

# River. Space. Design.

Third and Enlarged Edition

**Planning Strategies,  
Methods and Projects  
for Urban Rivers**

Martin Prominski  
Antje Stokman  
Susanne Zeller  
Daniel Stimberg  
Hinnerk Voermanek  
Katarina Bajc  
Nengshi Zheng

# River. Space. Design.

**Planning Strategies,  
Methods and Projects  
for Urban Rivers**

**Third and Enlarged  
Edition**

Martin Prominski

Antje Stokman

Susanne Zeller

Daniel Stimberg

Hinnerk Voermanek

Katarina Bajc

Nengshi Zheng

# 1

**Foreword** ↗ 5  
Herbert Dreiseitl

## Fundamentals

**Introduction** ↗ 8  
Objectives ↗ 9  
Selection of projects ↗ 11  
The book's structure ↗ 12

**Prerequisites for Planning  
Urban River Spaces** ↗ 14  
Multifunctionality ↗ 15  
Interdisciplinarity ↗ 16  
Process orientation ↗ 17

**Water Spaces and  
their Processes** ↗ 18  
Processes and their driving forces ↗ 19  
Types of processes ↗ 20  
Water landscapes as an expression  
of spatiotemporal processes ↗ 25

**Designing Water  
Spaces** ↗ 28  
Water spaces and their limits ↗ 29  
Types of limits ↗ 31  
Riparian landscapes between  
control and dynamism ↗ 33

# 2

## Design Catalogue

**Introduction** ↗ 38  
Process spaces ↗ 39  
List of process spaces and design strategies ↗ 42  
List of design tools and design measures ↗ 44

**Process Space A  
Embankment Walls and Promenades** ↗ 46  
A1 Linear spatial expansion ↗ 52  
A2 Selective spatial expansion ↗ 54  
A3 Temporary resistance ↗ 56  
A4 Placing over the water ↗ 58  
A5 Tolerating ↗ 60  
A6 Adapting ↗ 64

**Process Space B  
Dikes and Flood Walls** ↗ 66  
B1 Di'er entiating resistance ↗ 72  
B2 Vertical resistance ↗ 76  
B3 Reinforcing resistance ↗ 78  
B4 Integrating resistance ↗ 80  
B5 Temporary resistance ↗ 82  
B6 Making river dynamics evident ↗ 84

**Process Space C  
Flood Areas** ↗ 86  
C1 Extending the space ↗ 92  
C2 Placing over the water ↗ 96  
C3 Tolerating ↗ 100  
C4 Evading ↗ 104  
C5 Adapting ↗ 106

**Process Space D  
Riverbeds and Currents** ↗ 108  
D1 Deflecting the current ↗ 114  
D2 Grading the channel ↗ 118  
D3 Varying the riverbed ↗ 120  
D4 Varying the bank reinforcement ↗ 122  
D5 Varying the riverbed reinforcement ↗ 126

**Process Space E  
Dynamic River Landscapes** ↗ 128  
E1 Allowing channel migration ↗ 134  
E2 Initiating channel dynamics ↗ 136  
E3 Creating new channels ↗ 138  
E4 Restricting channel dynamics ↗ 140

# 3

## Project Catalogue

### Introduction ↗ 144

### Process Space A

#### Embankment Walls and Promenades ↗ 148

- Allegheny River, Pittsburgh, USA 150
- East River, New York, USA ↗ 152
- Elster and Pleiße Millraces, Leipzig, Germany ↗ 156
- Fox River, Green Bay, USA ↗ 160
- Leine, Hanover, Germany ↗ 162
- Limmat, Zurich, Switzerland (Factory by the Water) ↗ 164
- Limmat, Zurich, Switzerland (Wipkingerpark) ↗ 166
- Rhône, Lyon, France ↗ 168
- Seine, Choisy-le-Roi, France ↗ 172
- Spree, Berlin, Germany ↗ 174
- Wupper, Wuppertal, Germany ↗ 176

### Process Space B

#### Dikes and Flood Walls ↗ 178

- Elbe, Hamburg, Germany (Promenade Niederhafen) ↗ 180
- IJssel, Doesburg, the Netherlands ↗ 182
- IJssel, Kampen, the Netherlands ↗ 184
- Josefsbach and Rems, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany ↗ 188
- Main, Miltenberg, Germany ↗ 192
- Main, Wörth am Main, Germany ↗ 194
- Nahe, Bad Kreuznach, Germany ↗ 198
- Regen, Regensburg, Germany ↗ 202
- Sieg, Siegen, Germany ↗ 204
- Waal, between A'er den and Dreumel, the Netherlands ↗ 206
- Waal, Zaltbommel, the Netherlands ↗ 208

### Process Space C

#### Flood Areas ↗ 210

- Bergsche Maas, between Waalwijk and Geertruidenberg, the Netherlands ↗ 212
- Besòs, Barcelona, Spain ↗ 214
- Bu'alo Bayou, Houston, US A ↗ 216
- Ebro, Zaragoza, Spain ↗ 218
- Elbe, Hamburg, Germany ↗ 222
- Gallego, Zuera, Spain ↗ 224
- Guadalupe River, San Jose, USA ↗ 228
- Guitang River, Changsha, China ↗ 232
- Ihme, Hanover, Germany ↗ 236
- IJssel, Zwolle, the Netherlands ↗ 238
- Kyll, Trier, Germany ↗ 240
- Maas, Maasbommel, the Netherlands ↗ 242

Maozhou River, Shenzhen, China ↗ 244

Petite Gironde, Coulaines, France ↗ 246

Rhine, Brühl, Germany ↗ 250

Rhine, Mannheim, Germany ↗ 252

Seine, Le Pecq, France ↗ 254

Te Auaunga, Auckland, New Zealand ↗ 256

Waal, Gameren, the Netherlands ↗ 258

Waal, Nijmegen-Lent, the Netherlands ↗ 262

Wantij, Dordrecht, the Netherlands ↗ 264

Wupper, Müngsten, Germany ↗ 266

Yiwu and Wuyi Rivers, Jinhua, China ↗ 268

Yongning River, Taizhou, China ↗ 272

### Process Space D

#### Riverbeds and Currents ↗ 274

- Ahna, Kassel, Germany ↗ 276
- Ahr, Bolzano, Italy ↗ 278
- Alb, Karlsruhe, Germany ↗ 282
- Birs, Basel, Switzerland ↗ 284
- Kallang River, Bishan, Singapore ↗ 286
- Leutschenbach, Zurich, Switzerland ↗ 290
- Neckar, Ladenburg, Germany ↗ 292
- Seille, Metz, France ↗ 296
- Soestbach, Soest, Germany ↗ 298
- Wiese, Basel, Switzerland ↗ 300
- Wiese, Lörrach, Germany ↗ 302

### Process Space E

#### Dynamic River Landscapes ↗ 304

- Aire, Geneva, Switzerland ↗ 306
- Isar, Munich, Germany ↗ 310
- Losse, Kassel, Germany ↗ 314
- Murg, Frauenfeld, Switzerland ↗ 316
- Schunter, Braunschweig, Germany ↗ 318
- Wahlebach, Kassel, Germany ↗ 320
- Werse, Beckum, Germany ↗ 322

### Appendix

Project Credits and References ↗ 325

Further Reference Projects ↗ 334

Glossary ↗ 338

Selected Bibliography ↗ 341

Indices ↗ 345

Authors ↗ 352

Acknowledgements ↗ 352

Illustration Credits ↗ 353



# Design Catalogue

PROCESS SPACE



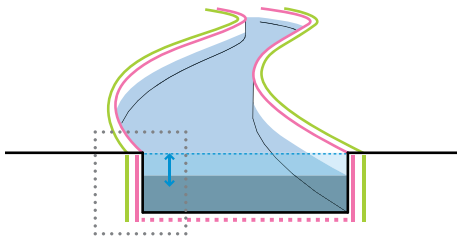
DESIGN STRATEGY



DESIGN TOOL

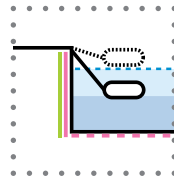
# A

**Embankment Walls  
and Promenades**



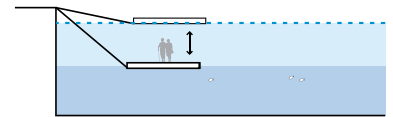
# A6

**Adapting**



**A6.2**

**Floating islands**



# Introduction

The following Design Catalogue is the heart of this book – a collection that abstracts and identifies the ideas and design approaches from the projects we examined and presents them in the form of design tools and measures that are transferable to future projects. Thus it becomes easier for designers to discover appropriate measures for their specific contexts. To this end, the catalogue groups the design tools into five ‘Process Spaces’ in which they are applied. Within each Process Space the tools are subdivided into groups of design strategies.

## Process spaces

One of the greatest challenges of compiling this catalogue was to distil the common features from the multifarious urban river spaces we examined, and to summarise them in the form of a reasonable number of spatial types – it is only by means of such abstraction that it becomes possible to transfer and apply the many and various design tools to the most diverse design tasks. As a basis for the categorisation, specific urban river space situations were examined where the spatial conditions and river processes (from fluctuations in the water level to morphodynamic processes, see Part 1) are readily identifiable in clearly defined relationships to one another that vary according to the Process Space. We call these areas of the riparian space Process Spaces, and make a fundamental distinction between five types.

In Process Space A, ‘Embankment Walls and Promenades’, the banks are very steep and there is hardly any flood area available. For this reason fluctuations in watercourse conditions are mainly vertical and morphodynamic processes are consequently excluded.

In Process Space B, ‘Dikes and Flood Walls’, large vertical elements limit the flood area at some distance from the normal watercourse. Both horizontal and vertical fluctuations in the watercourse conditions take place, whereby the borders of this Process Space only permit very small-scale morphodynamic processes.

Process Space C, ‘Flood Areas’, comprises spaces near the watercourse that are regularly submerged under its horizontal expansion and in which spatial design has to work with these processes.

In these three Process Spaces A–C no alterations to the water space itself is intended; water flow fluctuations alone bring about their constantly changing appearance. In Process Spaces D and E, by contrast, morphodynamic processes dominate, such as the shifting of sediment or changes to the river’s course; the fluvial dynamics can be read not only in the changing water level but also in changes to the river itself.

