

ABSTRACT

This thesis is focused on the perception of urban space and searching for the optimum environment in a city. On the basis of criticism of homogenous space and urban theories introduced by Jan Gehl and Kevin Lynch I deal with kinds of districts defined as heterogeneous with respect to types of buildings, a terrain relief, a proportion of vegetation and various functions of buildings. The research part of the thesis is focused on a concrete heterogeneous district of Prague (on the district of Michle). It was carried out by interviews with inhabitants of this district and observation of the locality. The respondents answered questions regarding Michle and questions which studied the perception of urban space in various contexts. The text of the thesis includes verbatim transcripts of respondents' responses which demonstrate the way people think of urban space. The concluding part of the thesis summarizes results of the research and makes comments on heterogeneous districts as the optimum environment within a city.

Key words: city, district, heterogeneity, perception, urban environment