

The current arrangement of the rural front yards

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Abstract: The current trend development of garden and landscape architecture directs to the countryside – *the return to the countryside* to original garden arrangements. In current fast and very stressing period each of us is looking for silent and healing power of nature. This trend has been manifested also in garden and landscape architecture. The rural style is used in garden arrangements of garden-suburbs, family houses in towns as well as in the countryside. This research deals with garden arrangements of front gardens.

Keywords: garden architecture, front yard, countryside, healing plants, trends of architecture.

Methods

We used urban project to analyze present situation of the front yards. For our research we selected three areas on the base of these conditions:

- area is represented by aboriginal family houses
- minimum area of analyzed street is 300 m long
- we appointed what is confident and different in researched areas

We estimated every pattern of the front yards from the point of used assortment. We evaluated % abundance of the beaded areas as well. On the base of acquired information we evaluated inhabitant's feelings and their problems with front yards, but also their positive know-how. We designed common solution which matches to present trends in garden architecture.

Research

Nowadays 3 kinds of rural front gardens arrangements prevail:

1. original rural arrangements
2. open rural arrangements
3. modern architecture of the countryside

Original rural arrangements appear in the countryside more often. Repeated use of healing plants, species and conservation plants in decorative part of gardens and front gardens also appears.



Fig. 1. Original rural house with typical front garden with the use of decorative and healing plants, village Strážky (*Calendula officinalis*, *Leucanthemum maximum*, *Hemerocallis fulva*, *Delphinium* hyb., *Syringa vulgaris*).

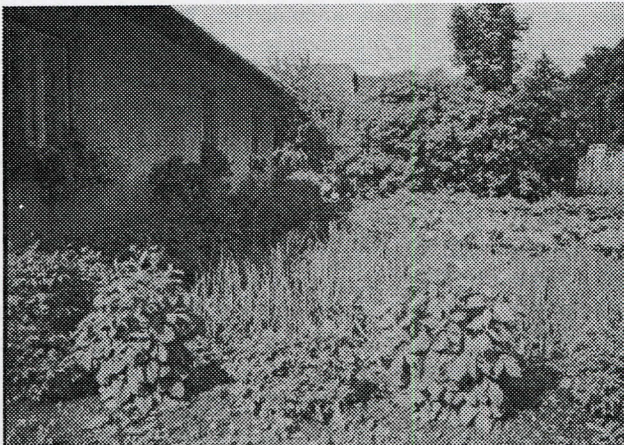
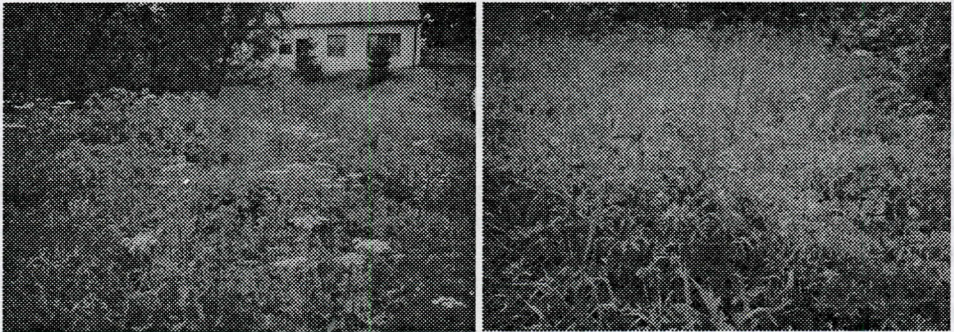


Fig. 2. Original rural house with extended front garden with the use of conservation vegetable and decorative plants, village Strážky (*Petunia hybrida*, *Dahlia* hyb., *Pelargonium peltatum*, *Pelargonium zonale*, *Rosa* sp., *Syringa vulgaris*).

Open rural arrangements occur near original rural farmhouses as well as near the current architecture of countryside. They consist of original meadow vestures of certain locality. Original meadow vestures absorb the area of front gardens as soon as the intensive care stops. There are several reasons of this status, for example economic seriousness on intensive garden arrangement and its maintenance or owner's decision about the area use: for breeding purposes (green feed, dry feed – hay for farm animals), for recreation purposes (the use of farmhouse for the rest and recreation with preceding of original vestures of the locality).



Figs. 3, 4 – original rural farmhouse, meadow vesture, village Strážky (*Prunus* sp., *Picea abies*, *Geranium robertianum*, *Papaver rhoeans*, *Taraxacum officinale*, *Trollius europaeus*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Cozyna canadensis*, *Bellis perennis*, *Aegopodium podagraria*, ...).

Modern architecture of the countryside, where are used elements of current architecture with respect on original rural style of architecture. In garden arrangements of front gardens the use of decorative species and flowers prevail.



Fig. 5. Original rural house after the arrangement of facade, fence and garden arrangement of front garden, village Dražovce (*Yucca filamentosa*, *Clematis* 'Nelly Moser', *Juniperus x media*, *Juniperus sabina*, *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*).

From original rural plants in current trends of garden architecture, in garden arrangements of front gardens there are in great extent used: *Viola odorata*, *Sedum spectabile*, *Stachys byzantina*, *Ranunculus acris*, *Phlox paniculata*, *Lupinus polyphyllus*, *Linum perenne*, *Solidago gigantea*, *Linaria vulgaris*, *Primula veris*, *Levisticum officinale*, *Foeniculum vulgare*, *Anethum graveolens*, *Salvia officinalis*, *Rosmarinus officinalis*, *Lavandula angustifolia*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Dicentra spectabilis*, *Bergenia cordifolia*, *Aster alpinus*, *Aquilegia flabellata*, *Alcea rosea*, *Vinca minor*, *Hydrangea macrophylla*, ...

Discussion

The original family houses were made in 30. of the last century. This fact is confirmed by urban project of the settlement. We evaluate variety of assortment used in garden arrangement. We defined 30 species in 10 frontyards. The most numerous were *Campanula carpatica*, *Chrysanthemum indicum*, *Chrysanthemum indicum*, *Dianthus alpinus*, *Paeonia officinalis*, *Phlox paniculata*, *Sedum spurium*. Less used are *Achillea filipendulina*, *Cyanus montanus*, *Delphinium hybrida*, *Erigeron hybrida*, *Gaillardia hybrida*. From our research arised that:

Linum perenne – beautiful useful plant, used as a decorative plant, is missing in present country frontyards as you can see from the table.

So we can say that use of origin plants is decreasing, are mixing with present trends, which are confirming the influence of the modern trends on creating country front yards.

Summary

Acquisition of this research work is to connect buildings, street area and front yard green to an integrated entity. Its neighborhood, aesthetic and hygienic quality should be a confirmation of high living standard.

From this it results: A man belongs to the nature and not the nature to a man.

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