



PIESBERG

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
SUMMER SCHOOL

2016



Hochschule Osnabrück
University of Applied Sciences

Facultad de Agronomía
Universidad de Buenos Aires

PIESBERG

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
SUMMER SCHOOL



HOCHSCHULE OSNABRÜCK
UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES



FACULTAD DE AGRONOMÍA
UNIVERSIDAD DE BUENOS AIRES



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EDITORIAL FACULTAD DE AGRONOMÍA
UNIVERSIDAD DE BUENOS AIRES

Damián, Pérez

Piesberg : landscape architecture summer school / Pérez Damián ; Martín Simonyan ; editado por Pérez Damián ; Martín Simonyan. - 1a ed. - Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires : Editorial Facultad de Agronomía, 2018.

Libro digital, PDF

Archivo Digital: descarga y online

ISBN 978-987-3738-18-0

1. Diseño del Paisaje. I. Simonyan, Martín II. Damián, Pérez, ed. III. Simonyan, Martín, ed. IV. Título.

CDD 712

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Director: Ing. Agr. Antonio J. Pascale



ISBN 978-987-3738-18-0



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INTRODUCTION

FOREWORDS

In many cultures, technological advances are often associated with a loss of cultural identity. In Landscape Planning and Design, the cultural identity or sense of belonging, is an inseparable component of the landscape that cannot be neglected during analysis and should be taken into consideration for its management.

Under this premise it becomes necessary in the education of future landscape architects to understand the diversity of cultural scenarios and ways of developing landscape throughout history.

In the context of increasing international ties and a growing exchange of teachers and students, the Landscape Planning and Design Program at University of Buenos Aires had a unique experience. A selected group of students and teachers visited a higher education institution with similar values and teaching objectives in Germany.

The visit was carried out aiming to analyze the landscape interventions in a Post-Industrial area, in a country that has a rich and ancient history compared to our young reality in Argentina.

The friendly environment, the aptitude of the teachers and the dedication of the participating students, allowed the institutions not only to fulfill the objectives set out for this activity, but also demonstrates the value in communication and respect for the mutual knowledge in collapsing the language barriers or the preconceptions with which cultural exchanges are often approached.

Dr. Héctor Rosatto

Landscape Planning and Design degree
sub chair, School of Agricultural Sciences,
Buenos Aires University

Workshops, motivation and learning process

One of the most asked reflexive questions a professor asks himself is: what is the best approach to get the students attention and focus on a specific topic? Likewise, universities as institutions have historically been willing to contribute, through research, to solve real society problems.

Educational sciences had also been questioning this for years. Group discussions, case study analysis, field trips, internships, and workshops are some of the diverse teaching strategies used in the field of landscape architecture that requires multiple learning opportunities and activities to challenge the students and confront them with real problems.

An intriguing theme, a definite — albeit open— problem statement and multiplicity of teachers and participants help to create the setting for an exciting learning opportunity. The workshop held in HS Osnabrück had all of these features, as well as variety in the students design practices, cultural context and site knowledge.

The BA in Landscape Planning and

Design program shared by the School of Agricultural Sciences and School of Architecture, Design and Urbanism of the Buenos Aires University, Argentina is the only undergraduate program in the field in the country.

Students of the program usually have a low exposition to international advances and experiences in the landscape architecture field, except for case study analysis during the courses. As a relatively new study program there has also been little contact with students and teachers from abroad, although there is an increasing interest both from students and faculty either to receive student from abroad or to take part in academic activities in different countries.

Germany is recognized as one of the leading countries in the discipline of landscape architecture, both in the areas of planning and design. There is also a lot of experience in planning and design of reclaimed areas; Argentina, on the other hand, has little to no planning tradition and very few examples of it in reclaimed areas.

Following reciprocal visits of faculty from both universities, the School of Agriculture from the Buenos

Aires University and the School of Landscape Architecture and Agriculture from HS Osnabrück signed an agreement of cooperation that would benefit both higher education institutions and facilitate the exchange of faculty, researchers and students.

The international workshop in landscape planning and design that took place in June, 2016 in Osnabrück allowed students from both programs to better know the culture, ideas and way of work of each other. It also made possible for the students from Argentina to know the specific cultural context in and by which the planning and design process take place.

Prof. Damián Pérez





Account of 10 rewarding days

Summary outlook

Flash, thunder and heavy rain welcomed our Argentinean guests as they stepped out of Osnabrueck Central on Thursday night the 26th of June. Fourteen college students and three professors of Buenos Aires University and two professors from Santa Fe University (Arg.) had arrived not just to visit Germany and Osnabrueck, but to participate in a workshop in collaboration with college students of the Hochschule Osnabrueck, Agriculture and Landscape architecture to work on the theme “Piesberg – Layout and increasing the attractiveness for recreation seekers after the economic use of the area”.

After we were able to accommodate our guests in the guest house of the university and a nearby hotel, we started the first days to get to know each other and also to gather inspiration: field trips to Varusschlacht, the horticultural show site in Bad Essen and a trip to the Ruhr area with Phoenix See, Halde Hohenwart and Zeche Zollverein were on the agenda.

After this interesting weekend we started on Monday with our workshop

to design the Piesberg area. Six groups of three to four students worked high concentrated on the concept for Osnabrueck’s highest mountain. After the first interim presentation the results were merged that the single groups could go on working on their focus. After five days hard work we presented our overall concept for the Piesberg. The workshop was accompanied by exciting presentations of our Argentinian and German professors. Not only landscape architecture itself was presented, but especially the Argentinian way, furthermore we get some information about eye tracking and research on green roofs.

After the working time we even found time to have some fun: we tested beer brewed in Osnabrueck and got to know the city’s medieval history on a tour with the nightwatchman.

After the final presentation on Friday afternoon we met each other at Professor Junker’s garden for the farewell party. With antipasti, noodles and tasty drinks we talked about the experiences and all agreed that the trip to Osnabrueck was a very fine event which gave us the opportunity to collect inspiration and a good mood for the future.

The closing event was offered as a two day trip to German capital Berlin. We started early Saturday morning to visit the landscape architecture studio “St raum a” and took a closer look to the Gleisdreieck. Professor Damian Pérez worked for three years in Berlin, so he could show us some really interesting spots of the main tourist strip. On Sunday and Monday we headed back home, most of the Argentinian students travelled on Europe.

