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Summary

découvrir des aptitudes latentes, le temps est utilisé avec plaisir et l'intérêt devient considérable.

- Du point de vue de l'éducation, ce projet-test du Fun Palace est une mesure provisoire, il ne peut évidemment se charger de l'instruction complète. Toutefois, il faut escompter que les visiteurs de l'institution poursuivent ensuite ailleurs la mise en valeur de leurs talents.
- Le projet devrait être varié, vaste et ouvert plutôt que synthétique et unifié.

Au cours des travaux préparatoires du premier grand projet Fun Palace, on a utilisé toute une série de méthodes pour pouvoir déterminer les exigences des différentes fonctions possibles du bâtiment, depuis le sondage d'opinion jusqu'à la recherche effectuée par une équipe de cybernéticiens. Ensuite, cependant, on a constaté que la faculté de pouvoir désigner l'équipement, le personnel et les appareils principaux pour une série d'activités était incompatible avec le degré désiré de flexibilité. Car il serait essentiel – si le Fun Palace devait jamais fonctionner – qu'il puisse se prêter à des situations et créer des conditions dans les lesquelles on pourrait effectuer des activités jusqu'à ce jour inconnues. Ainsi, il s'avéra indispensable de déterminer la durée minimale des différentes sortes d'activité avant d'entreprendre le travail de détail sur les enveloppes spatiales variables.

Il fallait créer des conditions d'environnement qui favorisent autant que possible le choix et la participation active du visiteur aux diverses activités.

Wilfried Beck-Erlang, Stuttgart

Maison d'habitation située dans une zone bruyante, à l'intérieur de la ville (Pages 153–156)

Remarques critiques

La première impression est que cette maison locative comprenant un bureau d'architecture revêt un intérêt indéniable et est pleine de qualités en ce qui concerne la zone d'habitation.

Le bâtiment est situé dans un quartier populaire de Stuttgart que traverse une route extrêmement fréquentée constituant une sortie de la ville vers le sud. Le bas du terrain situé sur une pente est précisément limité par cette route, la Planckstraße. Ainsi, l'architecte était ici aux prises avec les problèmes de l'érection d'une maison locative dans une zone de bruit.

D'emblée, l'architecte a établi deux principes: les façades donnant sur le côté d'où vient le bruit ne devaient pas être complètement fermées car c'est sur ce même côté que donne la vue. De plus, les locaux devaient pouvoir être aérés sans avoir recours à une installation de climatisation.

Finalement, c'est la solution suivante qui fut adoptée: La vue et l'aération furent séparées. Ainsi, au deuxième étage, on a disposé des fenêtres exclusivement pour la vue dans les chambres à coucher. Ces fenêtres sont fixes. L'aération s'effectue par une loggia dont les trois côtés sont fermés au moyen de vitres, en revanche, le haut demeure ouvert. Ce système permet d'ouvrir la fenêtre située derrière, dans le niveau de paroi de sorte que l'aération s'effectue sans que le bruit ne dérange.

Le premier étage supérieur est composé de deux niveaux. La zone supérieure abritant le secteur des repas et de séjour est orientée vers la jardin, c'est-à-dire vers la zone la plus calme, tandis que la zone inférieure (bibliothèque) donne sur la route. Ici se trouve une grande fenêtre mais les fonctions vue et aération sont aussi séparées.

Devant les fenêtres du bureau d'architecture situé au rez-de-chaussée, il y a un mur décalé en béton armé. Grâce aux mesures choisies, l'architecte a réussi à créer, à l'intérieur d'une zone urbaine bruyante, de bonnes conditions d'habitation.

Jürgen Joedicke

Michael Dower, London

Leisure considered as an obligation

(Pages 117–118)

The image presented by the industrialized countries has been altered in three waves since 1800: the first entailed the sudden and low-grade expansion of industrial cities, the second was marked by the building of an enormous railway network, and finally the third wave, the outcome of motorization, was constituted by the hectic development of suburbs on the open countryside. And now we have the age of leisure, the fourth and new wave, whose consequences could very well become more important than those of the earlier developments.

