

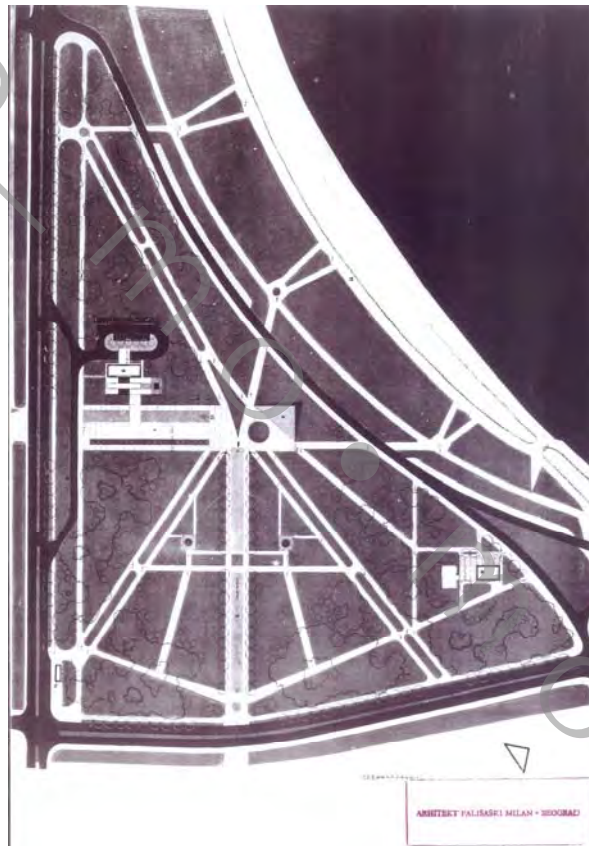
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international working group for  
documentation and conservation  
of building, places and schemes  
of the modern movement

## Minimum Documentation Fiche 2003

composed by national/regional working party of:  
Do.co.mo.mo Serbia

### 0.1 Picture of the place



- 0.1. **Depicted item**  
Competition proposal of the Park of Friendship in Novi Beograd
- 0.2. **Source**  
Personal archive of Milan Pališaški
- 0.3. **Date**  
-

Local data base code  
LND-RS-011-b-0001

## 1. Identity of the place

- 1.1. **Current name of the place** 3  
The Park of Friendship in Novi Beograd
- 1.2. **Variant or former/original name** 4  
The Park of Friendship
- 1.3. **Street name and number** 5  
It is located among Nikola Tesla Boulevard, Usce Street and Sava and Danube Rivers confluence.
- 1.4. **Town** 6  
Belgrade
- 1.5. **Region/municipality** 7  
Novi Beograd
- 1.6. **Zip code** 8  
11070
- 1.7. **Country** 9  
Republic of Serbia (made in SFRY)
- 1.8. **National grid reference** 10  
44°49'12.8"N 20°26'12.3"E
- 1.9. **Classification/typology** 11  
Monumental park
- 1.10. **Protection status and date** 12  
Significant place, Friendship Park in New Belgrade (Decision "Official Gazette of RS", no.8 / 2014)

## 2. History of the place

- 2.1. **Original draft/purpose** 13  
The park is located in a triangular area of about 11 hectares of land surrounded by the most important new buildings in the city - the buildings of the Federal Executive Council (SIV, today the Palace of Serbia), the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Central Committee of SCY (today the Usce Palace). It was formed as a memorial park in connection with the holding of the First Summit of Non-Aligned Countries in Belgrade in 1961. The park had two solutions, of which only the Aley of Peace formed by the planes of the plateau along the paved path was planted by the heads of the member states of the Movement Non-aligned as a permanent symbol of peace and friendship among nations. The first tree-oak, planted the Young trackers as their symbol.
- 2.2. **Dates: order/completion** 14  
The idea came from the Young trackers of Serbia in 1961, supported by the National