Looking back we can say that these ten days, working with the Argentinians, was a benefit for all of us. Good mood, friendliness, straightforwardness, receptiveness and a team spirit prevailed in the workshop. Initial

inhibitions speaking English quickly disappeared, we helped us speaking with hands and feet or, landscapers way -with a quick drawing. The ease, humanity and light heartedness of the south american people remains in all of us.

Now - two months later - thinking back of the time we are still fascinated and impressed by the people, the shared experiences and the great results for the Piesberg. All these incredible memories will last for a long time.

Nadine Oestermeyer

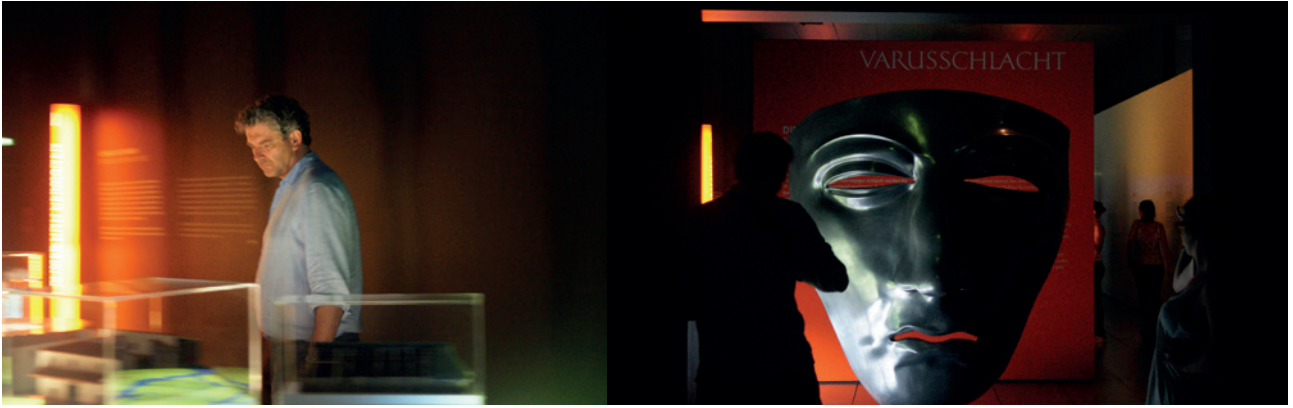




A photograph of an industrial facility, possibly a power plant or refinery, featuring a large walkway in the foreground, a body of water, and various industrial structures under a bright sky with lens flare.

JOURNEY & IMPRESSIONS

























PIESBERG

Piesberg

Past, present and future landscape

The Piesberg hill is located 5 km north from the center of Osnabrück city. It occupies an area of 400 hectares and reaches 188 meters above sea level. Mining activities had been modifying the landscape since 16th century and so profound are the landscape changes that even the hill is difficult to recognize as such today. In addition, the presence of three windmills cut out against the sky, tall slender shapes standing out from the hilltop, bestow the area a particular character, making it highly visible from the area around turning it into a landmark.

Numerous buildings still provide evidence of the mining activity. One of them is the Hase mine shaft building that now houses the Museum of Industrial Culture, where an elevator of glass leads the visitor 30 m into the depths helping illustrate one of the longest mining periods of the hill. Geological processes allowed, in turn, that some plants and animals from the Cretaceous era (70 million years ago) become fossilized when the rock was pushed up by a force from the depths



Windmill and overlook structure, Piesberg.

to the surface. Thus, Piesberg concentrates in the same site a rich million years geological history, an industrial heritage, active open pit mining all combined with clean energy generation all together within a natural looking green setting. These features corresponding to different levels: underground (mining and fossil extraction),



Fossil of the extinct plant species *Lepidodendron lycopodioides*, Piesberg. Wikipedia Commons, Public domain.

superficial (open pit mining, landfill) and above ground (wind farm), endow the site with a high future potential that should be taken into consideration.

As many of the industrial sites of the region, Piesberg will have the same destiny after the mining operation closes, its re-functionalization. Some questions become important then, such as: Which other uses and services may these huge industrial craters provide to the Osnabrück people and city? Should the landscape “scars” be left evident in it or should they be concealed? Should the industrial landscape be maintained or is it better to avoid leaving an industrial footprint in the history?

During the workshop these and other questions were put forward and tested by design and/or planning by the students of both universities. Detailed below are shown the results that were trying to address the questions.

Valeria Micou
Martín Simonyan

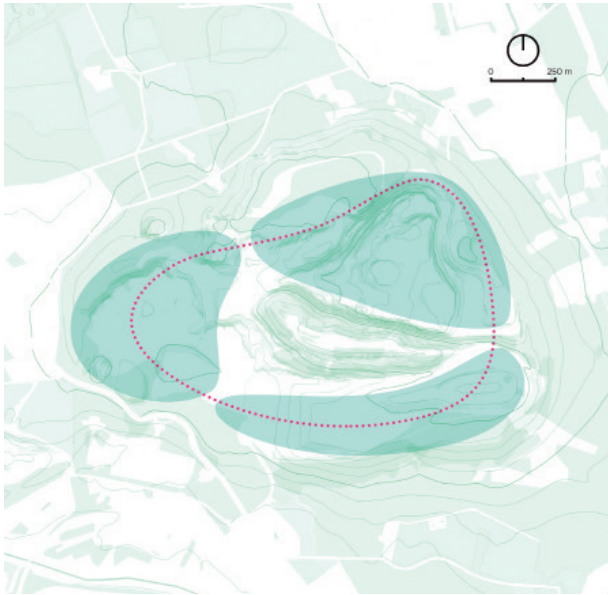




PROPOSALS

THE COAL WAY

Victoria Bergter, Tom Klawan, Florencia Rossi



Group 1 proposal area.

Our project is an intervention in Piesberg, the highest point near the city of Osnabrück, Germany. After visiting the area, we started to think about what to do in this place. It was a huge area, with great potential, with different activities going on and amazing views, so, we decided to show the people, through the project, the history of the place (considering

several years will pass by till the park can be constructed), but creating different programs with a reinterpretation of the landscape.