Six important factors determine the leisure of a given population: the size of the population, their income, their mobility, their educational level, the upper age limit of the actively employed and the amount of spare time available. During the last decade, these six factors have developed considerably, and they will be subject to great changes again in the years to come. It is impossible to foresee exactly the outcome of these changes affecting our everyday life. Nevertheless, as regards Europe, it is estimated that the population will increase by 50% and that the need for rest and relaxation in natural surroundings will double or triple. This trend will have a considerable influence on the physical aspect of our countries.

As a matter of fact, people rebel at the idea of having their leisure time regulated in accordance with a general plan. In our age, society seeks to be free in its choices, and it bristles in protest at all restraints. To be perfectly frank, at the present time we possess only the liberty to be deceived; whatever is not determined by law borders on chaos, and the opportunities of free choice remain limited. We should therefore not plan leisure but, rather, create a material basis for leisure with a view to organizing leisure activities as if there were involved an obligation.

In this field, the English report "The Challenge of Leisure", London, 1967, comes to the following conclusions:

- In our present-day society, man enjoys more leisure than ever before in the history of the human race. The opportunity to make use of this free time and the wish to do so depend directly on the increase in income, on the rise in educational levels and on increased social mobility.
- The result of all this is an ever growing and varied need for leisure activities. We need more spacious living quarters which are more adaptable to individual wishes, polyvalent recreation centres, large-scale relaxation areas, a more judiciously exploited countryside and a new attitude with regard to the tourist industry.
- In this field, general planning is a job that is just as urgent as programs to resolve the housing and traffic problems; it is a job that involves both land management and environmental reorganization.

Alfred Neumann and Zvi Hecker,
Tel Aviv

Three vacation colonies on the Mediterranean coast of Israel

(Pages 119–123)

In view of the rapid increase of leisure and the upward growth of the tourist industry, especially in most of the Mediterranean countries, the means rendering possible the improvement of a stage already realized assume a new significance. As a matter of fact, thanks to these means, a construction project can be adapted without too much difficulty to other requirements, or be shifted in entirety.

The three vacation villages under discussion here can be considered as a typical example of such a situation. Their principal characteristics can be resumed as follows:

Utilization of the combination possibilities of simple geometrical systems. Camp Ahziv and Camp Michmoret can be considered as arrangements at different densities of truncated tetrahedrons. The fundamental shape of Camp Kyriat-Yam is a truncated octahedron.

Construction with standardized elements (rhombic and triangular) fashioned of typical local materials.

Result: rapid and simplified planning and realization. For Camp Ahziv, 5 months were required from the beginning of the project to its completion. Moreover, the simple assembly and dismantling procedures permit the whole complex to be removed during the winter months.

Georges Candilis, Paris
Associate: Diwi Dreyse

Plan for a Touring Club de France vacation village Languedoc – Roussillon 1966

(Pages 124–127)

Le Barcarès-Leucate will be realized within the scope of the regional re-organization scheme for Languedoc – Roussillon and will constitute one of the first great vacation centres of this type. Situated about 30 km north of the Pyrénées, it extends over a long strip of ground (10 km in length and 1 km width) between the Mediterranean and an interior body of water, the Lagoon of Leucate. When it is completed, this bathing resort will be capable of accommodating 70,000 people.

The vacation village planned for the Touring Club de France is located on the southern part of this peninsula, along a beach. Planned to cover a site measuring 20 hectares, the colony will have around 3,600 beds.

3000 of these beds will be installed in bungalows, 500 others, reserved for campers, will be installed on a camping-site (tents and trailers). Finally, a youth hostel will house 100 guests. In addition, the building program includes various facilities, such as those having to do with sport, cultural activities, social events and administration. There will also be erected a huge kitchen reserved for the preparation of meals to be delivered to the bungalows, as well as 5 specialized restaurants.

The assembly plan of the village is divided into five zones:

- 1) Zone for public facilities (restaurants, amusement facilities, workshops, nurseries, shops, youth centre, swimming pool, playgrounds, etc.).
- 2) Residence zone (1000 bungalows).
- 3) Parking areas.
- 4) Tent and trailer area.
- 5) Service and administration zone.

The residence zone is itself divided into five small villages each composed of 200 residence units. These villages are autonomous units and easy to administer. The standard bungalow for one family (4 beds) comprises four different rooms grouped around a patio. Other possibilities are offered by smaller bungalows (2 beds). Two-storey bungalows as well as residence units on three levels contribute to the distinct character possessed by each village.

