

# Gottesacker

## Guerilla Architects

with Jana Tost

2014 / Berlin / Germany

[www.guerillaarchitects.de/2014/06/18/gottesacker/](http://www.guerillaarchitects.de/2014/06/18/gottesacker/)

### Rehabilitation of a former graveyard

Starting point was a former graveyard in Lichtenberg. The overgrown site was declared as a park, but still some ruins of the graveyard architecture remain. We decided to work with these elements and to add a new meaning to the place in order to foster its potentials.

The savaged vegetation inspired us and we discovered wild herbs: dandelion, blackberries, gout-weed, nettles and many more. The idea came up to transform the former graveyard into a wild herbs garden to enable a new way of reading the urban space. The former water basins were transformed into raised herbs beds. In cooperation with the local gardener school we did a one day workshop and cleaned, filled and planted 3 of the 4 remained basins. The fourth basin was transformed into a water reservoir. In addition to the intervention we designed a brochure which informs about the wild herbs and contains a collection of recipes. It can be found at different locations in the district for free. To present and promote the project we invited residents, gardeners, friends and supporters. They were the first to taste various appetiser made out of Gottesacker wild herbs. The plants are constantly growing and free to harvest.



### About the team

We are an international collective of architects and focus our work on the forgotten and unused resources of our cities. The name «Guerilla Architects» evolved through a squatting experience in London in 2012. Questioning the socio-economical structures of the cities and the role and responsibility of architecture connects our group until today. We focus on unconventional subversive transformations of public spaces. We are a collective of makers, theorists and planners who range in between the fields of urban planning, built and temporary architectures, art, cultural history and theatre. We come from Germany, Italy and Bulgaria and are based in Berlin, Göttingen, Sofia, and London.



### Image credits and license

1. The former graveyard is still visible / Guerilla Architects
2. Appetisers made of wild herbs / Guerilla Architects
3. The former graveyard as community space / Guerilla Architects
4. Products from herbs / Guerilla Architects
5. The overgrown site is a public park today / Guerilla Architects
6. Transformation of the space through gardening / Guerilla Architects

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[www.citycookbook.org](http://www.citycookbook.org)

**Space typology** Garden / Park

**Intention** Educating / Enjoying / Experimenting / Gathering

**Action** Eating food / Growing food / Recycling food / Sharing food