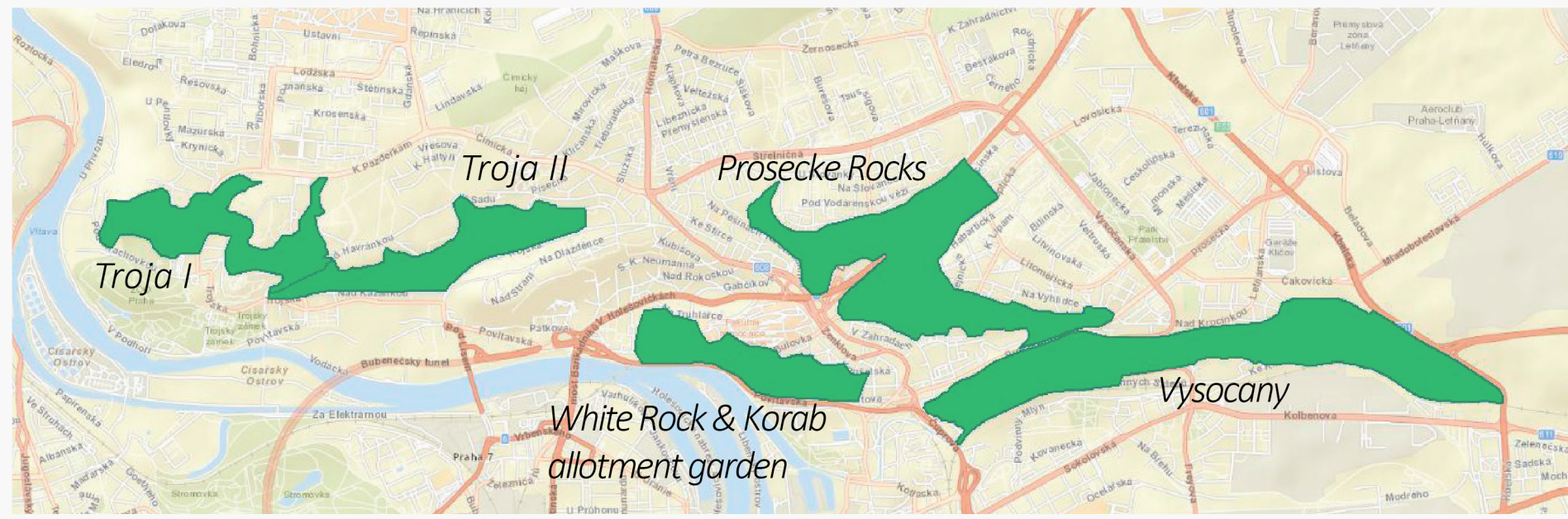


Prosecké Rocks



Introduction



The Prosecké Rocks hillside area is located in Prague 8 and 9. The area has an unique rock formation consisting of sandstone. This green hillside serves diverse ecological and socio-economical functions. It is a varied green space which is conveniently connected to a public transportation network and surrounded by a residential area. Several issues exist that need to be discussed, such as the barrier of the highway and the pressure of urban development.



Rockformation

Green

- The formation of sandstone plays an important role in the landscape, history and image of the area. Bats use the former sand mines as their habitat.
- Wild to semi-wild vegetation has developed in certain parts of the area with mostly native species. The vegetation fulfills mostly an aesthetic rather than an ecological function.
- The hillside provides important benefits such as improvement of air quality, noise abatement and water infiltration.
- Species richness is also achieved through the high percentage of allotment gardens in the area, however this benefits mostly the occupants and direct surroundings of the private and fenced gardens.
- There is an abandoned orchard and the area provides a multitude of fruit trees.



