ENERGY in BUILDINGS 2025

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#	Kaltapanidou Christina Interior Designer	
Title:	Master's Student, Department of Architecture, University of West Attica, Greece	t
email:	kalt.christin@gmail.com	•
Presentation title:	The Role of Urban Morphology in the Design of Pocket Parks the Mediterranean Climate.	in

This paper highlights the critical role of pocket parks as sustainable interventions within densely built urban environments. Given that pocket parks are empty plots within the urban fabric the study investigates their typical dimensions in a densely populated city such as Thessaloniki. A parametric analysis of urban morphology in relation to these factors is used as a tool for the development of design guidelines. More specifically, the analysis focuses on how various parameters of urban morphology, specifically building height and Sky View Factor (SVF), can influence solar exposure and shading, and, by extension, the design of these spaces. In parallel, the typologies are examined under different orientations in order to assess the impact of plot orientation on design strategies.

The results highlight the shading needs of pocket parks on a set of combined parameters under investigation, namely: a) urban morphology (building height and SVF), b) plot typology, and c) orientation. The conclusions provide design guidelines for pocket parks in Thessaloniki. The methodology adopted by this study can be replicated and applied to different urban areas, providing a useful tool for architects and urban planners to inform their design taking into account climatic and urban morphological parameters.

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Graduate, Department of Interior Architecture, Decoration and Object Design, TEI of Athens Final-year Student, Master's Program in Interior Architecture: Sustainable and Social Design, University of West Attica

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Graduate, Department of Interior Architecture, Decoration and Object Design, TEI of Athens Final-year Student, Master's Program in Interior Architecture: Sustainable and Social Design, University of West Attica