

KEYWORDS

Alley, Functional Link, Greenery, Health Resort, Urban Planning

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Day 1 / 14.00 PM–15.00 PM / ROOM 2 / Green Infrastructure

Resort Alleys on the Baltic Sea Southern Coast in the 19th Century

In the beginning of 17th century, the significance of planting increased in European cities. In the 18th century according to Western European models the first public gardens and alleys of Dutch linden-trees were implemented in provincial towns across the Russian Empire. In the first half of the 19th century natural resources such as sea water and mud started to be used in healing. Resorts with appropriate buildings for medical treatments and relaxation were built on the coast of the Baltic Sea. Resort-towns were developed in Prussia near the port of Königsberg, Memel and Danzig. In Russia the development of health resorts was given national significance: the planning of Haapsalu and port of Libau (now Liepāja) and Pärnu was supplemented with resort areas. In Russia the first railway line Saint-Petersburg–Warsaw was opened. Railway traffic contributed to the growth of health resorts and led to urban transformations in cities. Areas of natural greenery decreased but were supplemented by man-made cultivated parks, roadside, alleys and promenades for walking, which provided a functional link between the greenery and areas of various significance, uniting parks and squares into one system. Resort alleys with their seemingly humdrum planting became not only a component of the natural landscape, but also create contrasts of colours, forms and lines; those have been studied insufficiently. The aim and the basic methods of the research is to determine the most typical features of alleys in each health resort on the Baltic Sea Southern coast dating from the 19th century, using the method of field-work and photo fixation, inspection of alleys in nature, comparison and analysis of archival materials of the 19th century urban planning. Study results shows the impact of health resort structures and greeneries on urban planning and landscape, where alley as planting of rhythmically arranged elements took the most important place in eclectic urban landscape and functionality of urban green system in the 19th century.