In Process Space D, ‘Riverbeds and Currents’, when the river is not sealed in places, reversible aggradation and erosion processes can happen along the riverbed, with consequences for the form of the riverbed and also the banks.

Process Space E, ‘Dynamic River Landscapes’, is shaped by processes that are to be found in natural watercourses. By including the flood areas in the erosion and aggradation processes, the river can shift its entire course.

In the graphic presentation of each Process Space, the processes that occur within the space and their limits are indicated in the same way as in Part 1: the flood limit is marked by a green line and the limits of a river’s self-dynamic development by a red line, while the location and extent of the Process Space is delineated by a grey rectangle.

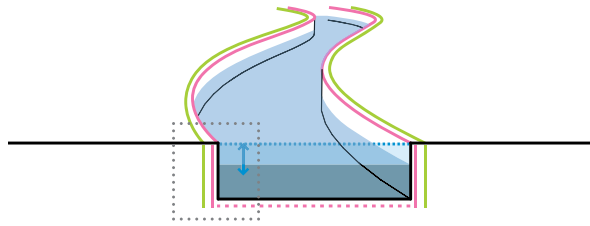
Most of the projects presented in this book can be categorised within one Process Space type, but very extensive projects can encompass several Process Spaces. For example, the project on the River Isar in Munich focussed on the revitalisation of the watercourse, and design measures can be assigned to Process Space E, ‘Dynamic River Landscapes’. However, the project also involved reinforcing the dikes, and this spatial situation comes under Process Space B, ‘Dikes and Flood Walls’ and employs its own particular design repertoire. Within a single project, then, design tools and measures from various Process Spaces can appear. As a rule, however, the design tools applied correspond with the Process Space to which the project is assigned in Part 3 of the book.

**Design strategies** The design strategies illustrate ways of responding to river processes in the design of waterside spaces. They describe an approach or an attitude that the designer adopts towards the water: for instance, to tolerate it, go with it, divert it, or do many other

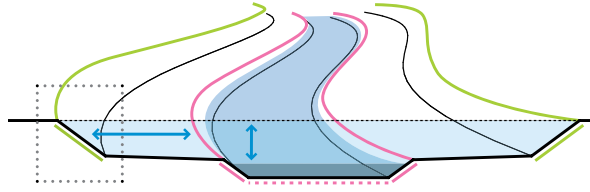


PROCESS SPACES

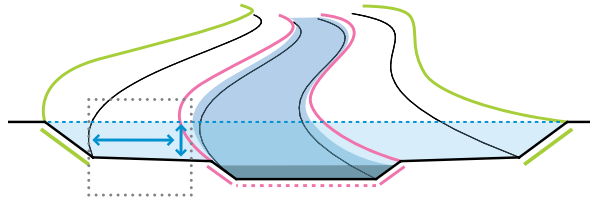
**A** Embankment Walls and Promenades



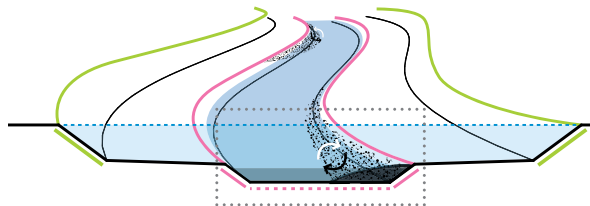
**B** Dikes and Flood Walls



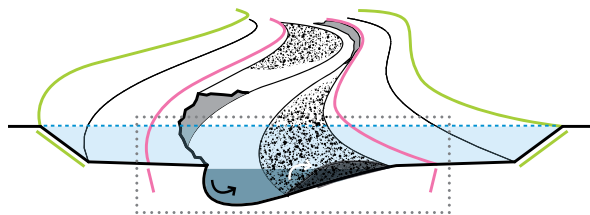
**C** Flood Areas








**D** Riverbeds and Currents










**E** Dynamic River Landscapes



Limits

-  Limits process space
-  Flood limits
-  Limits of self-dynamic river channel development
-  Riverbed reinforcement
-  Limits of vertical water level fluctuation

Processes

-  Limit of vertical water level fluctuation
-  Horizontal spread
-  Sedimentation shift
-  Sedimentation
-  Erosion
-  Undercut bank
-  Sediments

things. Each design strategy combines several practical design tools or measures that have all been influenced by this attitude.

In Process Space A, for example, all the designs primarily address vertical fluctuations in the watercourse. One design strategy is to shape elements in such a way that they can be submerged when the water level rises without suffering damage. They are capable of 'tolerating' the rising water. Another strategy is to design elements to 'adapt' to rising water levels, as houseboats or floating jetties do. The spectrum of various design strategies makes it clear how many different ways there are within each Process Space of dealing with the respective water dynamics through design. Analysing the case studies made it possible to identify between four and six discrete strategies for each Process Space.

**Design tools and measures** The individual design measures employed on site were identified using plans, literature, discussions and visits, subsequently abstracted in the form of transferable design tools and depicted in schematic sections or plans. Design tools can range from the smallest of measures such as individual seating areas by the river-side through to large-scale interventions such as the construction of retention areas.

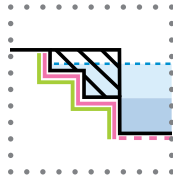
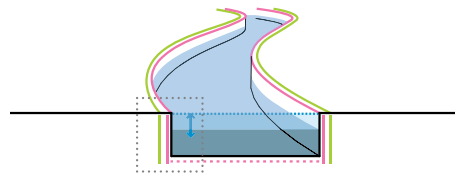
Two significant criteria had to be met before a design tool was included in the catalogue: constructive examination of and involvement with the watercourse dynamics, and multifunctional intervention. Preference was given to tools that responded creatively to the complex demands of urban water spaces and that could serve as a source of inspiration for future projects. The catalogue makes no claim to be a comprehensive list of all the possible design measures for watercourses, but is intended to offer many and varied suggestions for use in other designers' work on water projects through its transferable design approaches and practical examples.

The principle of each design tool is presented with a sectional or plan drawing and illustrated with a photograph of a project example. Links with page numbers are indicated under design tool and refer to the projects in Part 3. Vice versa, the design tools listed for each case study in Part 3, the Project Catalogue, can easily be found in Part 2, the Design Catalogue, which provides a detailed explanation and identifies other projects using the same tool.

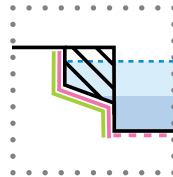
**Combinations of design tools** Hardly any design task for urban water spaces can be resolved using a single design tool; frequently, several design tools are combined within a Process Space. Proceeding from the experience gathered through our analysis of the case studies on combinations that often occur in practice or complement each other well, suggestions for combining design tools are made in the Design Catalogue. Each design strategy has a list of recommended combinations with design tools from other strategies: for example, flood protection walls (B2.1) from the list of B2 (Vertical resistance) strategies can be easily combined with a dike park concept (B1.1 Dike parks) by integrating the wall as a seating element or spatial organisation feature. The wall could just as easily be enhanced with mobile flood protection elements (B5.1–5.3) that make openings and windows in the wall possible.

# List of process spaces and design strategies

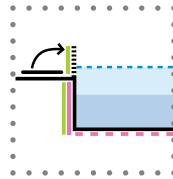
## A Embankment Walls and Promenades



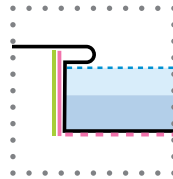
**A1**  
Linear spatial expansion  
↗ 52



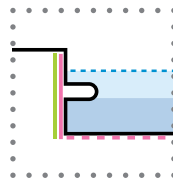
**A2**  
Selective spatial expansion  
↗ 54



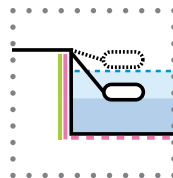
**A3**  
Temporary resistance  
↗ 56



**A4**  
Placing over the water  
↗ 58

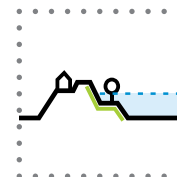
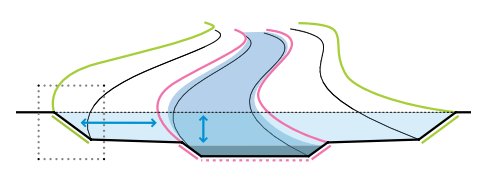


**A5**  
Tolerating  
↗ 60

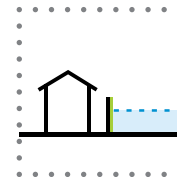


**A6**  
Adapting  
↗ 64

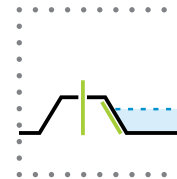
## B Dikes and Flood Walls



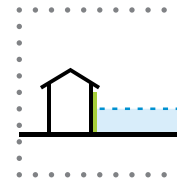
**B1**  
Differentiating resistance  
↗ 72



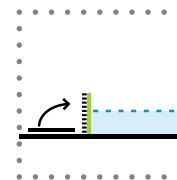
**B2**  
Vertical resistance  
↗ 76



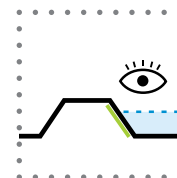
**B3**  
Reinforcing resistance  
↗ 78



**B4**  
Integrating resistance  
↗ 80

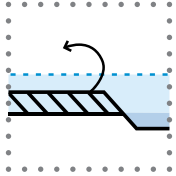
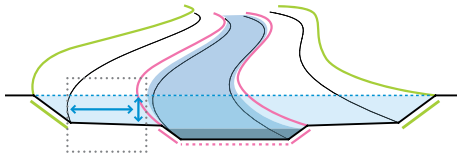


**B5**  
Temporary resistance  
↗ 82

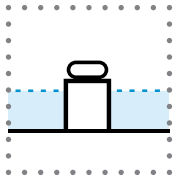


**B6**  
Making river dynamics evident  
↗ 84

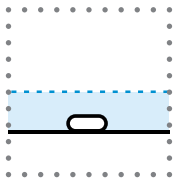
# C Flood Areas



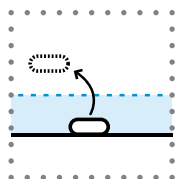
**C1**  
**Extending the space**  
 ↗ 92