The collective bungalows and the restaurants are constructed of pre-fabricated concrete elements. Technical studies have permitted the designers to define the most economical and most rapid method of construction, which is as follows:

Pre-fab foundations for the buildings, partition elements of cavity brick (15 cm thick), roof elements each covering a spatial unit, the cavity elements being

filled with earth. Planned construction period: 15 months.

The principal difficulty confronting the builders of a vacation village having such a large number of residents was that of preserving the human scale at all levels and of creating among these 4 levels a harmonious relation.

The levels in question are:

- 1) Patio: family centre,
- 2) square: centre for a community of 20 to 30 residence units,
- 3) main thoroughfare: vertebral column of a village of 200 units,
- 4) front facing the sea with collective facilities and the 5 villages.

Skidmore, Owings and Merrill,
San Francisco

Hotel on Mauna Kea beach, near Kamuela, Hawaii

(Pages 128–131)

Mauna Kea beach is situated 20 km from Kamuela, the nearest town, which in turn is 280 km from Honolulu. The hotel and the beach are accessible from Kamuela airport via a new highway. This luxury hotel, with 154 beds, is built in isolation from any community, so that it was necessary to set up near it a power station, a filtration plant, a service station, warehouse facilities, repair shops, etc. All these installations are established several hundred meters away from the hotel, some of them, like the service zone, being set below grade level.

The hotel is aligned in the north-south direction. Half of the rooms face the sea, half face the slopes of Kamuela, an extinct volcano.

In the vertical direction, there are two zones: the public area at foundation level and the private tract located above and comprising the bedrooms. The public area, which occupies the various levels and terraces between the entrance level and the beach, includes the reception area, the lobby, the dining-room, the bar, the refreshment room, a large polyvalent hall with seating capacity of 200, shops, hairdressers', etc. All these elements are arranged on different levels, succeeding one another along a promenade. Parallel to this arrangement, below grade level, is the service tract with the kitchen, the laundry, the staff facilities, the stock rooms as well as the technical installations.

The bedrooms, disposed in sequence, occupy three superimposed levels. They are accessible via galleries which converge in the centre of the building in a central lobby above the entrance tract. On the land side of the hotel, there have been laid out the parking sites and erected the guest dressing-rooms, the golf club-house and the golfing facilities.

When the plans were draughted, account was already taken of the possibility of future expansion or transformation. The linear plan of the hotel permits extension northwards and southwards. The power supply, the water mains and sewers have also been laid on in such a way that they can be easily adapted to future modifications of the building. The bedrooms are lined up on struts in the manner of Japanese superstructures. This zone allows for a fairly free utilization of the tract located beneath. Thus the installations situated at promenade level are partially extensible by means of dry construction and without any disturbance of the other tracts of the hotel.

The way the complex is laid out creates conditions permitting natural ventilation.

Justus Dahinden, Zurich

New hotel at Rigi-Kaltbad

(Pages 132–137)

Architect's Report

The great variety of designs in the complex reflects the attempt made here to

devise an architectural formula proper to this new vacation centre. The complex, on a roughly circular site measuring 10,000 sq. meters and comprising a partly completed hotel, is intended for use by moderate-income guests who would like holidays devoted to quiet relaxation in an agreeable atmosphere and a romantic setting. What we have here, then, is a comfortable, non-conventional resort open to all, especially to families.

With its advantageous geographical situation close to industrial and commercial centres, the new Rigi hotel is ideal for conferences, special occasions, etc. On the first floor of the already completed construction we have the following: a mountain hotel with 160 beds, a restaurant with a capacity of 150, a club with grillroom seating 65, a bar and a self-service restaurant seating 150, located near the ski slope and the station of the Vitznau-Rigi Railway. In addition, there is a small shopping centre with a hairdresser, newsstand, etc. The apartment building will comprise 54 1- to 4-room flats. To the west of this structure there will be erected the staff wing and the station of the new Weggis-Rigi-Kaltbad cable-railway. This will lead to a subterranean gallery giving access to the planned sport centre. The indoor heated swimming pool, capable of rapid conversion into a conference auditorium, commands a nice view onto the skating rink.

