

## \ HIRIYA PARK: THE VALLEY OF THINGS CAST \

Planning principles as submitted to the competition by the planners

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Our proposal presences the essence of Hiriya as a landfill, a "mountain of garbage". Visitors would be invited to experience a unique park, a new landscape created within the collective dump of their own refuse.

Hiriya is a unique landform, a feature of residual landscape. Its substance, garbage, is the deposit of our daily life, all that has been rejected and moved away. Lately, the landscape of Hiriya has changed tremendously, since it is no longer an active landfill. The Hiriya that was lively, smelly and constantly evolving, has been frozen, fossilized. Under the thin layer of topsoil, however, the inner-life of our waste still swarms.

Hiriya is "alive", it demands constant monitoring. Engineering interventions into the site's processes, such as stabilization of the slopes, collection and treatment of bio-gas and leachate, and prevention of water infiltration into the mound, are all necessary for the prevention of environmental hazards. These actions should be seen as generators and catalysts of Hiriya Park: the new landscape of Hiriya would be an outcome of these actions.

Our proposal aims at creating a park that would reveal the strangeness of Hiriya as a giant artifact – the "garbage-ness" of the site. Instead of blending the mound into the future Ayalon Park, our proposal is to re-create a park as an "island" within the larger landscape. The landscape of Hiriya Park itself would be a result of Hiriya's realities and limitations.

The heart of Hiriya Park is the Valley of Things Cast. Today, the low area within the garbage mountain feels barren and claustrophobic. Our proposal sees this area as the place where the garbage mountain's inner life would be revealed, and also as a place of life: an active, welcoming park in a meadow of wildflowers with a planted eucalyptus grove. The visitor would be invited to wander among places of rest and activity, arranged with no hierarchy, as though "cast aside" in the meadow. The Valley of Things Cast, experienced at first as a familiar park, pleasing and homey, would offer the visitor a renewed encounter with the "ghosts of consumption" – places and elements taken from our daily life. Here, the human scale is brought back into the collective-abstract space of the garbage mountain.

The Valley of Things Cast is surrounded by the Plateau, a total antithesis. This area invites the visitor to a renewed encounter with the metropolitan area, through uninterrupted 360 degree panoramas. The Plateau expresses the necessity of

sealing the garbage mountain, preventing rainwater infiltration. Its landscape is designed as a series of "shell-basins", conducting rainwater into intermittent catch basins that would also be used as park features. Different areas in the Plateau would invite for contemplation, sports activities, and large-scale festivals and fairs. The Plateau's unfamiliar landscape would create a sensation of strangeness and enigma that is an inherent feature of the garbage mountain.

The contours of the landfill are to be altered as little as possible. This strange mound, an artificial landform on the flatland of Israel's coastal plain, has become an icon of the entrance to the Tel Aviv metropolitan area. A few critical areas along the mound's rim, taking into account angles of vision from main roads, would be changed only slightly, to maintain the familiar image of Hiriya. Other areas would be moderated, designed to exaggerate the garbage mountain's existing curves. Hiking paths would be incorporated into the slope, connecting Hiriya Park to the rest of Ayalon Park. The slope would be hydroseeded with a uniform, low "carpet" of grass. Hiriya would maintain a recognizable monolithic appearance, hiding the Valley of Things Cast as a surprise for the visitor.

Surrounding Hiriya, the course of the Ayalon and Shapirim streams, currently adjacent to the garbage mountain's slopes, would be redesigned to form an oval, giving expression to the artificiality of the streamways. Inside the oval, a constructed wetland would decontaminate the leachate that seeps from the foot of the garbage mountain and provide a unique landscape experience for visitors. The large oval would demarcate Hiriya Park as a unique feature within the future largest metropolitan park in Israel.