The synthesis of the idea, is the creation of three different parks connected with each other and also with the top of the mountain (“the heart”), by using distribution centers

Based on the current situation, where three things were going on: the landfill, the mining and the separation of the material; we decided, as it was mentioned, to separate the project in three parks, with three different uses. One, using the actual topography situation, we transformed it in a lake with various paths located in the levels created by the mining activity on the stone wall, connected by ramps. This will be a leisure area.

The second one, it's related to the movement of the material nowadays and the separation of it, so it is going to be a recreation park, with sports

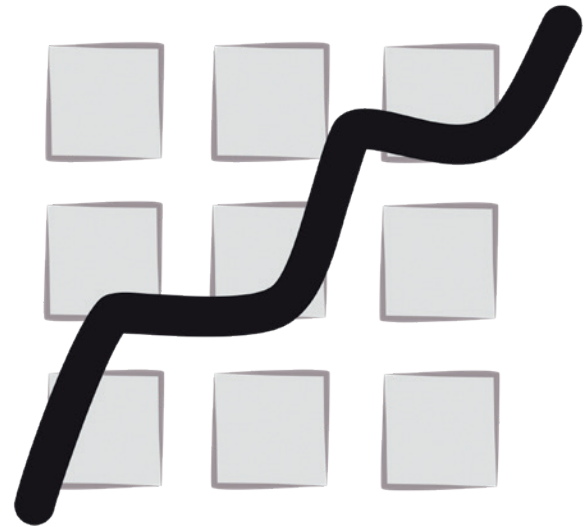
and active activities. The story of how the material was stored, will be appealed by leaving the small hills but made out of grass, and perhaps with a line where the material extracted of the quarry will appear.

The last park, as it is where the landfill is located, we decided to leave nature follow its natural course and become a meadow and leave the pipes of the methane gas, as a way to let people know what is underneath. So the reinterpretation of the landscape changes in every park, and is made out by the transformation of the levels in a lake, the modification of the hill's material and the methane sculptures.

Anyway, the main idea of our project lies on the development of three distribution centers that connect the entire park, and the top of the Piesberg Mountain.

The squares that connect everything, becomes a system by using the same morphology, nine blocks with different heights, inspired by the topography of the area and the repeating system of the three objects in the entire design: three parks, three squares, and so on. The first distribution center, is located in the main entrance, this structure is

HOW TO SOLVE THE CONECTIONS?



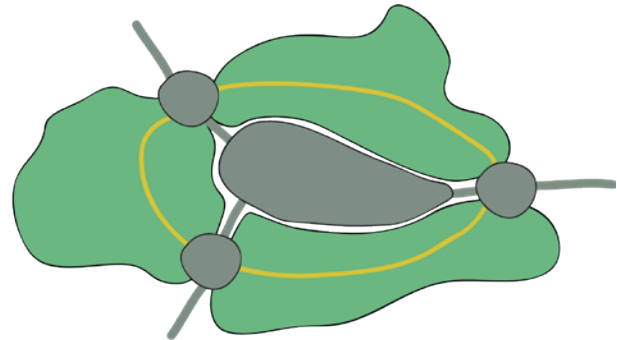
Conceptual idea.

used as a building, with all the facilities concentrated in there. The second one, located on one edge of the mountain, it is a sculpture that can be seen from far away, in the middle of the woods, creating the emptiness out of the fullness. Finally, the third one, connects the lake and the park with the hills, based on the same structure that creates a system of waterfalls, symbolizing both of the parks that are being brought together.

At the mountain top, there is a main axis where the windmills are located, and three platforms, looking to each

park, which are created to be used as staying areas to contemplate the landscape, with frames made out of the stone extracted from the mine, that are meant to make people see special focus points on the landscape surrounding Piesberg. In the main axis, there are also frames located but with no place to stay, so it is a more dynamic flow that leads the crowd to the platforms.

At last, the paths are treated in different ways. The ones that leads the people up to the top of the mountain,



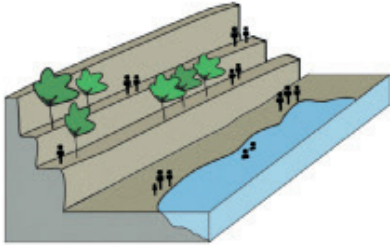
*"LIVE THE HISTORY...
...FEEL THE HISTORY"*

are straighter, while the ones that are meant to walk around the entire park, have a more curved morphology, because the flow can be slower.

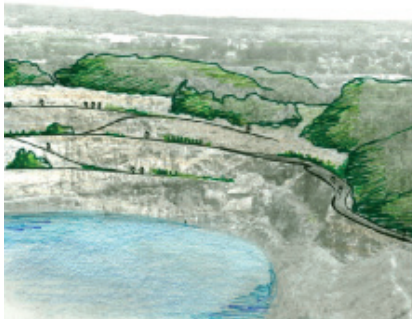




the CLIFF and LAKE



"FEEL THE CLIFFS and ENJOY THE CLIFFS"



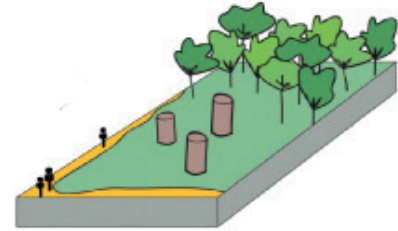
the ACTIVE PARK



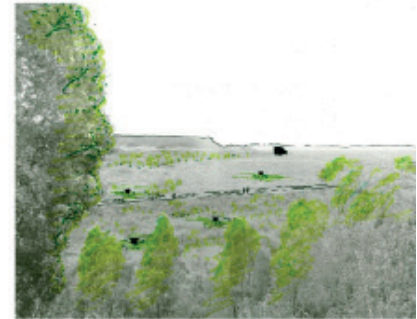
"FEEL THE HILLS and ENJOY THE HILLS"



the PEACE PATH



"FEEL THE VEGETATION and ENJOY THE VEGETATION"



