Concept Project Realisation



Revitalization of the Lubianka Reservoir in Starachowice

Before

Condition before revitalization

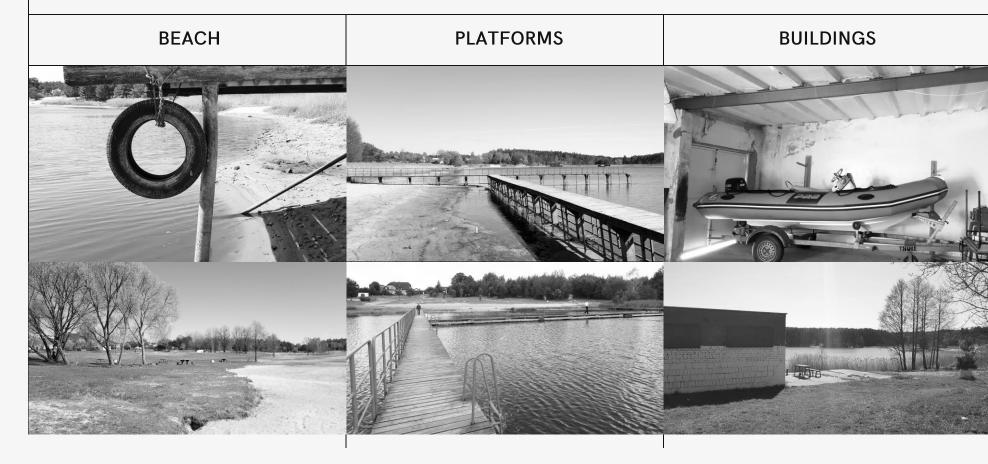
Prior to revitalization, the Lubianka Reservoir was a place of great local importance, but with limited and outdated infrastructure, in need of thorough modernization and adaptation to the modern needs of residents and tourists. The space around the reservoir was developed in a simple and limited manner, in addition, it was largely devastated, and the area was not fully accessible and friendly to all users.

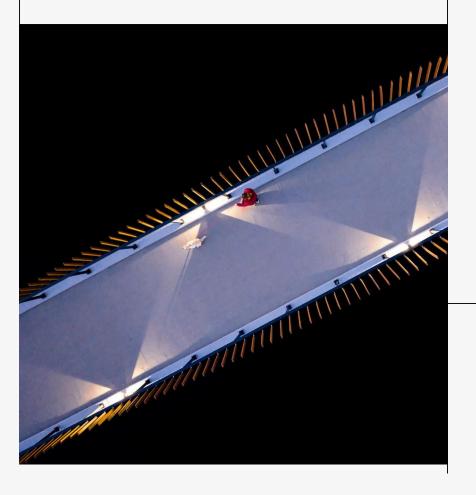
Its recreational potential remained untapped.





INFRASTRUCTURE ELEMENTS





HOW DID IT ALL START?

2016

In August 2016, an architectural competition was announced under the auspices of the Association of Polish Architects (SARP) for the concept of developing the area around the Lubianka Reservoir in Starachowice.

Competition 2016

AREA

The site that was the subject of the competition was located in the southwestern part of the city of Starachowice, around a reservoir that had grown up in the place of a sand pit. The resulting basin was bounded by an earth dam and filled with water.

SUBJECT

The subject of the Competition was to develop an urbanarchitectural concept for the development of the public space surrounding the "Lubianka" lagoon for the needs of recreation and leisure of Starachowice residents, which was to become a stimulus for the social and economic development of this part of the city. The area was to offer various kinds of attractions enabling active leisure activities.

PURPOSE

The City Council (Investor) expected functionally and formally attractive buildings and structures, as well as interesting and efficient land development, which with its advantages will attract residents to use the "Lubianka" Reservoir.

What were our design assumptions?



HARMONY

UNIVERSALITY

MULTIFUNCTIONALITY

INCLUSIVENESS

REDEFINING

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multifunctionality

Create an attractive, user-friendly public space for all ages by making optimal use of existing landscape assets, creating rich and varied functional zones, and developing the maximum area of available land in a variety of ways.

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redefining

We aim to go beyond the traditional role of recreational areas by creating spaces and attractions that engage children and young people. These spaces are open to a variety of activities, including children's and youth programs, senior meetings, and sports, cultural, educational, and artistic events of a broad, multidisciplinary nature.

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inclusiveness

The entire site is accessible to people with disabilities. There are wheelchair-accessible entrances and designated parking spaces for people with disabilities. The buildings' toilets have been designed and adapted for the needs of the disabled, and the entrances and passageway widths have been adapted as well. All pavements in sensitive areas have been supplemented with panels featuring convex markings for the visually impaired. Additionally, graphic identification and educational path boards have been marked in Braille.

