RENOVATION OF TROYKATA SQUARE
BURGAS, BULGARIA

Previous state

Troykata (The Trine) Square is the most iconic place of the seaside city of Burgas. It was named after the historical high electric pole with three lamps (1934), which became the main symbol of the place and a byword for the square.

The development of the public space started in the late 19th century and went through different stages until present day changing its name and symbols accordingly. The electric pole was removed to give way to the monument of the Soviet Army (1953), which became the focal point of a large-scale urban intervention left unfinished due to the changes in the political regime after 1989.

Prior to the reconstruction two major planning schemes coexisted in the pattern of the square without a true dialogue - the remnants of the circular planning scheme of Tsaritsa Yoanna prerevolutionary socialist square and the partially implemented orthogonal urban plan of Georgi Dimitrov socialist square.

Despite its central position in the urban fabric the structure, scale and image of the public space corresponded neither to the scale, nor to the social needs and traffic pressures of the growing city. The existing asphalt sections and invasion of vehicles, the poor quality of the pavement and insufficiency of street furniture, the controversy about existing symbols impeded its normal functioning and perception.

The Renovation of Troykata Square is part of the Reconstruction of Burgas Pedestrian Zone large-scale project of Burgas Municipality. It was funded under the scheme BG161PO001/1.4-09/2012: “Green and accessible urban environment” under Operational Programme “Regional Development” 2007/2013 and was co-financed by Burgas Municipality.

Aim of intervention

The overall goal of the intervention was to create a new dimension of the public space corresponding to the size of Burgas as a district and regional center while developing its social functions, improving the quality of the urban environment and resolving traffic problems of the city.

One of the major aims was to spatially reconcile the contradicting patterns of the public space rethinking its well established symbols and developing a strong identity. Yet, as a part of the central pedestrian zone of the city it had to comply with the overall character of the Zone.

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Budget: 3,220,656 Euro

Initiation of the project: 2012

Beginning of implementation: October 2013

End of work: December 2014

Development area: 25,450 m2

Programme “Regional Development” 2007/2013 and was co-financed by Burgas Municipality.

“Troykata” lighting pole - modern energy saving interpretation. The four lighting poles, form today the macro frame of the Square.

“Troykata” lighting pole - 1934.

“Troykata” lighting pole - 1934.

General view northwards before intervention.

General view northwards after intervention.