DISTRIBUTION CENTERS

Building



Waterfall

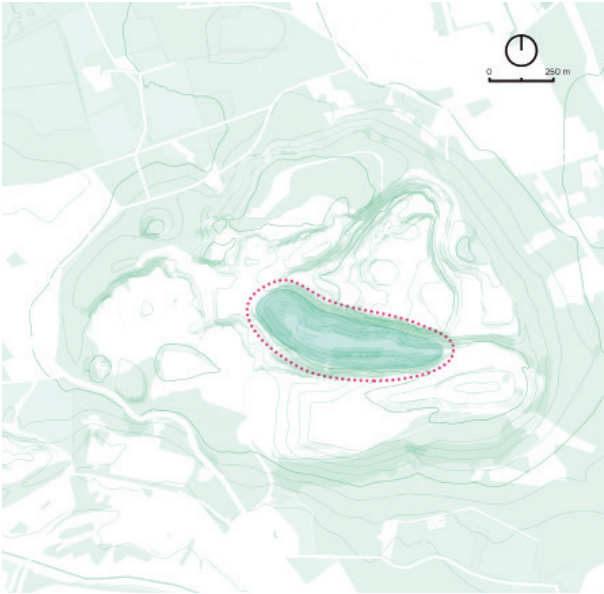


Sculpture



THE HIGHLIGHT

Paz Blanco, Nadine Oestermeyer, Emilio Valle



Group 2 proposal area.

The intention of our Piesberg project is to make the Piesberg area much more attractive and interesting for the visitors. We want people of all ages to enjoy the landscape and the atmosphere at this landmark of Osnabrueck.

The Piesberg is not only the highest hill of Osnabrueck, it is a historical and economic asset.

When we visited the top of the Piesberg, we felt a little bit confused, because the first part of the path from the museum to the last train station is quite attractive. There is nature everywhere and you have some interesting visuals and landmarks. For example the quarry's company warehouse, the little wooden path to the quarry, the bridge, the railway tracks. The stairwell of geological periods to the top triggered our interest, because you get a nice view over Osnabrueck while you learn and exercise. The way up is very exhausting and when you get to the top there is not much to do. Our team decided to create a concept to make this wonderful and powerful place attractive for everyone. Our objective is to build a destination showcasing science and leisure.

We decided to divide the top of the Piesberg into two zones that contain different programs. The first zone involves a learning experience: elements of science –especially waste management, energy, mining and the

geological periods. This science-area is especially an area for families. The children (and also the parents) can learn about producing energy and geological periods while experiencing the landscape. At this point there are some rotating signs with some facts and games about topics such as energy, waste management and the different geological periods of the earth. There is also an interesting playground, where the kids can play and search for “fossils”. A swing is standing near the precipice, so it is very exciting to swing.

The Highlight is the platform at the top. From this platform visitors may experience the main attraction of this project: a science-themed mapping show on the terraces of the quarry. The sounds of the windmills rotating and creating energy as background to this experience.

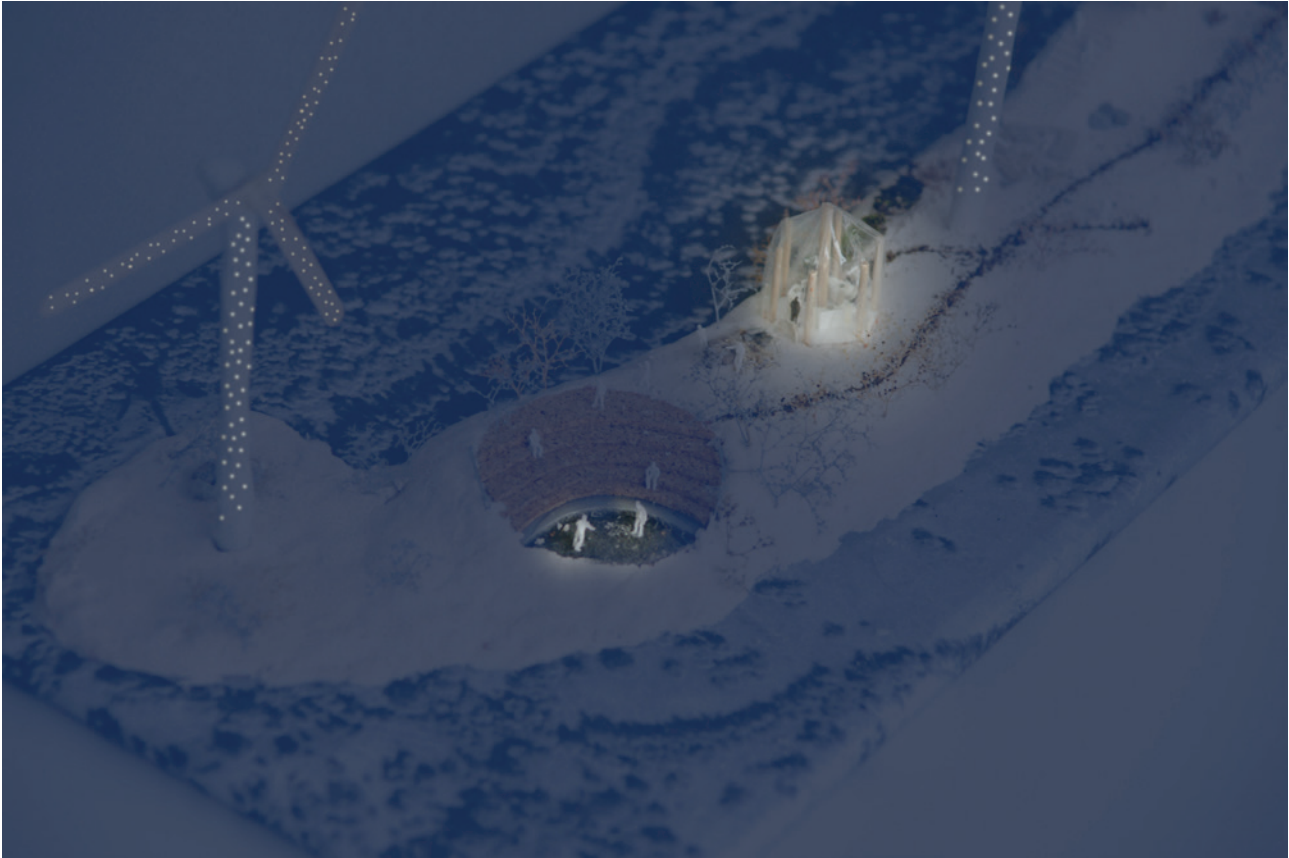
Turn around on the platform - towards the landfill - and a fire show can be seen at the top of the landfill on a giant land art piece. The landfill produces a lot of methane gas, thus can be use to light up the art in order to illustrate the importance of waste management. The land art works as a reminder of waste impact on earth.