Assembly of Serbia and the Directorate for the Construction of New Belgrade. The first preliminary design of the memorial park was done by Vladeta Đorđević, an engineer of the Belgrade Urban Planning Institute. To start the establishment of the Park, Tito's planting of platinum is considered to be on 7/9/1961. As the host he last planted his tree during the six days of the Non-Aligned Conference in Belgrade. The park got its final architectural and urban solution a few years later. The Belgrade City Assembly and the Committee for Care of the Construction and Design of the Friendship Park invoked the general scientific competition in 1965. The rebuilt project is the work of arch. Milan Palisaski which was not realized until the end.

- 2.3. **Architectural and other designers** 15  
Arch. Milan Palisaski

- 2.4. **Others related to the place** 16

In the immediate vicinity of the Palace of the Federal Executive Council (Palace of Serbia), from September 1 to September 7, 1961, the first non-aligned countries sessions were held. The conference got its lasting symbolism in creating the Friendship Park by placing a young man on the plateau by statesman. The first of the statesmen that planted the tree was Saudi Arabia's delegation, Prince Ibrahim Soveil, then Tunisian President Habib Bourbiba, and by the end of the Park Conference, heads of delegations visited Hasim Jawad (Iraq), Javakharlal Nehru (India) Saib Salam (Lebanon), Muhamed Daua (Afghanistan), Felman Velade (Bolivia), Adem Abdulah Osman (Somalia), Modibo Keita (Mali), Kvame Nkrumah (Ghana), Makarios (Cyprus), Bened (Algeria), Dortikos ), Sirimavo Bandaranike (Ceylon), Ibrahim Abud (Sudan), Haile Selassi (Ethiopia), B Ahmed Sukarno (Indonesia), Cyril Adula (Congo), and Gamal Abdel Naser (UAR), are also in the team, . In addition to each tree, there is a plate with the name of the statesman and the date of planting. Tito as a host planted his platinum last and that day is considered to be the beginning of the formation of the Park. Later, other species of pine, birch, linden and maple were also planted. Indira Gandhi, Richard Nixon, Queen Elizabeth II, King of Belgium Bodzhen, Willie Brant, Zhiskar d 'Esten, Her Majesty Queen, were among the significant figures (about 200) who visited Belgrade during the period 1961-1991. The Netherlands, Julian, Moamer Gaddafi, Ulof Palme, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Margaret Thatcher, Robert Gabriel Mugabe, Muhammad Mubarak, Francois Mitrean, Don Juan Carlos I, Fidel Castro, Mikhail Gorbachev and many others.

- 2.5. **Significant alliterations in dates** 17

The park never got its central motive foreseen by the architectural project Palisaski from 1965. However, in 2000, a monument was set up, the "Eternal Fire" obelisk, a year after the bombing of Serbia in 1999, at the initiative of Mirjana Milosevic, the president of JUL and the wife of the then president of Serbia Slobodan Milosevic. The memorial "Eternal Fire", conceived by the then authorities as the altar of the homeland and the bearer of the idea of patriotism, symbolizes 78 days of resistance to NATO. On that occasion, the park got a central feature, and wooden benches were placed along the garden of peace. The park has never been realized until the end. From 1965 until today there were no significant changes.

- 2.6. **Current purpose** 18  
Monumental park and a recreational place

- 2.7. **Current condition** 19  
The garden of peace is in a relatively good condition. The plates of the statesman and other important personalities need to be cleaned. The park requires better lighting and

info boards that would provide all the information about the idea and purpose of the park.