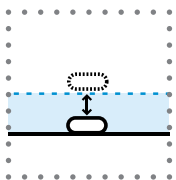
**C2**  
**Placing over the water**  
 ↗ 96



**C3**  
**Tolerating**  
 ↗ 100

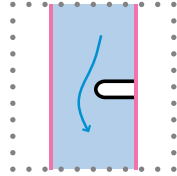
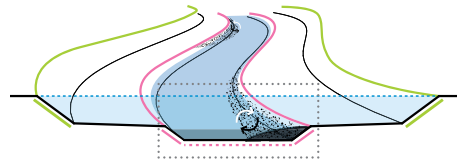


**C4**  
**Evading**  
 ↗ 104

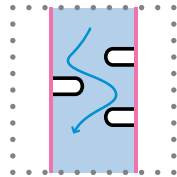


**C5**  
**Adapting**  
 ↗ 106

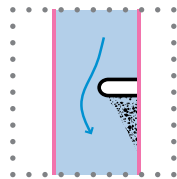
# D Riverbeds and Currents



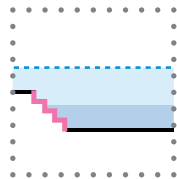
**D1**  
**Deflecting the current**  
 ↗ 114



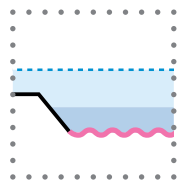
**D2**  
**Grading the channel**  
 ↗ 118



**D3**  
**Varying the riverbed**  
 ↗ 120

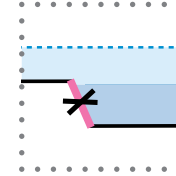
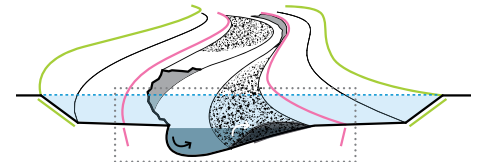


**D4**  
**Varying the bank reinforcement**  
 ↗ 122

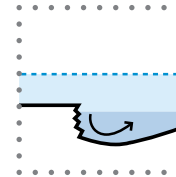


**D5**  
**Varying the riverbed reinforcement**  
 ↗ 126

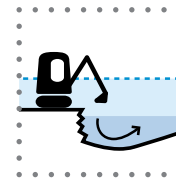
# E Dynamic River Landscapes



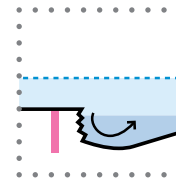
**E1**  
**Allowing channel migration**  
 ↗ 134



**E2**  
**Initiating channel dynamics**  
 ↗ 136



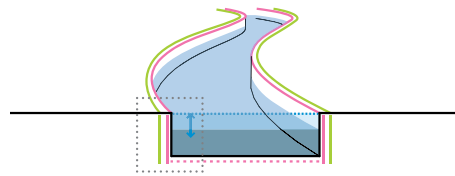
**E3**  
**Creating new channels**  
 ↗ 138



**E4**  
**Restricting channel dynamics**  
 ↗ 140

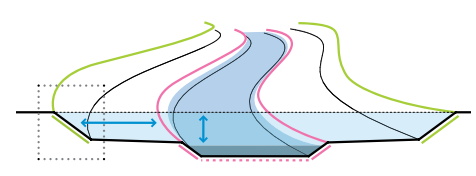
# List of design tools and design measures

## A Embankment Walls and Promenades



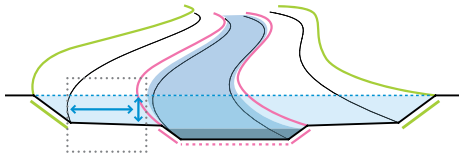
- A1 Linear spatial expansion** ↗ 52
  - A1.1** Intermediate levels ↗ 53
  - A1.2** Terraces ↗ 53
  - A1.3** Broad riverbank steps ↗ 53
- A2 Selective spatial expansion** ↗ 54
  - A2.1** River access parallel to the bank ↗ 55
  - A2.2** River access perpendicular to the bank ↗ 55
- A3 Temporary resistance** ↗ 56
  - A3.1** Closable access ↗ 57
  - A3.2** Retaining sightlines ↗ 57
- A4 Placing over the water** ↗ 58
  - A4.1** Piers and balconies ↗ 59
  - A4.2** Overhangs ↗ 59
  - A4.3** Suspended pathways ↗ 59
- A5 Tolerating** ↗ 60
  - A5.1** Underwater steps ↗ 61
  - A5.2** Boulders and stepping stones ↗ 61
  - A5.3** Foreshores ↗ 61
  - A5.4** Submersible riverside paths ↗ 62
  - A5.5** Submersible boardwalks ↗ 62
  - A5.6** Surmounting the embankment wall ↗ 62
  - A5.7** Submersible furniture ↗ 63
  - A5.8** Submersible planting ↗ 63
  - A5.9** New embankment walls ↗ 63
- A6 Adapting** ↗ 64
  - A6.1** Floating jetties ↗ 65
  - A6.2** Floating islands ↗ 65
  - A6.3** Moored ships ↗ 65

## B Dikes and Flood Walls



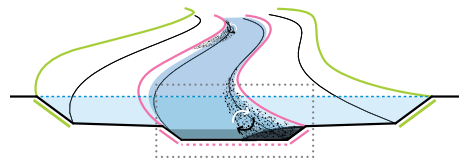
- B1 Differentiating resistance** ↗ 72
  - B1.1** Dike parks ↗ 73
  - B1.2** Trees on dikes ↗ 73
  - B1.3** Reprofileing the dike section ↗ 74
  - B1.4** Dikes as path networks ↗ 74
  - B1.5** Dike steps and promenades ↗ 74
  - B1.6** Superdikes ↗ 75
- B2 Vertical resistance** ↗ 76
  - B2.1** Integrating flood protection walls ↗ 77
  - B2.2** Influencing perceptions of the wall height ↗ 77
- B3 Reinforcing resistance** ↗ 78
  - B3.1** Invisible stabilisation ↗ 79
  - B3.2** Glass walls ↗ 79
- B4 Integrating resistance** ↗ 80
  - B4.1** Using the historical city wall ↗ 87
  - B4.2** Watertight facades ↗ 81
- B5 Temporary resistance** ↗ 82
  - B5.1** Portable protection elements ↗ 83
  - B5.2** Attachable protection elements ↗ 83
  - B5.3** Fold-out protection elements ↗ 83
- B6 Making river dynamics evident** ↗ 84
  - B6.1** High water marks ↗ 85
  - B6.2** Art objects and relicts ↗ 85
  - B6.3** Perceptible changes in fluvial patterns ↗ 85

## C Flood Areas



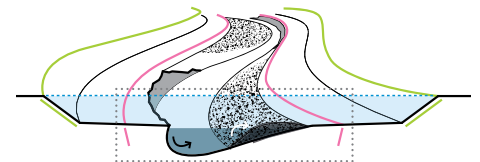
- C1 Extending the space** ↗ 92
  - C1.1** Setting back the dike ↗ 93
  - C1.2** Branches ↗ 93
  - C1.3** Flood channels ↗ 93
  - C1.4** Reprofilng the flood plain ↗ 94
  - C1.5** Backwaters ↗ 94
  - C1.6** Polder systems ↗ 94
  - C1.7** Retention basins ↗ 95
  - C1.8** Bypass culverts ↗ 95
- C2 Placing over the water** ↗ 96
  - C2.1** Mounds ↗ 97
  - C2.2** Mound principle with buildings ↗ 97
  - C2.3** Buildings on piles ↗ 98
  - C2.4** Escape routes ↗ 98
  - C2.5** Cableways ↗ 99
- C3 Tolerating** ↗ 100
  - C3.1** Paths within the flood plain ↗ 101
  - C3.2** Sports facilities and playgrounds ↗ 101
  - C3.3** Flood-tolerant buildings ↗ 101
  - C3.4** Parks within the flood plain ↗ 102
  - C3.5** Extensive natural areas ↗ 102
  - C3.6** Agriculture ↗ 103
  - C3.7** Camping and caravan sites ↗ 103
  - C3.8** Events grounds ↗ 103
  - C3.9** Stabilised wetland ↗ 103
- C4 Evading** ↗ 104
  - C4.1** Warning signs and barriers ↗ 105
  - C4.2** Electronic warning systems ↗ 105
- C5 Adapting** ↗ 106
  - C5.1** Floating and amphibious houses ↗ 107
  - C5.2** Marinas ↗ 107

## D Riverbeds and Currents



- D1 Deflecting the current** ↗ 114
  - D1.1** Large single rocks ↗ 115
  - D1.2** Dead wood ↗ 115
  - D1.3** Laid stone groynes ↗ 115
  - D1.4** Piled stone groynes ↗ 116
  - D1.5** Bioengineered groynes ↗ 116
  - D1.6** Submerged groynes ↗ 116
  - D1.7** Riverbed sills ↗ 117
- D2 Grading the channel** ↗ 118
  - D2.1** Widening the channel ↗ 119
  - D2.2** Extending the flow length ↗ 119
- D3 Varying the riverbed** ↗ 120
  - D3.1** Sand and gravel beaches on inner bends ↗ 121
  - D3.2** Sand and gravel beaches in bays ↗ 121
  - D3.3** Creating scour holes ↗ 121
- D4 Varying the bank reinforcement** ↗ 122
  - D4.1** Partially naturalising the riverbank ↗ 123
  - D4.2** Living revetment ↗ 123
  - D4.3** Stone revetment ↗ 124
  - D4.4** Terraced stone revetment ↗ 124
  - D4.5** Masonry riverbank revetment ↗ 124
  - D4.6** Building over the existing reinforcement ↗ 125
  - D4.7** Terraced gabion revetments ↗ 125
- D5 Varying the riverbed reinforcement** ↗ 126
  - D5.1** Fish passes ↗ 127
  - D5.2** Varying the riverbed and transverse structures ↗ 127
  - D5.3** Ramps and slides ↗ 127