At the leisure zone there are some attractive programs that invite the visitors to spend some time at this place, to relax and have fun. One of these elements is the amphitheatre where visitors can experience shows, music or even watch sports or films at a canvas like in an open-air cinema. The theatre is positioned in a way that the spectators have a view over the skyline of Osnabrueck.



The shape of the amphitheatre resembles the terraces of the quarry.

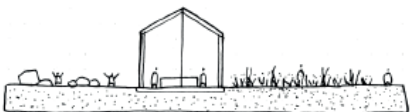
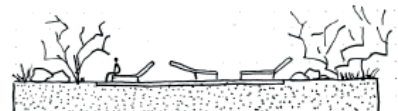
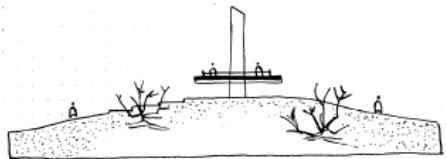
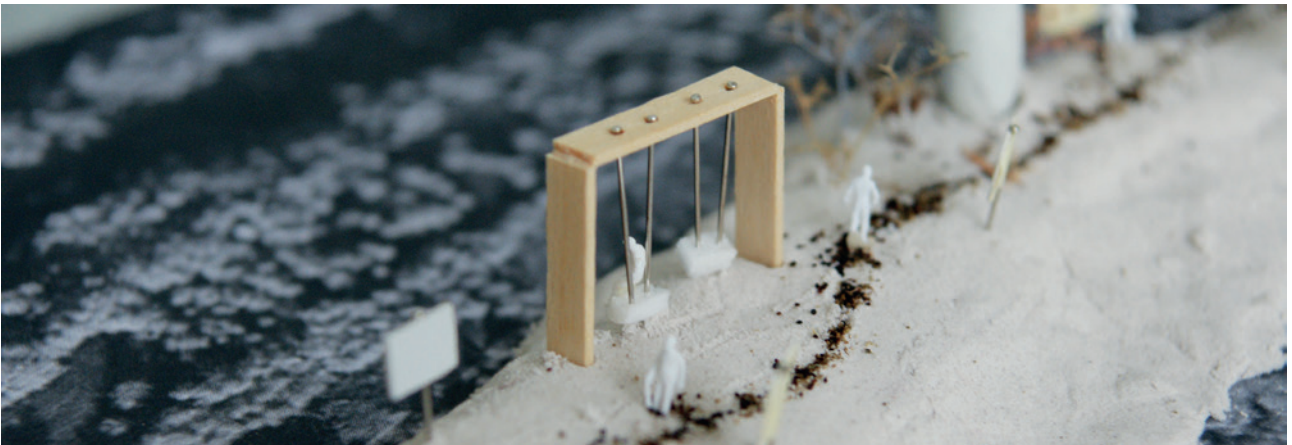
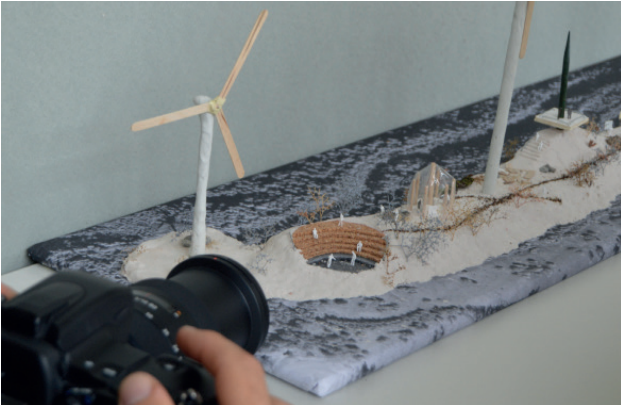
Another element of the leisure area is the bar, where the visitors can take a break and drink or eat something. The walls of the bar are built with glass, so the people are able to enjoy the beautiful landscape of the Piesberg area. Close to the bar is a garden zone, where the ingredients for the meals and cocktails can be harvest.



Next to the platform we planned to build an area to relax. Some stone steps and deck chairs invite the visitors, once they reach the top, to relax in the sun, enjoy watching stars or listen to the sounds of the windmills' blades.

The Highlight of our concept is to lighten up the four windmills from the

top of the Piesberg at night in different colours (led lights). The lightened windmills accentuate the Piesberg as a natural and historical monument, which is an interesting important landmark of Osnabrueck.



LAKE PIESBERG

Pilar Alberdi, Sofía Artacho, Tina Willers



Group 3 proposal area.

This Project aims to redesign the northern area of the Piesberg mountain, with the Quarry and its immediate surrounding area.

Due to its history in mining the site holds an interesting topography as well as an 80 meters high cliff with terraces in the north.

The central idea of this design is to

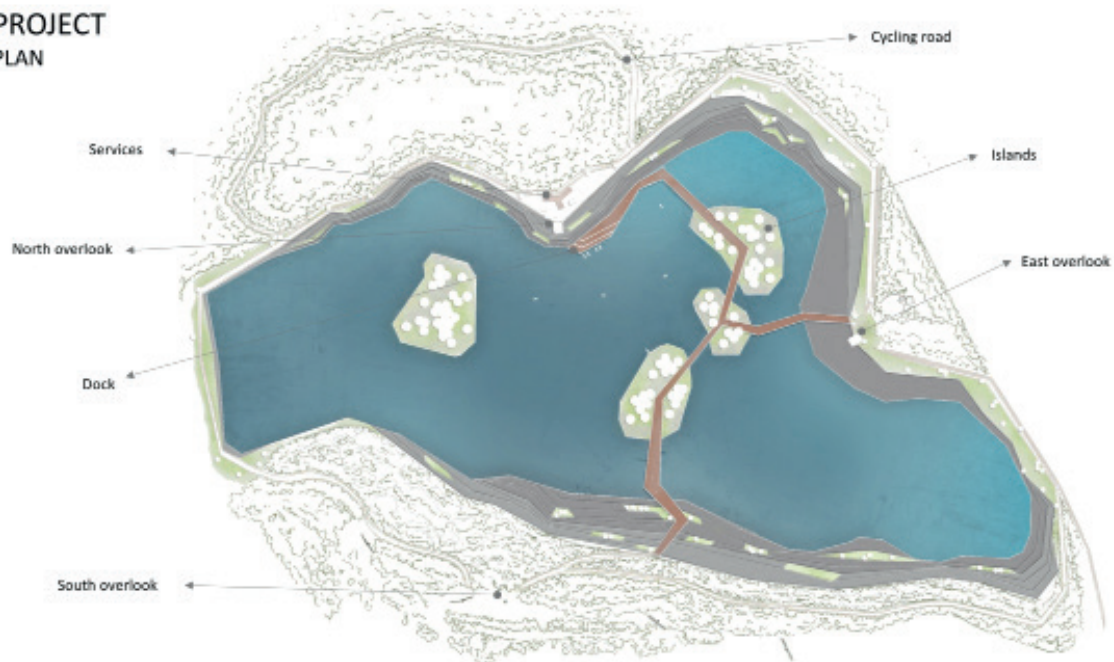
create a lake with a number of interconnected islands in the former quarry. The cliff in the northern part is to remain, but the terraces are to be broadened to 6 meters and stairs, ramps and a lift are to be added to allow people of all ages as well as disabled ones to access the lower levels.

