

Summary of the dissertation of Johannes Hügler

## **Challenging Landscapes – Urban Redevelopment to produce new open spaces**

*A vision in open space and town planning for the Magdeburg quarters  
Buckau, Fermersleben, Salbke and Westerhuesen*

The state capital Magdeburg, like many cities in Saxonia-Anhalt, is confronted with the problem of a declining population. This however, presents an opportunity of how to develop the city in a sustainable manner utilising concepts that are both forward looking and innovative.

Following this, Magdeburg is a participating city in the IBA Stadtumbau (Urban Redevelopment) 2010.

This dissertation is dedicated to the IBA scene of south-eastern Magdeburg, where the city quarters Buckau, Fermersleben, Salbke and Westerhuesen lie in very close proximity to the river Elbe. These “quarters at the river” are affected negatively by an extremely heterogeneous mixture of living and trade/industry. With the falling population, particularly evident in these areas, there is now empty housing and unused industrial units and employment land. These areas are now example of urban decline with all the associated problems that this entails.

This work uses the participation of Magdeburg southeast in the IBA project as an example of the potential of these areas for regeneration. It focuses on the very real potential that these areas have for regeneration and the creation of high quality living and working environments. It presents viable concepts and measures to enhance the living experience in these city quarters. These concepts force a re-evaluation of urban planning and emphasises the value of quality open spaces. The research also presents both short-term temporary solutions and actions, to long-term scenarios and a vision of open space planning to develop these areas to 2010 and beyond.