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PARTICULARITY OF COLOR AND COMPOSITIONAL SOLUTIONS OF THE FLOWER-DECORATIVE DESIGN IN THE ZONES OF PEDESTRIAN ACTIVITY IN RESIDENTIAL SPACES OF MINSK

The article describes some aspects of the compositional and colour design solutions of flower-decorative elements in the zones of pedestrian activity in the residential spaces of the central part of Minsk. Among the investigated compositions there was found a clear dominance of landscape style, but there was no clear pattern in terms of levels of compositional and colour grades depending on the location and type of composition. At the same time, the comparative analysis of the seasonal changes of the colour decisions of ornamental compositions on the zones of the pedestrian activity in the residential areas of the central part of Minsk showed visible differences in colour design in the spring and summer and autumn periods.

Introduction. The features study of the style and composition decision of ornamental design elements in residential spaces of Central part of Minsk, destined to organize the pedestrian circulation, is of particular scientific interest. These areas are generally adjacent to areas of major transport infrastructure elements of the city, enhancing their recreational potential, or accompany a small residential streets and local passages, concentrating the elements of the services, shops, public catering enterprises, cultural entertainment institutions. This type of open spaces in the city usually has a rather expressed emotional aesthetic specificity effects on humans, largely contributing to the individualization of the urban environment in general [1].

Main part. Held in 2013, the ornamental design elements of pedestrian spaces in residential areas of Minsk Central part research, covered in general 90 compositions with the most expressed composition and color characteristics of this group of objects, and represented both by spatial manifested floral and decorative compositions, and those in mobile containers.

The investigated flower beds belonged to the two main styles of landscape architecture – regular and landscape one, with a clear dominance of the latter group of objects. Among the regular compositions border beds dominated (7 compositions) and modular compositions (5 compositions), substantially in the lower number of flowerbeds (1 composition) and arabesques (3 compositions) were presented. Some of the objects were observed mixing compositional characteristics of a number of flower beds. In particular, in the course of studies a complex modular corner border bed (Independence avenue, 18) was revealed and in the design of a fairly large scale linear space – modular arabesque (K. Marx street, 40, 42).

Colour design of regular flower beds was also varied. Single-coloured and nuance types of colour

gammas were mainly used in modular compositions; border beds and arabesques were characterized by a rather complex multi-colour contrasting gamma. In the regular compositions a use of wide range of ornamental plants with a large diversity of their species and varieties within a single composition (up to 7 species and varieties of floral species) was marked, as well as the inclusion of bright coloured inert materials (decorative chips). With the participation of ornamental shrubs (*Hydrangea arborescens*) only one composition was created – the flowerbed (Independence avenue, 145).

Landscape ornamental compositions in the design of pedestrian spaces in residential areas of the Central part of Minsk (29 studied compositions) are presented predominately by the flower beds variants: rockeries and mixborders. In some cases they are large enough in area – more than 100 m². In such large-scale compositions woody plants – decorative forms of softwood and clipped forms of deciduous shrubs are actively included, that gives the compositions a volume characteristics and promotes their optical integration in the linear environment of street open spaces.

Assortment selection of plants in some compositions takes into account colour gamma seasonal changes of plants, identifying among the studied compositions those of permanent multi-coloured character, as well as changing the colour gamma during the growing season from the contrast one (spring, summer) to nuance (autumn). Introduction of some flowering shrubs (*Rosa canina*, *Syringa vulgaris*, *Spiraea japonica* and others) to the assortment of plants also supports a seasonal variety of the urban landscape appearance. The inclusion of inert materials in the composition is limited by introduction of decorative chips colour, close to natural (red-brown), that generally corresponds with the requirements of the landscape style, and by use of sculptural volume mesh forms with fill-

ing of large fractions stone – gabions, which are of also neutral, close to the achromatic colour scheme. In some cases, in the pattern of the studied compositions the areas of lawn surfaces are included. As a negative example, may be the presence of relatively large area unoccupied by the plantings of ornamental plants fragments of several compositions, where the optimal planting dates were not exact.

Certain specific of compositional and coloristic solutions have ornamental compositions in containers, widely represented in the design of pedestrian spaces in residential areas of the Central part of the city. A vast majority of containerized ornamental compositions are concentrated on the ground level and stylobate of buildings and presents terrestrial mobile flower containers; multi storied volume compositions and flower stands with the containers, wall mounted (hinged) compositions in the design of window sills and fencing elements of temporary structures-sheds of summer café are relatively rare met. Suspension compositions – ornamental flowerpots are used mainly in the decoration of temporary coffee bar structures.