## E Dynamic River Landscapes



- E1 Allowing channel migration** ↗ 134
  - E1.1** Removing riverbank and riverbed reinforcement ↗ 135
  - E1.2** Semi-natural riparian management ↗ 135
  - E1.3** Regulating water extraction ↗ 135
- E2 Initiating channel dynamics** ↗ 136
  - E2.1** Reprofilng the channel cross-section ↗ 137
  - E2.2** Introducing disruptive elements ↗ 137
  - E2.3** Adding bed load ↗ 137
- E3 Creating new channels** ↗ 138
  - E3.1** Creating meanders ↗ 139
  - E3.2** Incorporating a straightened channel ↗ 139
  - E3.3** Creating multiple channels ↗ 139
- E4 Restricting channel dynamics** ↗ 140
  - E4.1** 'Sleeping' riverbank reinforcement ↗ 141
  - E4.2** Bank reinforcement as needed ↗ 141
  - E4.3** Selective bank reinforcement ↗ 141





# Embankment Walls and Promenades







Leine, Hanover

**From a hard embankment edge to a differentiated riverside area. Through the transformation, the boundary lines lose their separating character and a usable transitional area between water and land emerges. The scope for action is frequently limited to the steep embankment wall itself.**

---

46

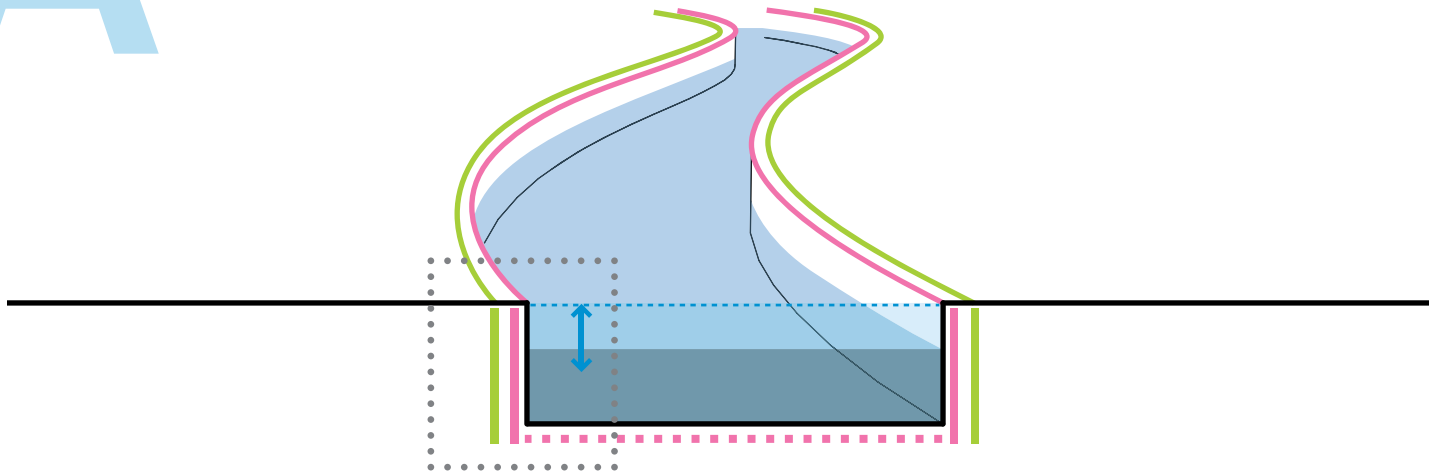
47

---



# A

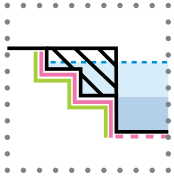
## Embankment Walls and Promenades



**Spatial situation** Process Space A comprises the vertical, artificially formed embankments often found in inner-city areas. Embankment walls serve both as flood protection and as riverbank reinforcement. Most of them were constructed centuries ago and thus exist in the context of a historical town centre or former industrial and harbour areas. They were the embryonic cells of the town's development, the location of the earliest settlement where goods were loaded and unloaded from boats. They are to be found not only on former quays but also along old millraces where hydroelectric power was and sometimes still is harnessed. One special situation is that of rivers that, after being completely banished to underground culverts, are now being daylighted. The effect of these high, vertical banks, between which the water is constrained and runs far below ground level, is that rivers have effectively disappeared from the townscape. The water level at the mean or low water is so low that it is barely noticeable. Nevertheless, it is precisely these river settings that are crucially important for urban transformation and the development of high-quality inner-city open space. Additional physical space for all these watercourses and their banks is usually limited, and most of the vertical edges must therefore be retained during restructuring.

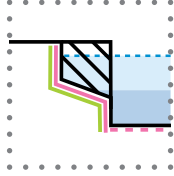
**Operative processes** In stretches of a river located in Process Space A, characterised by vertical banks and no flood plain areas, variations in the discharge flow rate are seen only in vertical fluctuation; any horizontal spreading of the water is prevented. The flood limit (green line) is thus congruent with the limit of self-dynamic river channel development (red line) and defined by a single built element, as the embankment wall serves both as flood protection and as a riverbank retaining wall. Permitting morphodynamic channel development is, in these spaces, virtually excluded as a possibility. Small-scale current variations and sedimentation zones are, however, achievable through installations on the edge of the channel and by piercing the boxed profile at specific points.

**Design approaches** The appropriate design tools and interventions for this Process Space transform its outer boundaries in sections or at periodic points, turning the narrow boundary line into an interface or a border zone. Restructuring this border area leads both to a stronger awareness of the river with its fluctuations in water level and to more differentiated usability. Rising water submerges the zoned border area successively and thus makes the spread of the river apparent.



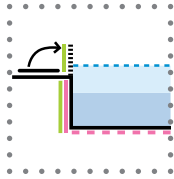
**A1**  
**Linear spatial expansion**

- A1.1 Intermediate levels
- A1.2 Terraces
- A1.3 Broad riverbank steps



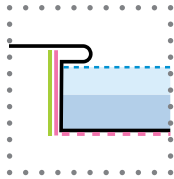
**A2**  
**Selective spatial expansion**

- A2.1 River access parallel to the bank
- A2.2 River access perpendicular to the bank



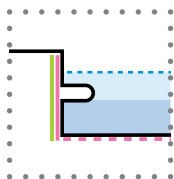
**A3**  
**Temporary resistance**

- A3.1 Closable access
- A3.2 Retaining sightlines



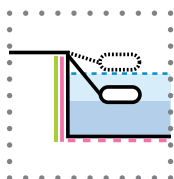
**A4**  
**Placing over the water**

- A4.1 Piers and balconies
- A4.2 Overhangs
- A4.3 Suspended pathways



**A5**  
**Tolerating**

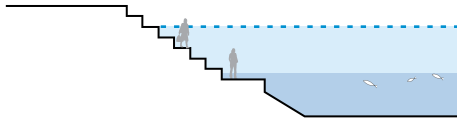
- A5.1 Underwater steps
- A5.2 Boulders and stepping stones
- A5.3 Foreshores
- A5.4 Submergible riverside paths
- A5.5 Submergible boardwalks
- A5.6 Surmounting the embankment wall
- A5.7 Submergible furniture
- A5.8 Submergible planting
- A5.9 New embankment walls



**A6**  
**Adapting**

- A6.1 Floating jetties
- A6.2 Floating islands
- A6.3 Moored ships

### A5.1 Underwater steps

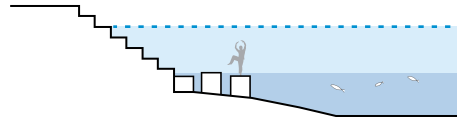


Limmat, Zurich, Wipkingerpark

A flight of steps or a platform whose lowest step is below mean water level facilitates uses at various water levels and, especially, contact with the water. In Zurich, the shallow water on the last step offers tempting opportunities for paddling. Such a solution also presents important safety aspects – as the distance one could fall from the bank into the water is very short it is often possible to dispense with visually intrusive and obstructive railings or parapets.

- 
- Limmat, Zurich, Wipkingerpark ↗ 166
  - Wupper, Wuppertal ↗ 176
  - Josefsbach and Rems, Schwäbisch Gmünd ↗ 188

### A5.2 Boulders and stepping stones

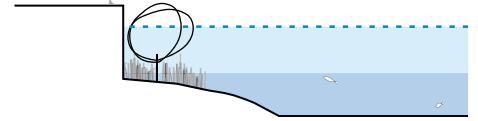


Limmat, Zurich, Wipkingerpark

Boulders and stepping stones which rise above the mean water level enhance the experience of flowing water by making direct contact possible. On the River Limmat in Zurich, stones have been set several metres out into the water. They are of varying height and thus make fluctuations in the water level vividly apparent. Water flowing over their rough upper surfaces creates interesting ripples.

- 
- Limmat, Zurich, Wipkingerpark ↗ 166
  - Wupper, Wuppertal ↗ 176
  - Sieg, Siegen ↗ 204
  - Guitang River, Changsha ↗ 232
  - Maozhou River, Shenzhen ↗ 244
  - Soestbach, Soest ↗ 298

### A5.3 Foreshores



Seine, Choisy-le-Roi

Zones along the edge of a watercourse are elevated by depositing soil material which is then planted; sometimes the new substrate must be secured until it is sufficiently colonised by plants, for example with a geotextile layer. A green riparian corridor develops along the hardscape edge. Such shallow, calmer zones in large rivers offer ecological stepping-stone biotopes for migratory fish and amphibians. They are particularly suitable for inner-city rivers and waterways with a hard, uniform, boxed cross section, and are also very aesthetically appealing thanks to the contrast they provide with their mostly hardscape surroundings. On the River Seine in Choisy-le-Roi, a suburb of Paris, the shoreline has been restored at the waterside: a marginal planting zone serves as an intermediary between the boardwalk and river, and reduces the danger of falling into the water.