Vegetation on the hill

Management

- The external accessibility of the surrounding area is sufficient: it is located in a diverse urban context with good bus, tram, metro and road connections.
- The access of the green space itself is mixed: sometimes it is visible and well maintained but equally there are unclear, unnoticeable and overgrown entrances. Signs that indicate a green space or natural protected area are often vandalized.
- The internal accessibility on the hillside is hampered by the highway that forms barrier, dividing the area in different sub-areas and hampering connectivity.
- Within the sub-areas, most paths are either well maintained or have a wild character that can be perceived as charming. In a few cases however the paths are overgrown, narrow, steep, slippery, bumpy, lack lighting and can give visitors a sketchy feel.
- The highway leads to another issue: the area is faced with high levels of air and noise pollution.
- Benches are not well maintained, keeping the hillside clear of trash is an issue.
- There are viewpoints with extraordinary panoramas over the city but overgrown vegetation blocks the view.



Entrance



Steep unpaved path



Sketchy feel



Trash

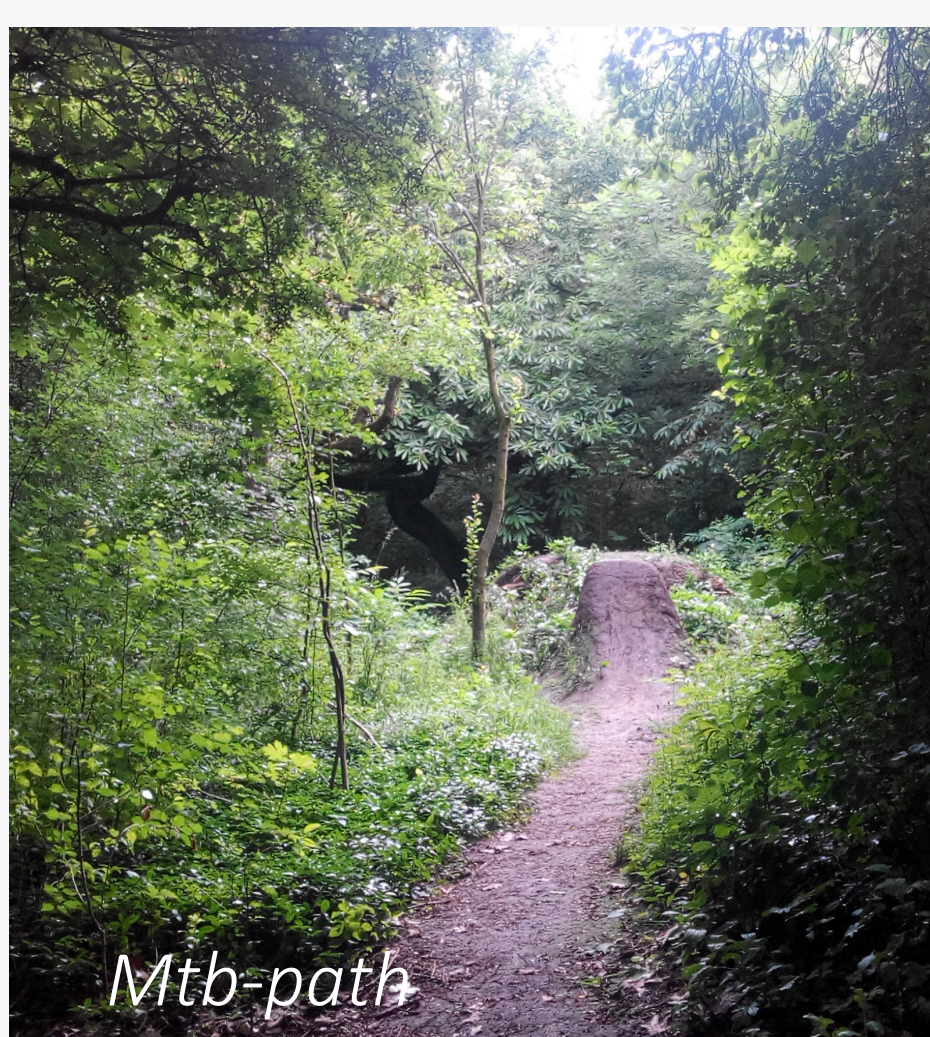


Viewpoint

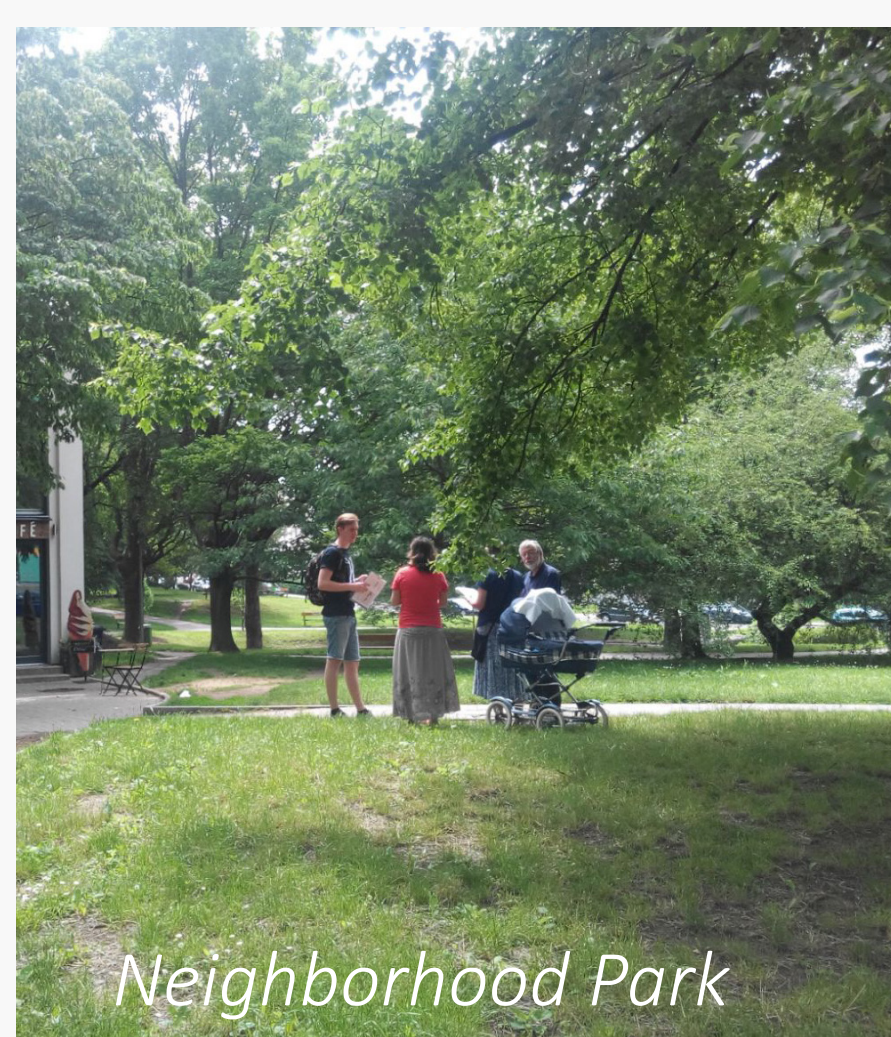
Use

The Prosecké Rocks area is perceived as a forest-like green area with a variety of functions:

- sports activities and recreation (running & mountain-biking, geocaching)
- allotment gardens and fruit picking
- residential areas
- transport (intersected by highway)



Mtb-path



Neighborhood Park



Allotment Garden

Actors

- A multitude of actors, with equally varying preferences, and a scattered landownership is present in the Prosecké area. This increases the difficulty of managing the area as it is lacking a clear division of responsibility.
- Urban development pressurizes the green space
- Public participation is accounted by citizen initiatives such as public surveys by Prague 8, NGOs, guerilla cleaning and bottom-up mountainbike trail creation.



Urban Development

Connectivity

- The connection between Prosecké Rocks and Vysocany via green corridor is not consistent due to private ownership.
- There is no direct connection with surrounding green spaces, for example Park Pod Korábem on the south eastern border and Park Přátelství on the east border.

Scenarios

