

ENGLISH ABSTRACTS OF KEY ARTICLES

OPINIONS & DISCUSSIONS**The Reuse of Brno Brownfields, by Marcela Drkošová**

Brownfields is a term for completely or partly abandoned zones, or those rarely employed, within urbanized territories. The revitalization of brownfields restrains suburbanization, and the decisive factor for such revitalization remains to be the financial support on national and European levels. Necessary for the control of the revitalization process is a unified method of filing the databases of brownfields. Industrial brownfields make up some 5.8 % of the city of Brno's urbanized area. The transformation of the *Vaňkovka* factory into a modern commercial centre shows that reusing a brownfield means a long process, full of alterations and necessary compromises. An example of previously materialized projects is the zone of the Brno gasworks. Carried out now is another project of revitalization, of the *Křenová/Masná* industrial zone which is being transformed into a housing area. More locations are still waiting for their new use.

Urban Planning of the Prague Metropolitan Area, an Interview with Prague's Architects

Big cities all over the world are facing large problems with their growth and with the interests overranging their administrative confines. Similarly, Prague has to coordinate the urban planning of the city's outer zones with the surrounding settlements located in the Region of Central Bohemia. Related questions, and those of other difficult areas of the capital, are discussed in an interview with the Head of the Municipality's Urban Planning Department, Mr Milan Körner, the Head of the Spatial Information Department, Mr Petr Durdík, and the Head of the Urban Planning Detail Studio, Mrs Vlasta Klokočková.

The Canadian Country, by Vladimír Matuš

The author of this contribution, a Canadian architect, was introduced to UPSD's readers in the 2/2004 issue, with a report on the *urban braille* project for the blind. This time, Mr Matuš comments on the problems of country life in Canada, sometimes surprisingly similar to ours and, hopefully, interesting to our audience.