The building materials employed and the multiplicity of the designs were selected to harmonize with the mountain landscape in which the complex is integrated.

Critical Observations

This complex gives rise to numerous problems. As a matter of fact, the main question is to determine with what means it is possible to create an atmosphere of hospitality and to estimate the extent to which the architect has realized his intentions. He sought to make the complex correspond to certain emotional responses on the part of the guests. Nevertheless, in yielding to these requirements, the architect touched on a field in which there are only few precedents to serve as criteria. Dahinden therefore has employed certain formal means. On the inside, polygonal shapes are predominant, as well as polymorph designs, irregularities and confusion. It seems, therefore, that it would have been more sensible to apply more traditional architectural means rather than theatrical effects to express such emotions. There could be recommended differentiated spatial formations which do not seek to compensate for a technological environment by escape into a romantic past, but situate the complex deliberately within an architectural conception that is free of overloading.

The value of the building consists no doubt in the remarkable over-all architectural conception, and one can only wonder why there has been employed such sumptuousness in the detailing. Nevertheless, this complex could open up a new approach in this field of construction.

Jürgen Joedicke

Hermann Glaser, Nuremberg

Leisure and liberty

(Pages 138–139)

Leisure can be defined as a period of liberty deriving from the fact of a man's leaving the domain of obligations and restraints, necessities and duties and creating for himself, away from his work, the possibility of giving free play to his intuition and his spontaneity. The manner in which a man makes use of this opportunity permits us to measure the worth of his humanity. It is likewise possible to measure the degree of liberty of a given society by making an inventory of the scope left to leisure.

From this dynamic relationship between leisure and liberty we can see how the

totalitarian state is bound to occupy all the time allotted to leisure for the purpose of suppressing liberty, that is, by usurping a man's liberty it perforce suppresses his leisure.

In our time, we can truly say that we have a leisure society because every individual participates in it. That is why the qualitative character of leisure assumes such importance. On the one hand, there exists a possibility for man to humanize reality and to fill up his leisure time freely in the sense of developing interpersonal relations and leading the contemplative life, and, on the other hand, there is noticeable in man an incapacity to take advantage of the opportunities offered. What we need is an architecture allowing for mobility thanks to open structures, an architecture which does not abolish the feeling of "being at home" by being functional and striving for perfection. What is needed is a dynamic society which aims at learning rather than at submitting to an established system of education, a society which is searching for a principle of order rather than submitting to orders, which adopts different modes of behavior instead of accepting determined conditions, which does not accept blindly what is imposed upon it but which develops dialectically, which defies authority and, in return, imposes its own powers. A society which creates such a spirit of liberty will also be capable of employing its leisure for the happiness of each individual.

Kaija und Heikki Siren, Helsinki

Pavilion on the Island of Lingonsö

(Pages 140–141)

In 1967 meticulous studies were made for the purpose of determining the scale of the timber buildings in relation to the dimensions of this rocky uninhabited island.

The roof, projecting canopy-fashion on all sides, is supported by four round timber columns resting on sills also of timber, which furnish a level base on the uneven rocky ground. Between the columns, four glass partitions separate indoors and outdoors. Furnishings which might detract from the effect of this Sunday retreat in its pristine natural setting have been dispensed with in favour of a depressed area in the ground and a circular padded bench.

Noriaki Kurokawa, Tokyo

Hawaii Dreamland recreation centre in Yamagata

(Pages 142–144)

In the Tohoku district in northeastern Japan there has never existed up to now any facility that could be classified as a recreation centre. This centre appears, on the one hand, to derive from the ideological principles laid down in the Athens Charter and, on the other hand, to be a consummate product of a consumption-oriented society which is constantly seeking the most economical and obvious way to satisfy a need that current types of construction do now allow for.

The name of the building, "Hawaii Dreamland", is in perfect keeping with the spirit of the commercial exploitation of leisure. This name is as interchangeable as is the utilization of most of the parts of the building.

"Hawaii Dreamland" is situated on a national highway, 4 km from the centre of the city. The original idea of the architect was to create artificially a "natural" environment: a garden courtyard separated from the surrounding country by a circular structure.