Because of the small area of some containers, plantings in them are mainly characterized as monoculture, combined plantings of two or three crops in one container, and mixed plantings of two species of one crop are relatively rare met. At the same time, the grouping of individual containers to create an integral color effect gives the possibility to perceive them as one composition. It should be noted a common stylistic inconsistency of separate container design elements both within a single composition, and on close spaces located in the zone of common visual perception, such as the combined use of plastic flower pots and concrete

painted flower containers of different styles (design of K. Marx street).

Among the studied compositions there is no clear patterns in terms of compositional and colour level valuation depending on the location and type of composition. Low level valuation is primarily connected with the abnormality of planting flower crops (primarily of annuals), a low quality of planting material, lack of care for the plants (for example, some cases of drying plants because of the lack of moisture were revealed).

Comparative analysis of the color gamma seasonal changes and the occurrence of colour combinations of the different by stylistic nature compositions showed appreciable differences of colour design in spring and summer-autumn periods (table).

Spring gamma in general shows pure colours of red, white and blue. Summer-autumn colour gamma of flower compositions is significantly more dark; gamma of dark purple-violet (varieties of *Petunia × hybrida*), and red-brown, orange and yellow (*Tagetes patula*, *Tagetes tenuifolia* and *Tagetes erecta*) colour tones dominates with a sharp reduction of red, blue and dark blue colours participation. The share of green tones group (green, dark green, light green, gray-green, bluish-green), defined by the inclusion in compositions of ornamental shrubs, lawn surfaces and some perennial herbaceous plants with ornamental leaves, has remained almost unchanged (11.8% in spring, 12.0% in summer and autumn).

Study of color tones interrelation occurrence in certain categories of compositions showed that the changes of the colour gamma are provided mainly by compositions in mobile containers (apparently dominated by yellow, orange, red-brown gamma) and spatial expressed landscape style compositions (purple and dark purple colours).

The occurrence of different colour combination types in the ornamental decoration of the most typical landscape objects in zones of pedestrian activity in residential areas of the Central part of Minsk (2013)

Type of colour combination of composition	Spring season				Summer-autumn season			
	Occurrence in compositions, items			Total	Occurrence in compositions, items			Total
	regular	land-scape	in mobile containers		regular	land-scape	in mobile containers	
Single-coloured	1	–	2	3	1	4	12	17
Two-tone nuance	–	–	2	2	3	6	8	17
Three-tone nuance	–	–	–	–	–	1	4	5
Nuance of close tones with contrasting inclusions	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1
Contrasting of two colours	–	–	–	–	4	1	10	15
Contrasting of three colours	–	2	–	2	4	1	5	10
Contrasting of four colours	–	–	–	–	2	1	4	7
Contrasting of five colours	–	–	–	–	2	9	2	13
Contrasting of six and more colours	–	3	–	3	–	5	–	5
Total compositions, items	1	5	4	10	16	29	45	90

In a floral decorative design of pedestrian spaces in residential areas in the Central part of Minsk in spring season compositions of nuance and contrast character participate in approximately equal proportions, but from all their types diversity only single-coloured, nuance two-tone, contrasting of three colours and contrasting of six and more colours variants are marked. In the summer-autumn period the compositions are characterized by some decline in the share of nuances (44.4%) and increasing contrast colour combinations (55.6%) with a total extension of their diversity. Among the nuance colour combinations still one-tone and two-tone compositions (18.9%) dominate, nuance three-tone compositions (5.5%) and nuance compositions of close tones with contrasting inclusions are less widely represented. Contrasting colour combinations group presents equally simple two- and three-tone compositions (16.7% and 11.1% respectively) and more complex and interesting four-, five-, six - and more tonal compositions, of which prevail five-tone ones (14.4%).

This imbalance in the variety of characteristics of ornamental compositions nature to a certain ex-

tent is predetermined by the lack of early spring flower decorative compositions, by late planting in the majority of flower beds and by insufficient use of capabilities of early flowering perennial plants.

Conclusion. Thus, studies have shown that in landscape gardening of pedestrian activity zones in residential areas of the Central part of Minsk in ornamental compositions flowers of spring blooming are not yet widely used, the potential of decorative compositions elements created with inert materials, lawn surfaces with presence of differently coloured ornamental cereals, surface coating of covering plants are little used; introduction in the compositions of small architectural forms is not always stylistically coordinated. The adjustment of the colour and composition solutions of flower ornamental design elements in urban spaces will contribute to the harmonization and improvement of the landscape environment of the Central part of Minsk.

References

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