The first idea and main focus of this project is the creation of an interesting landscape in the Piesberg area, which has been heavily modified by mining in the past years, leaving a huge hole with rare topography and cliffs that show the horizons of the soil.

The park creates its own identity with the lake and the partly interconnected artificial islands from stone and soil.

The vegetation on the islands as well as on the terraces in the cliffs mainly consists of trees and grasses, which are already growing naturally in the surrounding area of the quarry, for example birches.

PROJECT PLAN



To provide access to the area for visitors, there are two main connection systems: one for the 'inner park' and one for the 'outer park' as well as a third one to connect them.

The system for the 'inner park' focuses on connecting the northern and southern cliffs as well as the islands with each other by providing a path at the level of the lake.

The path consisting of both footpaths and bridges allows the visitor to delve into the nature by allowing him

to directly approach the water and leading them across the lake and its islands.

The bridges that lead across the lake and connect the islands with each other and the cliffs are made from rusted iron, a common material in the area, which relates to its history as an industrial site for coal and stone mining in the 19th and 20th century.

The footpaths on the islands which are also made from rusted iron, are elevated from the ground at the same

level as the bridges are from the lake to provide a controlled trip across the islands.

The system for the 'outer park' consists mainly of a perimeter path at the top of the cliffs that goes around the quarry and connects the piesberg mountain with the rest of the park.

It is to be used by foot as well as by bike and offers panoramic views of the park through the three main overlooks, which are located in the north, the east and the south of the quarry.

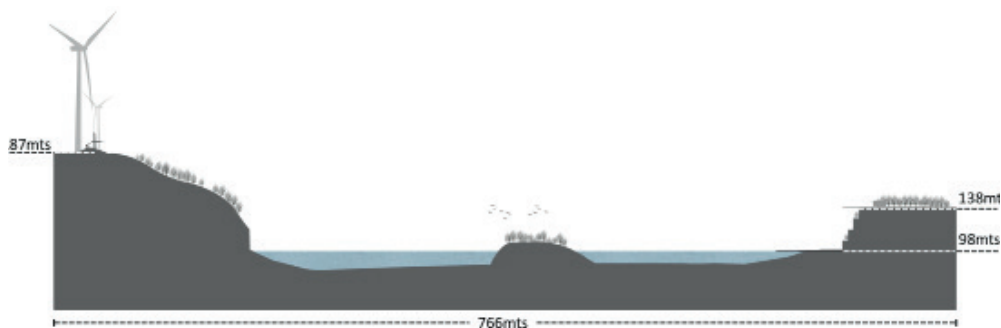
These overlooks are consisting of platforms that are reaching from the cliff into the quarry and by that are providing wide open views of the landscape below and around them.

The Northern overlook is the central point of the 'outer park'. Besides its aforementioned function as an

overlook it is to provide services including a small train station for access, a restaurant and restrooms as well as such activities like climbing and at the foot of the cliff, on which the overlook is located, boat tours.

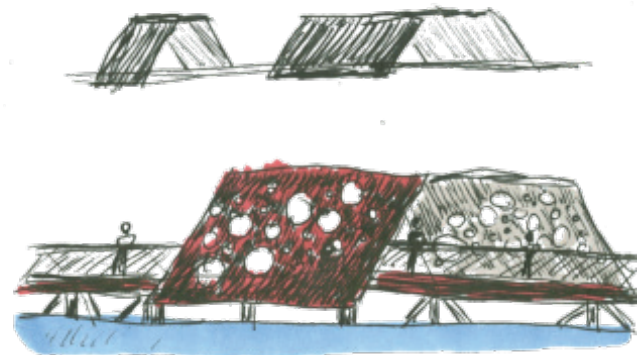
The 'outer' and the 'inner' park are connected by the a footpath and a lift at the northern cliff. The footpath leads down the different levels of the cliff with both ramps and stairs to provide access to both able-bodied and disabled people.

The path and the terraces are designed to give the visitor a nice view of the lake and are mostly greened with grasses and trees common in the area. At some points down the cliff points of interest are placed to highlight certain topics, like the interesting topography and the horizons of the earth.



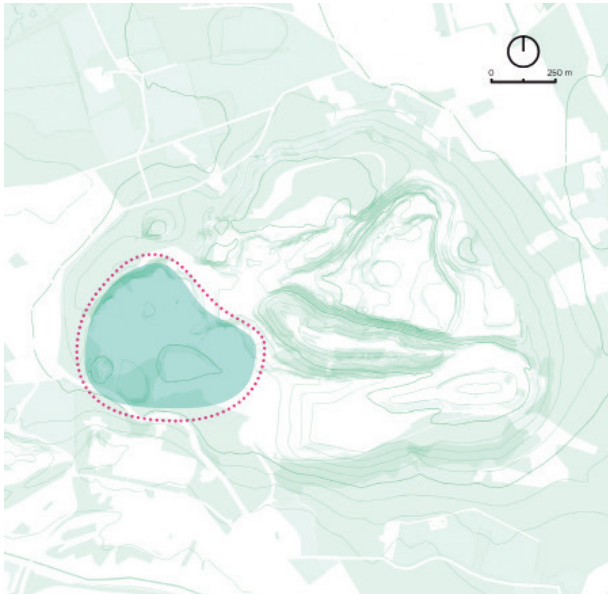


horizontal
cuts
representing
the cuts of the
cliff.
The different
layers of the
ground



KEEP, CONNECT, MAXIMIZE

Belén Bonaz, Camila Giterman, Camila Neira, Francisca Olariaga



Group 4 proposal area.