### 3 Description

#### 3.1. General description

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The first conceptual solution of the Park was made by the engineer of the Urban Planning Institute of Belgrade, Vlada Djordjevic in 1961. The Park project is located on a triangular section between the Palace of the Federal Executive Council (SIV, today the Palace of Serbia), the Museum of Contemporary Art and the building of the CC SCY (today PC Usce). According to this solution, the main segment of the Garden of Peace is set on a mildly elevated plateau surrounded by fountains, and in the center itself is planned a large obelisk, at the foot of which would be written the names of the participants of the First Non-Aligned Conference. Garden with its position follows the shore of the Danube sleeve, and its ends are administrative to the building of the SIV and the Belgrade Fortress. Plato of the garden is conceived as a paved path. The park arethus resolved that the internal paths form individual plots in which each country would display its symbols, ethnological features, copies of sculptures, specific garden details and plant species. However, until the beginning of the Conference, only an access path was carried out and the sites for planting platinum were determined.

The park got its final architectural and urban solution a few years later. The City Assembly of Belgrade and the committee for care about the construction and arrangement of the Friendship Park invoked the general public competition in 1965, when the work of the architect Milan Palisacki was awarded the first prize. His solution is geometrically conceived with clearly directed visions to the pavilion of the protocol in the central part, and three artistic accents, the first of which is the pyramid, the second three-point element and the third sphere. A strict axial solution with geometric divisions and pronounced monumentality was selected so that it is solemn and representative. The world of peace with the seedlings of the highest statesmen and prominent individuals is retained, 180 m long, which is also the number of countries that, as their political priority, have had a commitment to peace, through the so-called policy of peaceful, active coexistence. All participants of the First Conference planted the same plant-platan. The choice of platan lies in their longevity, which emphasizes the idea of establishing lasting peace in the world. In addition to each planted tree, a plate with the name of the statesman and the country is placed.

#### 3.2. Construction

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In the project M. Palisaski, the whole concept, ie the theme is centered on the central platform where the program takes place where the artistic elements are laid out: the pavilion of the protocol with a kind of sculpture on the top is consisted of a triangular element with a ball. Not implemented.

#### 3.3. Context

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In microurbanic terms, Park represents the largest green area in the coastal part of New Belgrade. It is located within its topographical most interesting part and zone that includes the most significant examples of contemporary post-war architecture, Palace of SIV, CC SCY building (today business center "Usce") and Museum of Contemporary Art. Park of Friendship is the only public park formed on the territory of New Belgrade and the only park along the river coast of memorial character.

## 4. Evaluation

### 4.1. Technical

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The only structures built in the park are the paved paths of the garden of peace, and the monument "Eternal Fire" in the shape of the obelisk, made in concrete, 27 m high with a final design in the form of a bronze flame in which the fire was burned on the day of the discovery.

### 4.2. Social

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The Park of Friendship as Memory Place has multiple symbolism and significance, above all in preserving the memory of the political and social event after the Second World War in which Yugoslavia was one of the initiators and which marked the world political scene. Due to the first conference of non-aligned countries in Belgrade, the eyes of the world were turned into Yugoslavia. On the eve of the arrival of the first president of third world countries, the Belgrade airport was full of world journalists, television and film cameramen. Picture of the meeting of the leading Yugoslav politicians Tito, Stambolic, Kardelj and Rankovic and visiting statesmen and their delegations was seen around the whole world and recorded as historical. In the hall of the Federal People's Assembly, Tito opened a meeting of the highest representatives of twenty four non-blocking countries that received the qualification "Consciousness of Humanity" in the world public.