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harmony

The creation of interesting, modern architectural forms for buildings and recreational and leisure spaces that harmonize with the character of the existing landscape and spatial context. These spaces aspire to become symbols and showcases of Starachowice as a resident-friendly city.

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universality

The versatility of the space, the ability to flexibly adapt to the changing needs of users, the seasons and the various requirements arising from the organization of outdoor or other events



IDEA AND SPATIAL CONTEXT

An important element of the area's development plan was preserving the existing locations and functions of various key elements in the local community's consciousness, such as beaches, recreation areas, and sports activity zones. These elements were previously arranged chaotically but will now be organized and utilized more intensively, thus enhancing their development and cultural value. The spatial analysis of the entire bathing area revealed that preserving the vast landscape values of the lagoon required shaping the development in a way that would not disturb the perception of the water body from the planned promenade, beaches, and recreation zones. The water surface was identified as the most attractive vantage point for the entire area. The need to preserve natural values and the spatial context formed the basis for introducing a new aesthetic quality to the area's development. This required amending the provisions for shaping development in the Local Land Use Plan. For example, the complex of buildings near the beach was designed to fit into the curvature of the escarpment. The western pier was designed as a two-story structure that leads to a visually attractive café, marina, and viewpoint.

So, what is it like now?

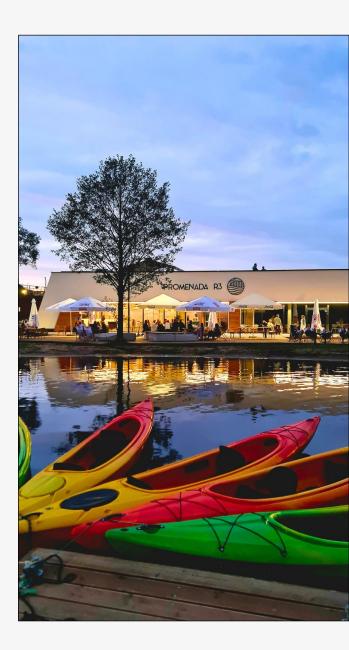
The revitalized Lubianka is a modern, aesthetically pleasing and safe recreation area for all residents. It offers a rich recreational infrastructure - paths, playgrounds, sports and leisure zones, as well as facilities for families and people with disabilities. New facilities, such as a restaurant, amphitheater and pier, increase the attractiveness of the reservoir.





The diversity and multiplicity of spaces

The Lubianka development project has been named the best public space in Poland in 2023, thanks in part to its multi-faceted yet synthetic approach to shaping the space. A place has been created that combines public and intimate functions, enabling both active recreation and quiet rest



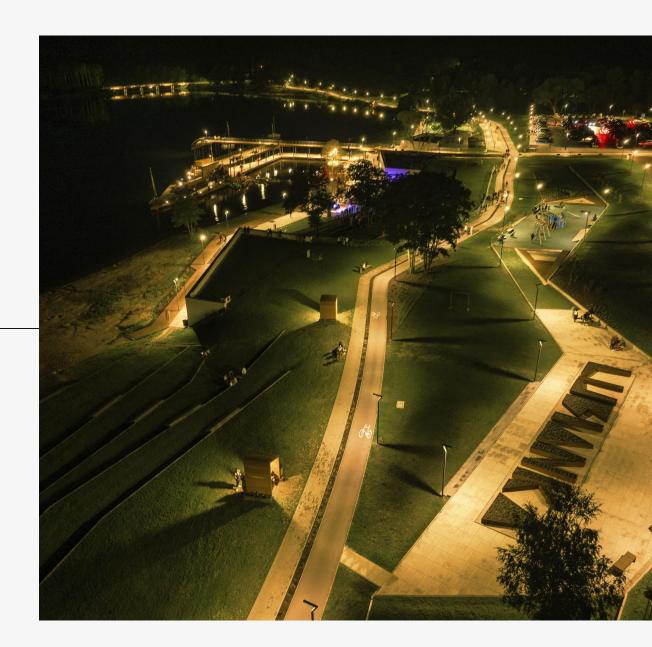
Harmonious integration into the landscape



The architecture and functional layout have been intelligently integrated into the existing terrain, escarpments and nature enclaves. As a result, the space does not dominate the surroundings, but interacts with them, taking advantage of the natural qualities of the landscape and offsetting previous limitations