- 
- Seine, Choisy-le-Roi ↗ 172
  - Wupper, Wuppertal ↗ 176
  - Josefsbach and Rems, Schwäbisch Gmünd ↗ 188
  - Guadalupe River, San Jose ↗ 228
  - Soestbach, Soest ↗ 298



# Project Catalogue

---

# A

## Process Space A: Embankment Walls and Promenades

- Allegheny River, Pittsburgh, USA: Allegheny Riverfront Park ↗ 150
- East River, New York, USA: Brooklyn Bridge Park ↗ 152
- Elster and Pleiße Millraces, Leipzig, Germany: New Riverbanks ↗ 156
- Fox River, Green Bay, USA: River Decks and Promenade 'CityDeck' ↗ 160
- Leine, Hanover, Germany: Leine Suite ↗ 162
- Limmat, Zurich, Switzerland: Factory by the Water ↗ 164
- Limmat, Zurich, Switzerland: Wipkingerpark ↗ 166
- Rhône, Lyon, France: Berges du Rhône ↗ 168
- Seine, Choisy-le-Roi, France: Quai des Gondoles ↗ 172
- Spree, Berlin, Germany: Bathing Ship ↗ 174
- Wupper, Wuppertal, Germany: Wuppertal 90° ↗ 176

---

# B

## Process Space B: Dikes and Flood Walls

- Elbe, Hamburg, Germany: Promenade Niederhafen ↗ 180
- IJssel, Doesburg, the Netherlands: IJsselkade Residential Area ↗ 182
- IJssel, Kampen, the Netherlands: Flood Protection in Kampen-Midden ↗ 184
- Josefsbach and Rems, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany: State Garden Show ↗ 188
- Main, Miltenberg, Germany: Flood Management Concept ↗ 192
- Main, Würth am Main, Germany: Flood Management for the Old Town ↗ 194
- Nahe, Bad Kreuznach, Germany: Flood Management Concept ↗ 198
- Regen, Regensburg, Germany: Flood Wall and Riverbank Renovation ↗ 202
- Sieg, Siegen, Germany: Siegen – Zu neuen Ufern ↗ 204
- Waal, between A'er den and Dreumel, the Netherlands: Tapered Dike ↗ 206
- Waal, Zaltbommel, the Netherlands: Waalkade Promenade ↗ 208

# Introduction

## Process Space C: Flood Areas

C

- Bergsche Maas, between Waalwijk and Geertruidenberg, the Netherlands: Overdiepse Polder ↗ 212
- Besòs, Barcelona, Spain: Ecological Restoration ↗ 214
- Bu'alo Bayou, Houston, US A: Bu'alo Bayou Promenade ↗ 216
- Ebro, Zaragoza, Spain: Parque del Agua ↗ 218
- Elbe, Hamburg, Germany: HafenCity ↗ 222
- Gallego, Zuera, Spain: Parque Fluvial ↗ 224
- Guadalupe River, San Jose, USA: Guadalupe River Park ↗ 228
- Guitang River, Changsha, China: Sponge City Construction Demonstration Park ↗ 232
- Ihme, Hanover, Germany: Ihme Park ↗ 236
- IJssel, Zwolle, the Netherlands: Vreugderijkerwaard ↗ 238
- Kyll, Trier, Germany: Renaturation of the Kyll Mouth ↗ 240
- Maas, Maasbommel, the Netherlands: Floating Homes in Gouden Ham ↗ 242
- Maozhou River, Shenzhen, China: Blueway Pilot Section Construction Project ↗ 244
- Petite Gironde, Coullaines, France: Parc de la Gironde ↗ 246
- Rhine, Brühl, Germany: Koller Island Polder ↗ 250
- Rhine, Mannheim, Germany: Riverbank Renaturation and Lido Restaurant on Reiß Island ↗ 252
- Seine, Le Pecq, France: Park Corbière ↗ 254
- Te Auaunga, Auckland, New Zealand: Walmsley and Underwood Reserves Restoration ↗ 256
- Waal, Gameren, the Netherlands: Gamerense Waard Flood Plain Renaturation ↗ 258
- Waal, Nijmegen-Lent, the Netherlands: Room for the River Waal ↗ 262
- Wantij, Dordrecht, the Netherlands: Plan Tij Housing Estate ↗ 264
- Wupper, Müngsten, Germany: Müngsten Bridge Park ↗ 266
- Yiwu and Wuyi Rivers, Jinhua, China: Yanweizhou Park ↗ 268
- Yongning River, Taizhou, China: Yongning River Park ↗ 272

## Process Space D: Riverbeds and Currents

D

- Ahna, Kassel, Germany: Renaturation ↗ 274
- Ahr, Bolzano, Italy: River Management of the Lower Ahr ↗ 278
- Alb, Karlsruhe, Germany: Near-natural Restoration ↗ 282
- Birs, Basel, Switzerland: Birs vital ↗ 284
- Kallang River, Bishan, Singapore: River Revitalisation and Park ↗ 286
- Leutschenbach, Zurich, Switzerland: Restoration ↗ 290
- Neckar, Ladenburg, Germany: Green Ring ↗ 292
- Seille, Metz, France: Parc de la Seille ↗ 296
- Soestbach, Soest, Germany: Daylighting of the Soestbach ↗ 298
- Wiese, Basel, Switzerland: Revitalisation ↗ 300
- Wiese, Lörrach, Germany: Wiesionen ↗ 302

## Process Space E: Dynamic River Landscapes

E

- Aire, Geneva, Switzerland: Ecological River Restoration and Park ↗ 304
- Isar, Munich, Germany: Isar-Plan ↗ 310
- Losse, Kassel, Germany: Losse Delta ↗ 314
- Murg, Frauenfeld, Switzerland: Murg-Auen-Park ↗ 316
- Schunter, Braunschweig, Germany: Restoration ↗ 318
- Wahlebach, Kassel, Germany: Near-natural Restoration ↗ 320
- Werse, Beckum, Germany: Near-natural Development ↗ 322





# Dikes and Flood Walls

---

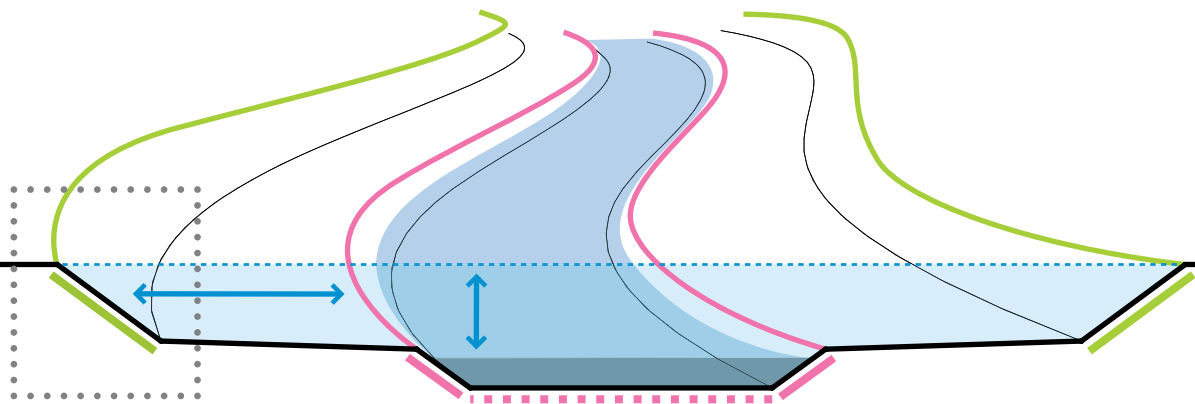
178  
179

---





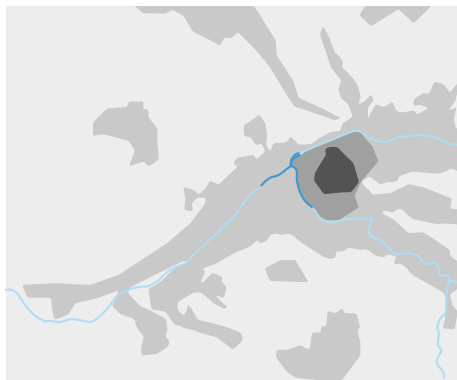
Main, Wörth am Main







1



## Josefsbach and Rems

State Garden Show, 2007–2014

Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany

### River data for project area (at the Rektor-Klaus-Brücke)

Stream type: Mid-sized fine to coarse substrate-dominated siliceous highland river

Catchment area: 163 km<sup>2</sup>

Mean discharge (MQ): 2.2 m<sup>3</sup>/s

One-in-100-year flood discharge (HQ 100): 148 m<sup>3</sup>/s

Width of riverbed: 10–30 m; width of flood plain: 30–50 m.

Location: 48° 48' 1.70" N – 9° 47' 28.00" E

### Design tools

-----

- A1.1** Intermediate levels
- A5.1** Underwater steps
- A5.3** Foreshores
- A5.4** Submergible riverside paths
- A5.8** Submergible planting
- D1.4** Piled stone groynes
- D4.2** Living revetment
- D4.3** Stone revetment
- D4.4** Terraced stone revetment
- D5.3** Ramps and slides

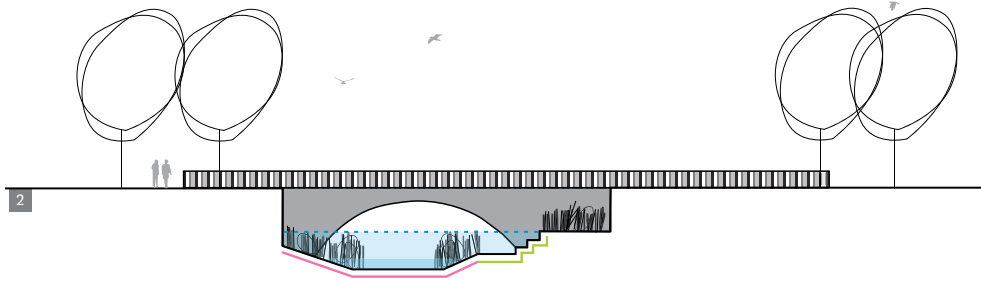
The 2014 Baden-Württemberg State Garden Show (Landesgartenschau – LGS) was held in Schwäbisch Gmünd. The core of this project's overall concept was the redesign and reconstruction of the urban sections of the River Rems and its tributary, the Josefsbach.

**The forgotten confluence** Schwäbisch Gmünd, the biggest town in the Rems valley, is located at the place where the Josefsbach (also known as Waldstetter Stream) flows into the Rems. The Josefsbach was built artificially in the Middle Ages. With its 7–9 m deep gorge-like profile, it not only served well as a moat, but also as a flood channel with extremely high flood protection capacity. During the urban development of recent years, the B29 highway with heavy traffic rushed through the old town and straddled the mouth, with the result that the river mouth ('Gmünd' in the local dialect) was covered over with concrete and lost in the traffic noise.

