Ventspils, Latvia

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Population
43.000
Population

Location

Study area 19.5 ha

Site area

19.5 ha including 4 plots
1) 3750 m2 (0.37 hectares)
2) 3069+2231=5300 m2 (0.53 hectares)
3) 3/1+3/2+3/3+3/4+3/5 = 1152+557+515+468+642=3334m2
4) 4/1+4/2+4/3+4/4 = 488+750+705+667 = 2610m2

A very unattractive place should be turned into an active urban location with attractive activities and innovative housings in order to accompany the "City Towards EU Compliance Award 2001" that Ventspils got in Brussels in 2001.





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Conurbation

Ventspils is a port city with the non-freezing port with depth 17,5 metres and so, an important oil and potash transit point in Eastern Europe. The city exists already for 710 years starting from 13th century, with a Livonian order castle. During the soviet times there were army corps placed in the city, as well as border guards and, of course, the port. The town had suffered a lot.

Today, Ventspils has become one of the most explicated and well-kept cities in Latvia with high-developed infrastructure - qualitative street covering, roads, fountains, blue flag beach, developed sports complex, tourism objects etc.

Site

This site is named Ostgals ("end of port"). It should be renovated and preserved as a part of the city with (dash instead of with (remark: Ostgals is not an open-air museum and never will be, but we want to create this part of the city as museum value)) an open area museum, where the people live, normal life gets on and still one can feel the breath of past centuries. The number of inhabitants in the district is small - mainly people without high income, but who love their environment - about 1300 inhabitants. screens 1 / 2 / 3 / 4



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Programme

1. Central object of this district is the rebuilding project of the existing, built in soviet times Culture centre, turning it into a modern, architecturally and technologically highquality building, providing concert hall, youth centre, relaxation and play area, rooms for classes, parking places and all other necessary.

2.1. 3 star HOTEL on opposite side of the Culture Centre.

2.2. Nearby there is a living house, built in the beginning of the 20th century. It is supposed to be turned into fish restaurant.

3. Consist of 5 lots : rebuilding existing living houses and renovate them to small hotels or yard for exhibitions and repairs facilities for antique motorbikes.

4. Consist of 4 lots : rebuilding existing living houses and renovate them to hotels, preserving like family living house

Issues

functional : Whole district of Ostgals should received a town planning structure, creating it into a museum, foreseeing to maintain the living function in the existing buildings, providing for the inhabitants corresponding living conditions and creating a small workshops, shops, cafes with a smoked fish, pepper and bread fragrance.

SOCial : Ostgals should be preserved as the historical acknowledgment in the up-to-date, developed city. The museum of Ventspils region is working on the historical research of this district, researches, inhabitants desires and city planners ideas should be used as a basis for the specific conception of the preservation and renovation.

perceptual : Project and its realisation should provide correct historical evidence for the next generations, to preserve the old buildings and environment, to create a new construction, harmonically involving in the existing environment, but not copying and not deriving old forms - synthesis of epoch.