### 4.3. Cultural and aesthetic

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The Park of Friendship is part of the overall cultural heritage of the city and Serbia. His formation and existence in a partial form today preserves the memory of a period that is remembered in the world political scene as the Cold War in which Yugoslavia did not want to participate. Due to its good foreign policy and security, Yugoslavia hosted numerous summits, conferences and congresses of a sacred character. From the aspect of architecture and cultural context, the chosen location was logical and symbolic. The project task for arranging the space in the coastal part of New Belgrade, which was intended for the most important and most representative state facilities in a very attractive location, was at the same time a challenge to numerous architects and artists. Members of the jury of the general scientific competition (1965) for the organization of the park were: Milojko Drulovic (president of the jury), president of the Council for Urban Planning of the Belgrade City Assembly; Marko Nikezić, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Voja Leković, President of the Transport Committee of the Federal Executive Council of the Federal Assembly; Stojan Svilarić, Chairman of the Committee on Care for the Construction and Planning of the "Friendship Park" in Belgrade; Aleksandar Djordjevic, dipl.inž.arh., Director of the Urban Planning Institute of the City of Belgrade; Branko Petričić, dipl.inž.arh., Associate professor at the Faculty of Forestry in Belgrade; Paul Ungar, B.Sc., Associate Professor, University of Zagreb; Edvard Ravnikar, B.Sc.Arch., professor at the University of Ljubljana; Oskar Davičo, a writer from Belgrade; Anton Bitenc, Bc.eng.arh., Representative of the Association of Fine Artists of Yugoslavia from Ljubljana, and Stojan Čelić, a painter, representative of the Yugoslav Association of Fine Artists of Yugoslavia from Ljubljana.

The entire park arrangement of the Palisaski architect's original project was based on a peaceful, simple and dignified geometry, which avoided the character of a place with a political message of glorifying one power, one state or person. The starting point of the architect was to form an oasis of greenery with cultural and artistic content without ideological symbolism, as a space with a universal idea and message, on this triangular area along the river bank.

The shaping of nature as memory, planting and storing trees as a way of determining memories of people and events is characteristic of Serbian culture since the 19th century.

4.4. **Historical** 26

From the aspect of contemporary history, the Friendship Park, today connects not only Yugoslav politics, but also the world, the other half of the 20th century. The Non-Aligned Movement was a complex political movement of lasting strategic commitment in the ideological and political struggle of the non-bloc countries in which Yugoslavia dominated.

The Belgrade Conference in 1961 was the highest point in the development and co-existence of the people from three continents, understood as a political manifestation aimed at establishing the "third road", glorified by setting traditional symbols of power, obelisk, pyramids, coats of arms and flags of participating countries in the most important cities of Belgrade in the presence of the people and the political elite, while she gained her permanent mark by forming the Friendship Park.

4.5. **General assessment** 27

Construction of buildings public, state and party character in New Belgrade did not aim to present a monumental and representative architecture but also a unique architectural composition placed in the framework of contemporary social relations and new political orientation of post-war Yugoslavia. Although this is a general arrangement of green spaces with a universal message, not the construction or raising of classical art forms-monument, the idea of the formation of the Friendship park has not expired by a statesman or political leadership from people who supported the ideology and policy of "third times. " From the original idea of the Palisades architect, little done, (9.5 hectares of park area was realized), the specificity in the formation of a modern park is still under consideration today.

## 5. Documentation

5.1. **Principal reference** 28

1. Private archive of the architect Milan Palisaski
2. Urbanism of Belgrade 25, Belgrade 1973.
3. B. Petranovic , History of Yugoslavia 1918-1978, Belgrade 1980.
4. H. Milanovic, Belgrade Greenery, 2006.
5. D.Bogetic, New strategy of Yugoslav Foreign Affairs since 1956-1961, Belgrade 2006.
6. A.Kadijevic, The role of ideology and its perspectives in the historiography, Heritage VIII, Belgrade 2007.
7. Lj.Bлагоjevic, Contested modernity of New Belgrade, Belgrade 2007.
8. B.Misic, Palace of the Federal Executive Council in New Belgrade, Belgrade 2010.
9. M.Warnke, Political landscape, The Art History of Nature, London 1994.
10. S.Schama, Landscape and memory, New York 1996.
11. I.Veskovic, The Park of Friendship in Novi Beograd, Heritage XII, Belgrade 2011.

5.2. **Visual material in the attachment** 29  
Photos of the competition solution (around 1965), Milan Palisaski archive

5.3. **Rapporteur/date** 30  
Ivana Veskovic, hist. art / December 2016