

PROJECTS

Sugar Beach Park was transformed from a run-down site into an attractive waterside park. It connects seamlessly into the kilometre-long East Bay-front Water's Edge Promenade.

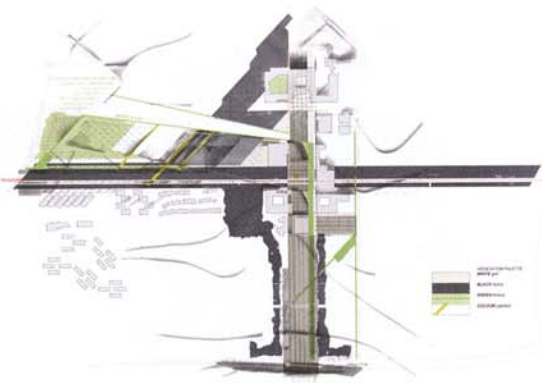


Toronto Waterfront (2)

Canberra University competition

The University of Canberra, Australia, has announced the results of their international design competition to reconfigure the existing university campus. The Sydney-based team, Mark Tyrrell and Sharon Wright, won two major sections of the competition, the Campus Landscape Character Plan and the design of the University Green. Their design focused on the natural, contrasting colours of the bush landscape and its local trees and geology. Besides native vegetation the proposal utilises subtle topography for its sophisticated stormwater dispersal system. The aim was to develop a more cohesive campus environment. The concept incorporates black-trunked trees in the general area and white-trunked trees in the centre of the campus to make it easier for students to identify key areas of the university. MORQ\* – a firm of architects run by Emiliano Roia, Andrea Quagliola and Matteo Monteduro with offices in Rome and Perth – were awarded the siting of key buildings and concourse sections of the competition. Inspired by the existing natural surroundings of the campus, they designed a network of grass-covered roof canopies with openings to accommodate existing trees. Their concourse featured elevated buildings which appear to float above the campus, shading the people below.

Mark Tyrrell and Sharon Wright



The winners' landscape character proposal takes the existing condition of the site – the ancient landform, the dry forest, the ephemeral wetland and the watercourse; it is in essence a landform and planting proposal.

Opening of Canada's Sugar Beach and Water's Edge Promenade in Toronto

Two new urban spaces were opened at Toronto's waterfront in August. A former lakefront parking lot and an underused plot were transformed into new waterfront attractions. The two public spaces are located just east of Lower Jarvis Street in the new East Bayfront community and mark a milestone in the revitalisation of Toronto's waterfront. Sugar Beach is the second urban beach proposed for Toronto's downtown waterfront. It is a sequel to HtO, the city's first beach park (see *Topos* 69). Canada's Sugar Beach was designed by landscape architects Claude Cormier Architectes Paysagistes Inc. in association with The Planning Partnership. It includes a plaza, an urban beach and a tree-lined promenade. The park's design refers to the industrial heritage of the area

and its relationship to the neighbouring Redpath Sugar factory. Tinted by sugar spray carried on westerly breezes from the factory, a series of granite rock candies with coloured stripes and dozens of pink umbrellas are scattered across a sandy wedge of beach along the Jarvis Slip. The granite rock was moved from Quebec to Ontario and provides with three grass mounds viewing points. A granite maple leaf beside the beach includes a water feature for cooling and playing. Sugar Beach Park has a total size of 8,500 square metres plus 1,280 square metres temporary landscape, and its shoreline frontage measures 225 metres. It integrates the future Waterfront Promenade and boardwalk designed by West 8 and DTAH. The 9.4-metre wide promenade is a diagonal walkway

through the middle of the park from Queens Quay to the water's edge. It consists of granite and tumbled concrete cobblestones in a maple leaf mosaic pattern. Lined with mature maple trees on each side, the promenade offers a shaded route and provides space to sit and relax. The first phase of the promenade opened in July: it runs from Sugar Beach to just east of Sherbourne Common. The 11-metre wide wooden boardwalk proposed alongside the promenade will give pedestrians full exposure to the lake. The boardwalk will be built over East Bayfront's stormwater tanks that serve as an important part of the integrated stormwater management system. The second and largest park in East Bayfront, Sherbourne Common, will open in September. Sherbourne Common, designed by Vancouver landscape architects Phillips, Farevaag, Smallemberg in association with The Planning Partnership, is a 1.5-hectare park in the heart of the new community of East Bayfront. For the first time in Canada, designers incorporated into their scheme a stormwater management treatment facility for an entire community. Stormwater is collected in catch basins beneath the plaza and transferred to an underground store at the park's pavilion, where it is treated. The water is then released into a water channel that runs through one of the three nine-metre high sculptures in the park, and is then discharged into Lake Ontario.