**Reopening the 'Gmünd'** Followed the urban redevelopment concept, buildings and traffic in the town centre have been reorganised. In particular, this involved the relocation of the massive four-lane B29 bridge over the mouth of the Josefsbach.

**Restoring and revitalising the Josefsbach** To restore the deep-cut Josefsbach and improve its flow, accessibility and landscape quality, the level of the riverbed has been raised significantly by filling it in by up to several metres, and the 4 m high weir has been deconstructed to avoid an abrupt jump. Three rock ramps with gradients of 1:25 to 1:30 help to mediate the difference in height. Raising the Josefsbach reduced the inclination

188  
189



of the previously very steep riverbanks. But due to limited green space on both sides, the Josefsbach's straight water course has been kept within the existing trapezoidal profile. To obtain maximum accessibility and create a more dynamic space experience, a zig-zag pedestrian path has been cut cleverly into the river embankment. This not only adds curves to the straight valley, but also provides seating niches and platforms close to the water. The previously inaccessible ditch has now become an open river space to enjoy.

**The restoration of the Rems** The first reconstruction phase of the Rems started in 2010. The river cross-section was widened from 15 m to 45 m, and two islands were created. The existing 5 m deep weir was completely dismantled. To overcome the difference in height, a 50 m long rough ramp was built. Rock armour (rip-rap) of white Jurassic limestone with boulder weights of up to 3 tonnes was installed to stabilise the riverbed during flood events. Also, a dry weather flow channel with a depth of about 30 cm was constructed to ensure the river's functionality. The second construction followed the first phase with similar measures. The existing riverbed was raised, a 75 m long rough ramp with white Jurassic limestones with boulder weights of up to 6 tonnes was constructed to overcome the difference in height and to provide enough protection against future flood events. In addition to the hydraulic engineering measures, new riverbank walls and three bridge structures were built.

- 1 People walking under the trees by the Josefsbach.
- 2 Schematic section of Josefsbach: submersible pedestrian path (A5.4) along the creek with steps.
- 3 The broad steps next to the submersible path provide places for visitors to sit and linger.



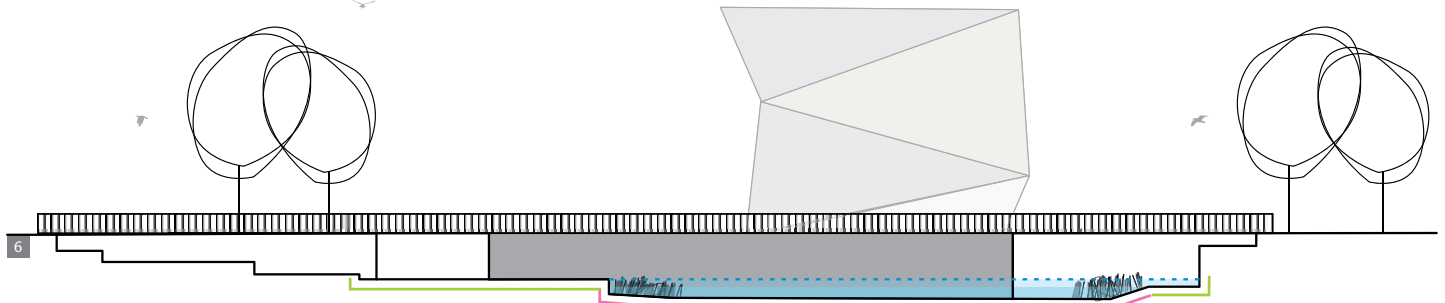




**River restoration as reactivation leverage** The ecologically restored Rems River and Josefsbach have become river promenades that extend through the densely built town centre, allowing people to rediscover the town's history and offering a range of recreational facilities, also for the elderly and children. The reopened confluence has become the new attraction and central stage in the middle of town, with the Ledergasse, Remspark and the city garden leading to the confluence waterfront. Here, a wide variety of designed open spaces offer amazing views from each side. The old town centre, previously cloaked in noisy traffic, is now an attractive and pleasurable focus for citizens and has once again become the showpiece of Schwäbisch Gmünd.







- 4 Ramps and slides on the riverbed bridge the longitudinal di' er ences in height and avoid a weir and other water facilities.
- 5 The city centre of Schwäbisch Gmünd was once dominated by tra'c.
- 6 Schematic section of the Rems: on one side of the river, a wide beach next to the Rems provides recreational space, on the other bank a pedestrian path accompanies the river.
- 7 The sculptural building of the Gold and Silver Forum stands at the confluence of Josefsbach and the Rems.
- 8+9 Josefsbach before (8) and after revitalisation (9).
- 10 The city centre, previously ruled by cars (5), has been transformed into an urban river park.

-----  
**IJssel**

**Vreugderijkerwaard**

Zwolle, the Netherlands

Client: Ministry for Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (MLNV); Ministry of Transport and Water (MV&W)

Project partner, planning and construction: Dienst Landelijk Gebied; Rijkswaterstaat; Overijssel Province; Zwolle Municipality; Waterschap Groot Salland

Maintenance: Vereniging Natuurmonumenten

References:

Dienst Landelijk Gebied in cooperation with Vereniging Natuurmonumenten, 2006. *Vreugderijkerwaard – Nieuwe waarden voor'n karakteristiek stuk IJssellandschap* (brochure). Zwolle: self-published.

Sykora, Karlè, 2008. Stroomdalgraslanden in Nederland – Onwikkeling en beheer in de Vreugderijkerwaard. <https://www.veldwerkplaatsen.nl>, accessed January 22, 2023.

Mastenbroek-IJssel (HWBP). <https://www.wdodelta.nl/mastenbroek-ijssel>, accessed January 23, 2023.

-----  
**Isar**

**Isar-Plan**

Munich, Germany

Client: Free State of Bavaria; City of Munich

Project management, partial planning: Munich Water Authority, Munich Department for Construction

Landscape architect: Winfried Jerney, Bad Griesbach im Rottal

Engineering: Dr. Blasy + Mader, Eching; Prof. Dr.-Ing. W. Bechteler, Universität der Bundeswehr, Munich

References:

Arzet, Klaus; Joven, Stefan, 2008: Erlebnis Isar – Fließgewässerentwicklung im städtischen Raum von München. In: *Korrespondenz Wasserwirtschaft*, no. 1, pp. 17–22.

Zinsser, Tilmann, 2003: Neues Leben für die Isar. In: *Garten + Landschaft*, no. 12, p. 12–15.

Lieckfeld, Claus-Peter, 2003. Wie die zahme Isar wild und schön wird. In: *Geo Special*, no. 4, pp. 106–108.

Zinsser, Tilman, 1999. Die Isar in München – vom Wildfluss zum „Kulturfluss“. In: *Infoblatt Wasserwirtschaftsamt München*, no. 3.

Rädlinger, Christine (Landeshauptstadt München, Baureferat), ed., 2011. *Neues Leben für die Isar*. Munich: Franz Schiermeier Verlag.

Landeshauptstadt München – Das özyielle Stadtportal, n. d. Der *Isar-plan*. [https://stadt.muenchen.de/dam/jcr:27acf468-5e24-46f9-8dde-03add9b06e3c/isar-plan\\_projekt-doku.pdf](https://stadt.muenchen.de/dam/jcr:27acf468-5e24-46f9-8dde-03add9b06e3c/isar-plan_projekt-doku.pdf), accessed January 23, 2023.

-----  
**Josefsbach and Rems**

**State Garden Show**

Schwäbisch Gmünd, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

Client: Landesgartenschau Schwäbisch Gmünd 2014 GmbH

Landscape architects: A24 Landschaft Landschaftsarchitektur GmbH

Water engineering: BGS Wasser GmbH

References:

<https://bgswasser.de/project/hoehrerlegung-des-josefsbachs-in-schwaebisch-gmuend/#vc-images-carousel-1-1627326999>, accessed July 28, 2021.

<https://bgswasser.de/project/umgestaltung-der-rems-in-schwaebisch-gmuend-ba-1/>, accessed August 19, 2021.

<https://bgswasser.de/project/umgestaltung-der-rems-in-schwaebisch-gmuend-ba-2/>, accessed August 19, 2021.

Robel, Ste'an, 2014. *Eine Mündung für Gmünd*. In: *Stadt+Grün*, 4/2014, p. 14.

<http://www.a24-landschaft.de/>, accessed July 28, 2021.

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schw%C3%A4bisch\\_Gm%C3%BCnd](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schw%C3%A4bisch_Gm%C3%BCnd), accessed July 28, 2021.

<https://www.akbw.de/index.php?id=10299>, accessed August 13, 2021.

-----  
**Kallang River**

**River Revitalisation and Park**

Bishan, Singapore

Landscape architects: Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl

Client: Public Utilities Board & National Parks Board

Engineering: CH2M Hill, Geitz & Partner

References:

Material provided by Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl Website ASLA: 2016 *Honor Award*. <http://www.asla.org/2016awards/169669.html>, accessed January 23, 2023.

Dreiseitl, Herbert; Grau, Dieter, 2009. *Recent Waterscapes: Planning, Building and Designing with Water*. Basel: Birkhäuser, pp. 72–76.

Brochure on Urban River Park Bishan–Ang Mo Kio Park, Singapore, LivCom Project Awards 2012, The International Awards for Liveable Communities, presented by Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl.

ABC Waters Programme. <http://www.pub.gov.sg/abcwaters>, accessed January 23, 2023.

-----  
**Kyll**

**Renaturation of the Kyll Mouth**

Trier, Germany

Client: Landesbetrieb Mobilität Rheinland-Pfalz, Trier; Zweckverband Wirtschaftsförderung im Trierer Tal, Flöhren

Planning: BGHplan Landschaftsarchitekten, Trier

References:

Architektenkammer des Saarlandes (AKS), 2009. Gottfried-Kühn-Preis 2009 – Landschaftsarchitekturpreis Rheinland-Pfalz/Saarland (December 18, 2009) <https://aksaarland.de/aktuelles/gottfried-kuehn-preis-2009-landschaftsarchitekturpreis-rheinland-pfalzsaarland>, accessed January 23, 2023.

