

E-mapping: Green-space experience as a tool for planning at small scale



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Experiences as a method in planning: Why?

A unique layer of information about:

- Recreational experiences
- Recreational zones
- Recreational potentials

Multiple purposes, including:

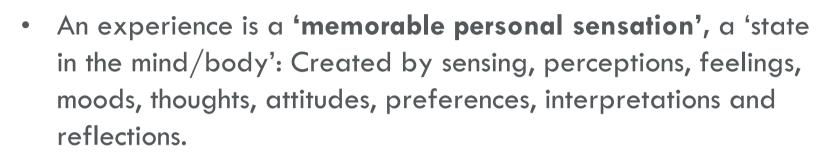
- Site analysis
- Identification of improvement potentials
- Valuation of recreational value and quality





FOREST & LANDSCAPE

Scientific background: Experiences as 'body' and 'language'



- Environmental psychology: Humans experience the surroundings in **certain 'categories'.**
- Evolutionary speaking the categories have **a function** and therefore **a value** (e.g. a 'shelter' or 'hunting ground').
- The categories are partly inherent in our 'body' (biological) and partly adapted through learning (cultural).





Experiences in a method for valuation and planning: Assumptions

- The **experience is more important** than the physical characteristics.
- If sought after experiences is present in a green space it will **increase the recreational value** and the **recreational use**.
- Eight experiences cover by and large all recreational purposes behind visits in green spaces (at least in Sweden).



Eight recreational experiences of green space

NATURE	Sensation of the free growing, untouched, vital, an encounter with nature
	on its own conditions.

SERENE Sensation of an undisturbed peacefulness, to be on one's own, in safety and withdrawn in one with nature/surroundings.

RICHNESS IN SPECIES Sensation of richness in plants, insects and/or animals.

- **SPACE** Sensation of an independent, inter-connected and special 'universe'.
- **REFUGE** Sensation of safe and provided surroundings and facilities for expression, play and interactions with other people.
- **PROSPECT** Sensation of open and free surroundings for expression and activity.
- **SOCIAL** Sensation of organized and entertaining scene and get-together with other people.
- CULTURE Sensation of cultivated, man-made surroundings shaped by history and culture.

Some known relations

- 'Nature-like' experiences ('nature', 'serene', 'rich in species') is **positively related with mental health** (stress relief and restoration).
- Experiences of 'nature', 'serene' and 'refuge' are the most sought after 'everyday experiences'.
- Other experiences are sought after in weekends and **special occasions** e.g. 'prospect', 'social' and 'cultural'. Visitors are willing to travel longer.
- Different user groups seek different experiences.





'E-mapping' – Step by step

- Learn and adopt the experiences
- On-site visits / analysis
- Identify location (zones) and perceived strength of experiences
- Register 'zones' on a map / register experiences within the zones in a table

Tools for on-site analysis

- Print out of aerial photo (e.g. google) + pen
- Photos/descriptions for examples/documentation
- GIS?

Skt. Jørgens Park, Odense, Denmark



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	SPACES AND EXPERIENCES IN SKT. JØRGENS PARK									
	EXPERIENCE									
SPACE	Nature	Rich in species	Serene	Space	Refuge	Prospect	Social	Culture		
1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-		
2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-		
3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-		
4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-		
5	-	-	-	(1)	-	(2)	(1)	-		
6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-		
7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
8	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-		
9	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-		
10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
11	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-		
12	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-		
13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
14	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-		
15	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-		

1 weak

2 good

3 full

- not present

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Experiences:

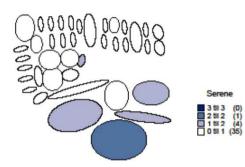


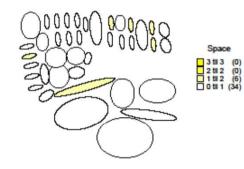


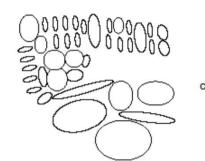
Which Experiences?



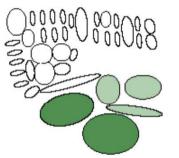




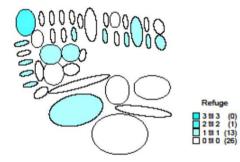


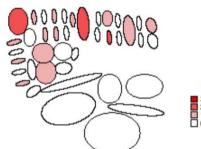




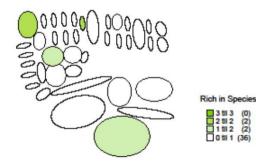


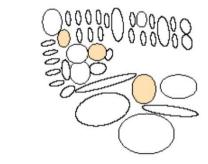












Prospect
3 til 3 (0)
2 til 2 (0)
1 til 1 (3)
0 til 0 (37)

Eriksbo, Sweden Thematic e-maps



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MP4 output – Guidance material

Available on MP4 website

- Rough guide
- Scientific background
- Examples



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