Coherence and poetics of architecture

Modern architectural forms - both larger public buildings and small architecture in enclaves of tranquility - create a coherent, sophisticated composition. Thoughtful material solutions, details and textures emphasize the high aesthetic qualities of the entire establishment



Integration of social and cultural functions

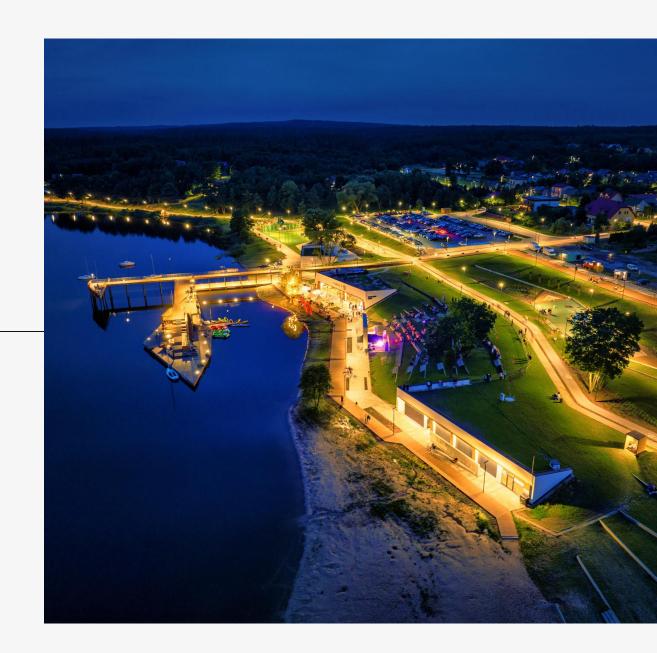




Lubianka has become a place not only for recreation, but also for sports, cultural and integration events - from tournaments, concerts and family picnics to activities for seniors and children. It is a space that activates the local community and attracts tourists

Functionality and accessibility for all

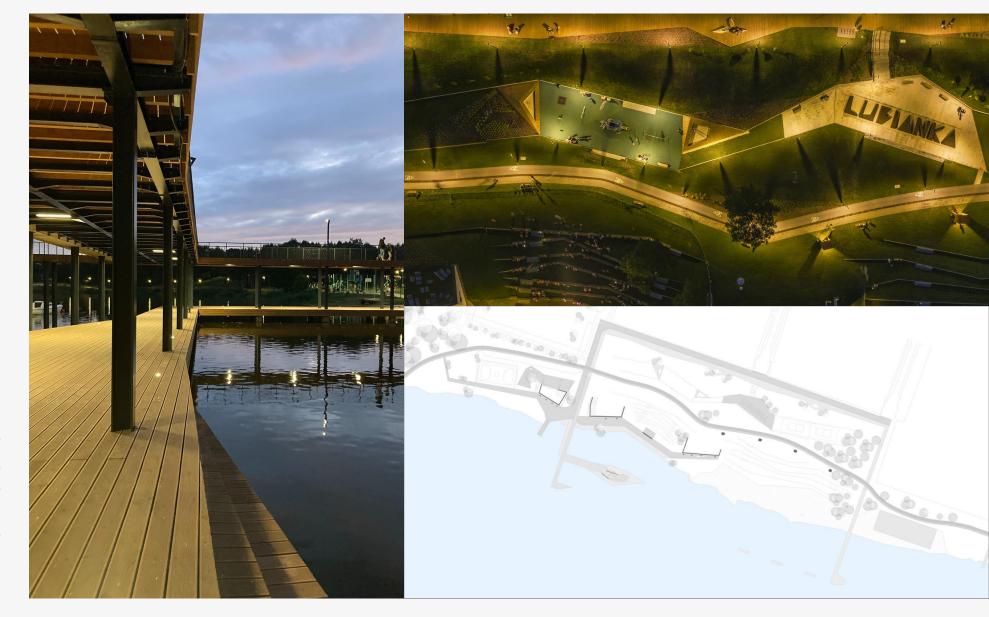
The space is fully accessible to users of all ages and needs, offering a rich selection of functional zones: sports, recreational, leisure and educational. It allows for a wide range of activities, and its furnishings are attractive and varied



Modern technical and infrastructural solutions

The revitalization included a two-level pier, new piers, sports fields, outdoor gyms, playgrounds, bicycle paths, and modern sanitary and catering infrastructure. The whole project was designed with the convenience and safety of users in mind







The innovation of the space around the Lubianka Reservoir lies in a comprehensive, modern and flexible approach to design, which harmoniously combines natural values with high quality architecture, functionality and social openness

