359 899 899 471,
E  klivanov@nbu.bg
I  www.klimentivanov.com