Our project is based in three main concepts: To keep, to connect and to maximize.

After analyzing the area we identified three several identities. One in the quarry, with a particular topography which is in continuous change because of the mining activity. The second found in the area was in the woods where the original soil has not

been modified. Here we can also find the windmills. The third identity we recognized was in the landfill, an area with an artificial topography made up of garbage and a layer of soil which has helped to transformed it in a meadow.

The masterplan of the project is to keep the actual landscape we can find in the area, to connect all this sites and to maximize taking advantages of all there attributes. Apart from this, we divided the park in two main areas, in one hand, the quarry area and in the other hand, the woods and the landfill area. In both we detected dissimilar landscapes, one higher than the other.

We decided to focus on the lowest area of the quarry. Here we kept the old buildings, which were used during the mine activity, and the different heights in the topography left by this mining.

These constructions left are going to be transformed in museums, coffee shops and other spaces where diverse

cultural activities related with the site's identity are going to take place. The purpose of keeping them was to highlight the identity of the area and to preserve its history.

We designed an elevated loop connecting the several areas within this



site. This path goes along and passes through various landmarks. In this boardwalk there are some platforms that help to link the areas of the park: the quarry site, the woods, the landfill and the museum.

We also thought about creating in the holes left by the quarry, wetlands, which are going to be useful in case of flooding, so to control the excess of rainwater.

Apart from this, we designed gentle hills which will represent the actual hill made up of rock removed by the mining activity.

The main materials we pretend to use are the ones we can find in the open pit mine: rock and still.

To sum up we created a park keeping the site's identity, highlighting its attributes, telling somehow the past of this place.

IDENTITIES



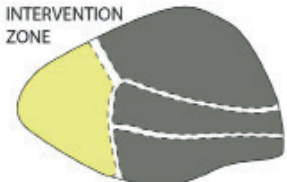
AREAS

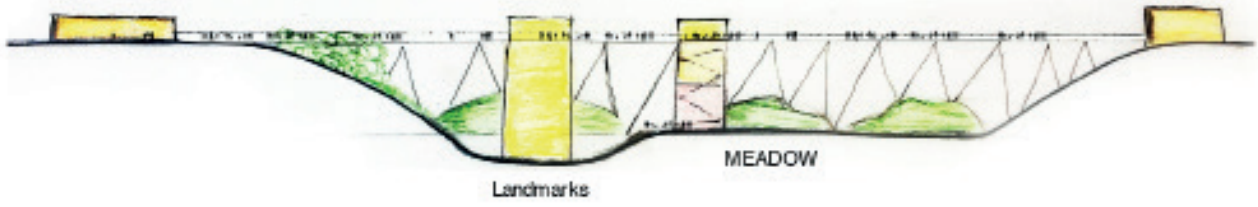


SECTORS



INTERVENTION ZONE

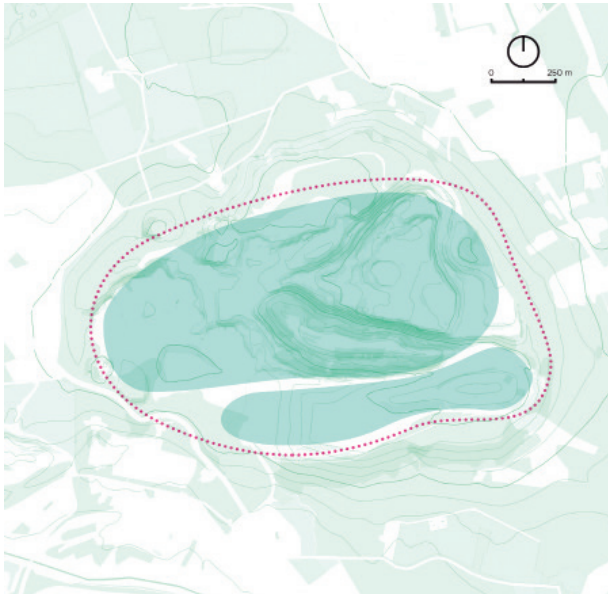






AROUND PIESBERG

Lucila Hollmann, Pilar Méndez Harriott, Ailén Pérez Ávila, Magdalena Rufino Cayssials



Group 4 proposal area.

Our main ideas were to reinforce the main access from the nearby cities, to emphasize the industrial past in the area and to try to establish a connection between Piesberg and the Emscher Landscape Park in the Ruhr area. We focused on creating a system to surround the whole area with a railway system, taking advantage of the existing ones, a pedestrian and a

cycling path. We wanted that everyone could use the park so we decided to extend the existing railways because it is a very long way.

This railway system provides a series of stops along the park allowing visitors to step out and stroll around Piesberg. The stops were placed in specific points to reinforce the industrial heritage, where different views and situations can be discovered. During the tour visitors can encounter with frame-like structures to direct the view of users to highlight specific points. The structures are thought to be made with local materials that can be found in the site, to emphasize the industrial past of the place.

The train travels along the park with two different kinds of speed. On the one hand through the most contemplative area the train slows down to admire the panoramic views, traveling through more curved paths. On the other hand, when the train crosses more intervened areas it increases

a little it's speed, following the route through railways with straighter angles. Along the ride the visitor can experience different kinds of situations. For example, travelling in the dense forest, going along the edge of cliffs from the quarry and between the walls of the remaining mountain where you can see the coal lines.

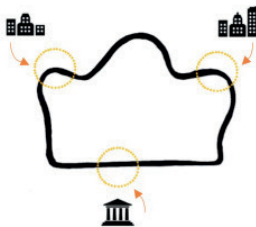
Moreover, the pedestrian paths are separated from the cycling lanes with low vegetation, using different colors and materials. Two different paths were designed: one shorter going round the landfill and a longer one encircles the whole park. In addition, to reinforce the main accesses from the cities nearby Piesberg we proposed a series of esplanades with amenities and where the train reaches the stops.