BGHplan Landschaftsarchitekten (unpublished application documents, Gottfried Kühn Prize for landscape architecture)

-----  
**Leine**

**Leine Suite**

Hanover, Germany

Client: Rainer Aulich, Hanover

References:

Kaune, Stefanie und Meding, Conrad von, 2010. Leine Suite in Hannover geht baden. In: *Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung*, March 14, 2010.

-----  
**Leutschenbach**

**Restoration Leutschenbach**

Zurich, Switzerland

Client: City of Zurich, Public Works Department

Landscape architects: Dipol Landschaftsarchitekten GmbH, Basel

Water engineering: Staubli, Kurath und Partner AG, Zurich

Project management: Gruner AG, Zürich

References:

City of Zurich, n. d. *Leutschenbach/Riedgraben*. [https://www.stadt-zuerich.ch/hbd/de/index/staedtebau/planung/entwicklungsgebiete/leutschenbach/projekte\\_realisiert/reidgrabenweg.html](https://www.stadt-zuerich.ch/hbd/de/index/staedtebau/planung/entwicklungsgebiete/leutschenbach/projekte_realisiert/reidgrabenweg.html), accessed January 23, 2023.

Kurath, Josef, 2005. Umgang mit ö'entlichen Gewässern in urbaner Umgebung. In: *Der Bauingenieur*, no. 4.

-----  
**Limmat**

**Factory by the Water**

Zurich, Switzerland

Client: City of Zurich, Grün Stadt Zurich

Landscape architects: Schweingruber Zulauf Landschaftsarchitekten, Zurich

Water and civil engineering: Staubli, Kurath & Partner AG, Zurich

# Authors

**Prof. Dr. Martin Prominski**, born in 1967, studied landscape architecture at TU Berlin. DAAD scholarship at Harvard Graduate School of Design. Ph.D. thesis on 'Complex landscape design'. From 2003–2008 he was assistant professor in 'Theory of contemporary landscape architecture', and became a full professor for 'Designing urban landscapes' at Leibniz University Hanover in 2009.

**Professor Antje Stokman**, born in 1973, studied landscape architecture at Leibniz University Hanover and at Edinburgh College of Art. From 2005–2010 she was assistant professor in 'Ecosystem design and watershed management' at Leibniz University Hanover and from 2010–2017 she was full professor and director of the Institute of Landscape Planning and Ecology at Stuttgart University. Since 2017 she is a full professor in 'Architecture and Landscape' at HafenCity University Hamburg.

**Susanne Zeller**, born in 1972, studied landscape architecture at Leibniz University Hanover and worked for the landscape design practice H+N+S Landschaftsarchitekten in Utrecht, the Netherlands, where her focus was on designing riparian spaces. Since 2008, she has been a researcher within the project 'Process-oriented design of urban river spaces' at Leibniz University Hanover, and other water-related international research projects. Since 2010 she has been a lecturer at Leibniz University Hanover, at the department for 'Designing urban landscapes'.

**Daniel Stimberg**, born in 1977, studied landscape architecture at the TU Berlin. In 2006, he was one of the founding partners of the practice TH treibhaus landschaftsarchitektur in Berlin. From 2008–2010 he worked as a researcher within the project 'Process-oriented design of urban river spaces' at Leibniz University Hanover. Since 2010 he has been working for Häfner/Jiménez Landscape Architects, Berlin.

**Hinnerk Voermanek**, born in 1970, is a civil engineer with a focus on water bodies; he studied at TU Braunschweig. In 2002, he co-founded the öyçe aquaplaner – engineering practice for water, environment and waste water management in Hanover. From 2008–2010 he worked as a researcher within the project 'Process-oriented design of urban river spaces' at Leibniz University Hanover.

**Katarina Bajc**, born in 1983, studied visual arts education at University of Ljubljana and landscape architecture in Ljubljana, Leibniz University Hanover and TU Munich. She worked in art galleries, landscape architecture and urban planning öyces in Germany, Portugal and Slovenia from 2005–2015. In 2015 she was a research scholar at Berkeley College for Environmental Design at University of California. Since 2016 she has been teaching and researching at Institute of Landscape Planning and Ecology at University of Stuttgart.

**Nengshi Zheng**, born in 1981, studied landscape architecture at Leibniz University Hanover and was guest student of EAWAG, ETHZ. From 2008–2018, he worked for Atelier Dreiseitl, Ramboll and Wasser Hannover on various international water-related projects. Since 2019, he has been working as a consultant and providing blue-green infrastructure consultancy services to international banking institutes (e.g. Asian Development Bank), design firms and engineering companies, with a focus on nature-based solutions and urban river rehabilitations.

**Herbert Dreiseitl**, born in 1955, is a sculptor, water artist and landscape architect. After his studies, he set up his öyçe, Atelier Dr eiseitl, in Überlingen on Lake Constance in 1980 (today DREISEITLconsulting GmbH). He has realised numerous projects in the fields of stormwater management, water art and landscape architecture. He is teaching at international Universities such as NUS Singapore. He is a Loeb Fellow at Harvard GSD, active in lecturing worldwide and his work is widely published. He is the author of the seminal book *Waterscapes: Planning, Building and Designing with Water*, first published by Birkhäuser in 2001 and released as a second and third expanded edition in 2005 and 2009.

# Acknowledgements

Our heartfelt thanks to all those who helped make this book possible by providing information, plans and project photos, and especially to the people who showed us around the project sites:

Michael Aggeler, Böhringer AG, Oberwil; Iñaki Alday Sanz, aldayjover, Barcelona; Rudolf Bossert, Tiefbauamt (Public Works Department), Basel-Stadt; Isolde Britz, Bürgerstiftung Lörrach; Reinhard Buchli, Tiefbau- und Entsorgungsdepartement (Public Works and Disposal Department), City of Zurich; M. Bury, Agence fluviale et maritime, Amiens; Peter Davids, Büro Davids | Terfrüchte + Partner, Essen; Günther Deiler, Tiefbauamt (Public Works Department), Bad Kreuznach; Volker Hahn, Amt für Umwelt und Arbeitsschutz (Agency for the Environment and Occupational Health and Safety), City of Karlsruhe; Heinz-Josef Heuckmann, Amt für Umweltschutz (Agency for Environmental Protection), City of Beckum; M. Jameaux, DSEA, Creteil; Matthias Junge, Wasserwirtschaftsamt (Water Authority), Munich; Daniel Küry, Life Science AG, Basel; Matthijs Logtenberg, Dienst Landelijk Gebied (DLG), Zwolle; Rolf Mosimann, Tiefbauamt (Public Works Department), Kanton Basel-Landschaft; Pascal Murguet, service espace vert, Coullaines; Mr. Pelliccioli, DSEA, Conseil général du Val-de-Marne; Pierre Pionchon, landscape architect, Vaulx-en-Velin; Christophe Rouillon, Coullaines; Volker Stelzig, Büro Stelzig, Soest; Grit van Dinter-Schneider, Waterschap Rivierenland; Tom Veenho', W aterschap Rivierenland; Hans Wetzl, Tiefbauamt (Public Works Department), City of Karlsruhe; Detlef Wagner, Kasseler Entwässerungsbetrieb (Water Authority), City of Kassel; Angela Wandelt, Verein Neue Ufer, Leipzig; Gilbert Wilk, Büro Wilk Salinas, Berlin.

For the second edition, we would like to acknowledge in particular the support of Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl, Turenscape, SWA and Group Superpositions.

For the third edition, we would like to express our gratitude for the support of Ilias Abawi, EmscherGenossenschaft/Lippeverband (Emscher Cooperative and Lippe association); Martin Berther, bhateam; Ralf Diekmann and Run Wang, Wasser Hannover; Karin Elzenbaumer, Freilich Landschaftsarchitektur; Ulrike Gödecke, A24 Landschaft; Anna Kristina Heenes, Atelier Loidl; Jing Hu, Earthasia International; Peter Hecher, Landeswarnzentrum, Agentur für Bevölkerungsschutz, Autonome Provinz Bozen-Südtirol (Provincial Warning Centre, Agency for Civil Protection, Autonomous Province of Bolzano-South Tyrol); Hanns Joosten, Studio Hanns Joosten; Simone Knecht, Wasser-Agenda 21; Mark Lewis, Bo'a Miskell; Huiling Lou, T ongji Architectural Design; Danielle van Meijeren, H+N+S Landscape Architects; Tom Mansell, Healthy Waters/infrastructure and environmental services, Auckland Council; Heino Schütte, freelance journalist and author; Dr. Sabine Schutz, Referat für Medien- und Ö'entlichkeitsarbeit (Department for media and public relations), City of Siegen; Frank Tian, Auckland council.

# Illustration Credits

All photos and drawings not listed here were taken by the authors or drawn by them.

