Urban Green, Landscape Architect Katri Luostarinen and the Transformation to Urban in the 1960’s in Finland

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Green strategies have become significant in planning in the 21st century. Urban green spaces are key resources for planning sustainable cities. The issue of green and green infrastructure is current also in Finland: 70% of Finland’s biggest cities have a green strategy and all of them are made after 1999. This paper discusses how green strategies were developed in urban planning in Finland after the Second World War when the country was transforming from rural to urban. The paper refers to the production of a landscape architect and Associate Professor Katri Luostarinen (1915-1991). She studied in Berlin in 1940’s and influenced with the idea of urban green into post war planning in Finland. Her works have recently been restored and many of them have never been published. Her productive years in landscape planning were from 1950’s to 1970’s, the same period when the country was re-built and urbanised. Luostarinen argued that landscape values and urban green should be taken into account in all urban planning and she took part in about twenty urban planning processes in major cities. This paper discusses how much her influence is still visible in these cities.

KEY WORDS: Urban green, post war urban planning, landscape planning, Katri Luostarinen.