Last but not least, we created a compartmentalization of the whole area creating four main parts: in the site of the quarry which has more contemplatives uses a series of lookouts were designed to enjoy the view of the cliffs. In the landfill we decided to leave nature develop in time and space, where visitors can admire the different stages the nature goes through.

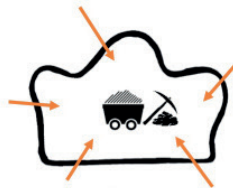
Furthermore, in the higher part of the remaining mountain where the windmills are, we left the area as it can be found today; only improving the existing paths to make it more accessible and easier to walk along. In the west side, where nowadays piles of stones are located we took advantage of the topography and created green hills. We concentrated several programs in

MAIN IDEAS

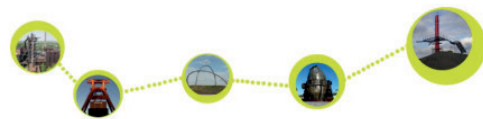
REINFORCE ACCESS FROM NEARBY CITIES



EMPHASIZE THE INDUSTRIAL PAST



TRY TO CONNECT PIESBERG TO THE EMSCHER LANDSCAPE PARK



this area, were different reused building with amenities or cultural uses can be found.

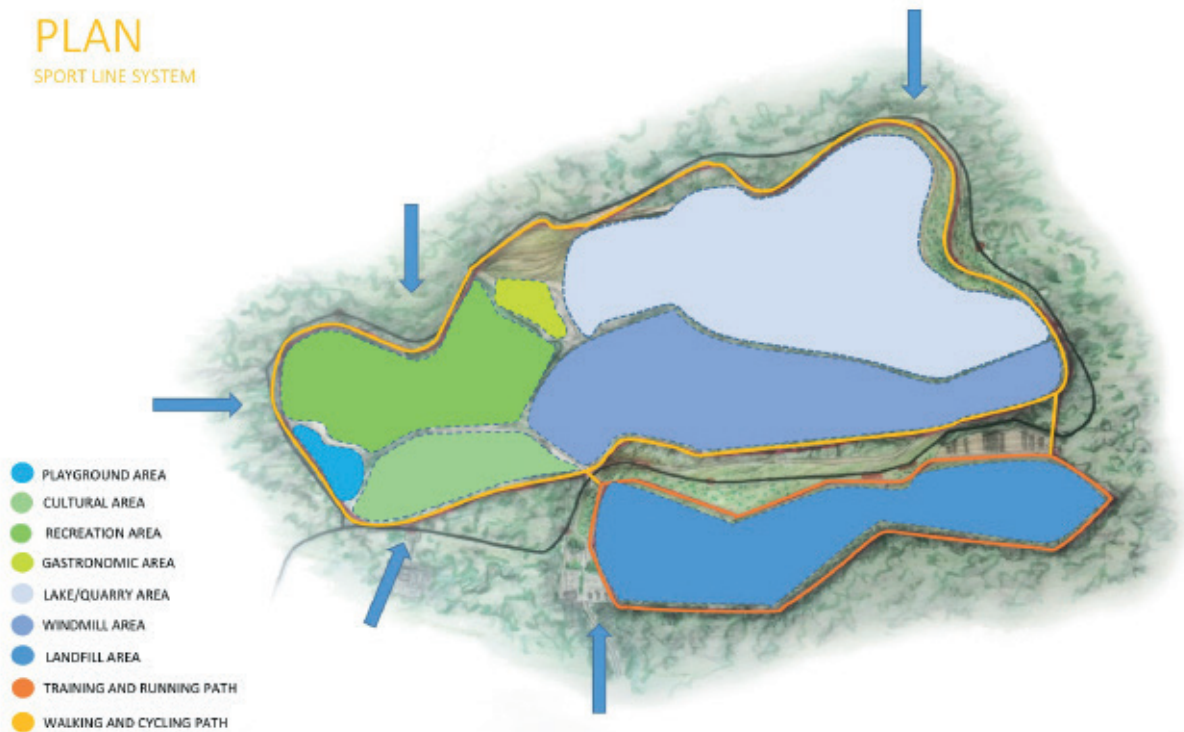
In conclusion, by this design the park will improve making it more accessible for everyone in Osnabruck and in the surrounding area. Also reinforcing

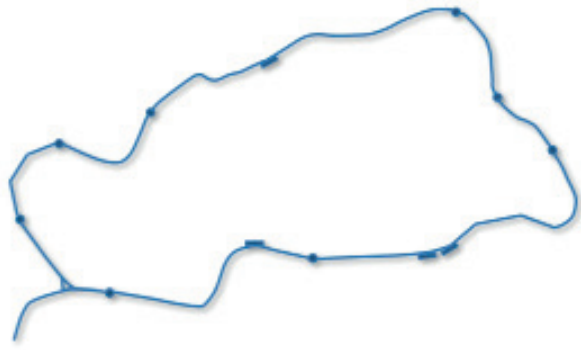
the industrial past Piesberg has undergone by locating the train stops in specific points of this park where it can be admired.



PLAN

SPORT LINE SYSTEM

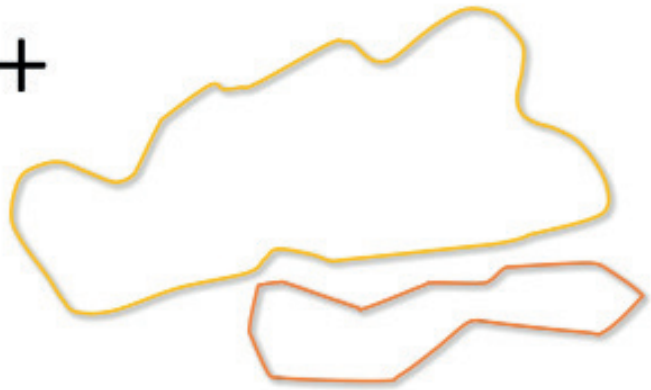




TRAINRAIL SYSTEM

- STOPS
- LOOKOUTS

+



SPORT LINE SYSTEM



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EDITORIAL FACULTAD DE AGRONOMÍA
UNIVERSIDAD DE BUENOS AIRES

ISBN 978-987-3738-18-0



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