## 1.1 Fundamentals

8 photo: HafenCity Hamburg GmbH  
14 photos: Michael Aggeler, Böhringer AG, Oberwil  
16 photo: Stephan Pflug, IBA Hamburg GmbH  
18 Charte des alten Flußlaufes im Ober-Rhein-Thal, published by BRAUN in Karlsruhe. Source: <http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Rheinkarte.JPG>  
22 top Drawn after: Lange, Gerd Lecher, Kurt (ed.), 1986. *Gewässerregulung, Gewässerpflege. Naturnaher Ausbau und Unterhaltung von Fließgewässern*. Hamburg: Parey Verlag, p. 59.  
23 top right Drawn after: Scha'ernak, F. Friedrich 1950. *Grundriss der Flussmorphologie und des Flussbaues*. Vienna: Springer, p. 45.  
24 bottom Drawn after: Schwanke, Karsten, 2005. *Landschaftsformen. Unsere Erde im Wandel – den gestaltenden Kräften auf der Spur*. Berlin: Springer, p. 125.  
25 aerial view: Blom Deutschland GmbH, Neubrandenburg  
26 drawn after: LAWA Länder Arbeitsgemeinschaft Wasser. Karte der biozotisch bedeutsamen Fließgewässertypen Deutschlands (December 2003).  
27 drawn after: Federal Interagency Stream Restoration Working Group (FISRWC), 1998. *Federal Stream Corridor Restoration Handbook. Principles, Processes, and Practices*. Washington, DC: self-published, chapter 1, p. 24.  
35 photo: Engler, City of Wörth am Main

## 1.2 Design Catalogue

61 A5.3 photo: SLG Paysage, Kremlin Bicêtre  
62 A5.5 photo: SLG Paysage, Kremlin Bicêtre  
66/67 photo: Anja Wölfelschneider, Fotostudio Lichtnis, Lützelbach  
73 B1.1 photo: Engler, City of Wörth am Main  
74 B1.3 photo: H+N+S Landschaftsarchitekten, Utrecht  
75 B1.6 right dS+V, City of Rotterdam  
79 B3.1 photo: Dr. Klaus Arzet, Wasserwirtschaftsamt Munich  
79 B3.2 photo: Aquastop, Neuwied  
83 B5.1 photo: Aquastop, Neuwied  
83 B5.2 photo: Waterschap Rivierenland  
85 B6.3 photo: Fabio Chironi, Superpositions  
86/87 aerial view: Expoagua Zaragoza 2008  
93 C1.1 photo: Wasser Hannover GmbH  
93 C1.2 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps  
99 C2.5 right photo: Gerd Franke, Cologne  
101 C3.3 photo: Markus Sorger, Hamburg  
108/109 photo: Marion Plassmann  
116 D1.4 photo: Isolde Britz, Lörracher Stadtbau-GmbH  
116 D1.5 photo: Michael Aggeler, Böhringer AG, Oberwil  
125 D4.7 photo: Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl

## 1.3 Project Catalogue

All schematic sections were drawn by the authors. They document the riverbank structure in principle but do not represent exact to-scale drawings. The sections illustrate an estimated ratio of height to width based on on-site visits and photos.

152–155 1, 3–13, 15, 16 photos: Katarina Bajc  
157 3 aerial view: Blom Deutschland GmbH, Neubrandenburg  
160/161 1, 4, 5, 6 photos: Mike Roemer, Stoss Landscape Urbanism  
161 3 photo: Chris Rand, Stoss Landscape Urbanism  
165 4, 5 photos: Schweingruber Zulauf Landschaftsarchitekten, Zurich  
167 6 aerial view: Blom Deutschland GmbH, Neubrandenburg  
172/173 1, 3, 4 photos: SLG Paysage, Kremlin Bicêtre  
174/175 1 photo: Burgold 3, 4 photos: Peter Hellbrück  
176/177 1, 3, 4, 5 photos: Martin Richard, Davids | Terfrüchte + Partner, Essen  
178/179 photo: Anja Wölfelschneider, Fotostudio Lichtnis, Lützelbach  
185 4 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps (modified)  
187 H+N+S Landschaftsarchitekten, Utrecht, Oct. 2010, courtesy of Overijssel Province (key modified)  
188–191: 1, 3, 4, 7, 9 photos: Hanns Joosten  
190/191 5, 10 photos: Heino Schütte  
191 8 photo: A24 Landschaft  
192/193 1, 4, 5 Wasserwirtschaftsamt Ascha'enburg  
193 3 aerial view: Diephold, courtesy of Wasserwirtschaftsamt Ascha'enburg  
195 4, 5 Wasserwirtschaftsamt Ascha'enburg  
197 9 photo: Engler, City of Wörth am Main  
203 4, 5 photos: City of Regensburg, Peter Ferstl  
203 3 plan: Wasserwirtschaftsamt Regensburg  
204 1 photo: Leonard Grosch, Atelier Loidl  
205 3, 4, 6 photos: University city of Siegen  
205 5, 7, 8 photos: Nengshi Zheng  
207 4, 5 H+N+S Landschaftsarchitekten, Utrecht  
210/211 aerial view: Expoagua Zaragoza 2008  
212 1 Noord Brabant Province  
213 3 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps (modified)  
213 4, 5 Bos Slabbers Landschaftsarchitekten  
215 3 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps  
216 1 photo: Bill Tatham, SWA  
217 3, 4, 5 photos: Tom Fox, SWA  
218 1 aerial view: Expoagua Zaragoza 2008  
221 7 photo: aldayjover, Barcelona  
225 3 courtesy of City of Zuera  
227 9 plan: aldayjover, Barcelona  
228–231 1, 3–5, 8–14 photos: Katarina Bajc  
232–235 1, 4–9 photos: Wasser Hannover GmbH  
236 1 photo: Börries von Detten  
237 9 plan: foundation 5+ landschaftsarchitekten und planer  
239 3 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps (modified)  
240/241 1, 3, 5 BGH Plan, Trier  
243 3 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps  
243 3 plan: HYL, Paris, courtesy of the Municipality of Coulaines  
244/245 1, 6, 7 photos: Yu Bai, Earthasia International  
245 5, 8 photos: Tongji Architectural Design  
251 3 Information sign of the states of Baden-Wuerttemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate, Brühl 2010 (photo: authors)  
255 4 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps  
256/257 1, 3, 4, 7 Photos, Bo'a Miskell  
257 5 photo, Jay Farnworth  
257 6 photo: Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland War Memorial Museum  
259 2 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps  
261 8 plan: H+N+S Landschaftsarchitekten, Stroming and TNO, courtesy of Gelderland Province (key modified by authors)  
262/263 1, 3, 5 photos: Siebe Swart  
263 4 photo: Rijkswaterstaat (ministry of infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands)  
263 6, 7 photo: H+N+S landscape architects  
264/265 1, 6 Municipality of Dordrecht  
265 3 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps  
267 3 plan: Atelier Loidl, Berlin  
268–271 1, 3–13 photos: Kongjian Yu, Turescape  
272/273 1, 4–7 photos: Kongjian Yu, Turescape  
273 3 plan: Kongjian Yu, Turescape  
274/275 photo: Marion Plassmann  
277 3 aerial view: Blom Deutschland GmbH, Neubrandenburg  
278–281 1, 4, 6, 9–11 photos: Civil Protection Agency (Bolzano)  
279/280 3, 5, 7, 8 photos: Freilich Landschaftsarchitektur  
284/285 1, 4–6 photos: Michael Aggeler, Böhringer AG, Oberwil  
285 3 plan: Böhringer AG, Oberwil  
286 1 photo: PUB and Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl  
286/287 3–7 photos: Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl  
288/289 8–10, 12, 13 photos: Ramboll Studio Dreiseitl  
291 3 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps  
295 10 plan: Grünprojekt Ladenburg 2005, Luz Landschaftsarchitektur, Stuttgart  
297 3 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps  
301 3 plan: Basel-Stadt, Tiefbauamt  
301 4 Petra Böttcher, Efringen-Kirchen, courtesy of Lörracher Stadtbau-GmbH  
303 3 plan: Jacob Landschaftsplanung, Basel  
303 6 photo: Isolde Britz, Lörracher Stadtbau-GmbH, Lörrach  
306/307 1, 5 photos: Fabio Chironi, Superpositions  
307 4 illustration: Superpositions  
308/309 7–9 photos: Jacques Berthet, Superpositions  
308 10 plan, 11–14 photos: Superpositions  
313 10 aerial view: Microsoft Bing Maps  
314 1 aerial view: courtesy of Kasseler Entwässerungsbetrieb (KEB)  
315 3 plan: Kasseler Entwässerungsbetrieb (KEB)  
316/317 1, 3, 6 photos: bhateam ingenieure ag/geotopo ag  
317 4, 5 photos: Markus Forte/Ex-Press/BAFU  
319 3 Aquaplaner, Hanover  
321 3 Kasseler Entwässerungsbetrieb (KEB)  
323 4 City of Beckum



The first edition of this publication, released in 2012, was the result of the research project 'Process-oriented design of urban river spaces' undertaken from August 2008 until March 2011, which was financially supported by DFG (German Research Foundation). The project was conducted by Institute of Open Space Planning and Design, Faculty of Architecture and Landscape Sciences, Leibniz University Hanover.

The second and expanded edition, with contributions by Katarina Bajc, was published in 2017.

This third and expanded edition, to which Nengshi Zheng contributed, was supported by Hafen-City University Hamburg and Leibniz University Hanover.

**Project supervision:** Martin Prominski, Antje Stokman

**Project team:** Susanne Zeller, Daniel Stimberg, Hinnerk Voermanek; Katarina Bajc (second edition); Nengshi Zheng (third edition)

**Research assistance:** Christoph Wust

**Diagrams, drawings, project assistance:** Amalia Besada, Jana Fischer, Niklas Hoepner, Rosalie Zeile; Namariq N. Alrawi, Arantxa Piñate (second edition), Josefine Siebenand, Corinna Haberkorn (third edition)

**Translation into English:** Bärbel Cunningham, Mic Hale, David Skogley

**Editor:** Ria Stein

**Copyediting:** Jessica Read, Esther Wolfram; Catherine Atkinson (second and third edition)

**Graphic design:** Tom Unverzagt (first and second edition); Anja Haering (third edition)

**Production:** Anja Haering

**Paper:** Condat matt Perigord, 135g/m<sup>2</sup>

**Printing:** Cuno, Calbe

Library of Congress Control Number: 2022951014

Bibliographic information published by the German National Library

The German National Library lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available on the Internet at <http://dnb.dnb.de>.

This work is subject to copyright. All rights are reserved, whether the whole or part of the material is concerned, specifically the rights of translation, reprinting, re-use of illustrations, recitation, broadcasting, reproduction on microfilms or in other ways, and storage in databases.

For any kind of use, permission of the copyright owner must be obtained.

The first edition of this book is also available in a German language edition with the title *Fluss.Raum. Entwerfen*, print-ISBN 978-3-0346-0686-8; e-ISBN (PDF) 978-3-0346-1174-9.

© 2023 Birkhäuser Verlag GmbH, Basel  
P.O. Box 44, 4009 Basel, Switzerland  
Part of Walter de Gruyter GmbH, Berlin/Boston

Printed on acid-free paper produced from chlorine-free pulp. TCF å

Printed in Germany

ISBN 978-3-0356-2524-0

e-ISBN 978-3-0356-2527-1

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

[www.birkhauser.com](http://www.birkhauser.com)