This "land of dreams" appears as an amalgam of relatively different elements. Each element is quite flexible in its utilization. In conformity with the theory of

metabolic formation, some of the sanitary installations and the vertical mains have been installed in circular turrets on the interior and exterior faces of the building. With the given dimensions, the separation between the supporting structure and the finishing elements of the building permits future extension in only one direction. On the other hand, other units designed similarly can be added at any point.

Pietro Derossi, Giorgio Ceretti, Turin
Associate: Riccardo Rosso

The Altro Mondo Club in Rimini

(Pages 145–148)

The Altro Mondo Club in Rimini is designed to serve various purposes: dances, public festivities, theatrical performances, exhibitions, night club entertainment; it offers a whole range of utilization possibilities. Nevertheless, a given user's liberty of choice is restricted. As a matter of fact, despite movable stages, platforms, automatic installations, the lighting arrangements and the music, the club's guests are much too subject to the conditions fixed in advance by the exigencies of the given "show"; hence the passive character of the whole club.

The truss-free skin of the basic surface (32×57 meters), covered with corrugated asbestos-cement plates, is based on a fundamental plan offering two tracts with different characteristics. The utilization of the smallest area, comprising an access ramp, the entrance elements, the cloakrooms, the administration, the service facilities and a zone reserved for the automatic installations, is strictly determined in advance and not at all open to free choice. In the other area, taking up approximately two thirds of the hall, only the disk jockey's station is fixed. The access and the main exit are likewise not modifiable. The same is the case for the connections between the bar and the automatic installations (these being various kinds of slot machines). On the other hand, all the other elements influencing the utilization of the club are movable or capable of transformation.

A number of "Mero" construction elements serve the purpose of effecting adaptations to different types of utilization. The plans reveal some of the wide range of possible combinations that are realizable in one evening:

High stages with an accessible platform can be added one to the other as desired. (A) These galleries are reached via movable stairway elements. Low podiums (Zone E) serve as a play surface and include seats.

Podiums resembling grandstands (C) and having several rows of seats can be moved about on rollers and can be lined up as desired along the edges of certain areas.

Small separable bars (G) permit decentralized service.

Depending on the number of visitors at any given time, the hall can be reduced in size by means of movable screens.

Projection and illumination turrets (D) can be sited to the extent permitted by the location of the electric outlets.

Only the section accommodating the bar is designed as a lounging area.

Cedric Price, London

Fun Palace in Camden, London Test project

(Pages 149–152)

The program drawn up under the direction of Joan Littlewood comprises in particular the following characteristics:

- New conception of space and time utilization.
- Pilot scheme for the purpose of com-

ing to terms with the needs and the goals of the community.

- Place where the individual can discover what his latent aptitudes are, with time being employed pleasurably.
- From the educational point of view, this test project of the Fun Palace is a provisional measure; it can obviously not assume the function of a complete school system. Nevertheless, it can be assumed that the visitors of the institution will continue elsewhere the development of their talents.
- The project ought to be varied, large-scale and open rather than synthetic and unified.

During the preliminary work on the first great Fun Palace project, there was employed an entire series of methods to determine the requirements of the different possible functions of the building, this being followed by an opinion survey, and finally there was research carried out by a team of cybernetics men. However, it turned out that the capacity to designate the equipment, the personnel and the main installations for a series of activities was not compatible with the desired degree of flexibility, for it would be essential – if the Fun Palace were ever to function – for it to be capable of adaptation to situations and of creating conditions in which there could be carried out activities that are as yet unknown. Thus it turned out to be indispensable to determine the minimum duration of the different sorts of activity before proceeding to the detailed work on the variable spatial envelopes. It was necessary to create environmental conditions favouring as much as possible free choice and active participation on the part of the visitor in the various activities available.

The construction system and the equipment are conceived in such a way that they conform either to the presence or to the absence of public facilities bordering the site to be built on. Transformations or extensions can be undertaken rapidly and without too much expense should the occasion arise.

Wilfried Beck-Erlang, Stuttgart

Apartment house situated in a noisy area in the middle of the city

(Pages 153–156)

Critical Observations

The first impression one gets from this apartment house, which includes an architect's office, is that it is undeniably interesting and displays many advantages in respect of the area in which it is located.

The building is situated in a densely populated district of Stuttgart crossed by an extremely busy thoroughfare which is one of the main roads leading out of the city to the south. The lower end of the sloping site is bounded by this very street, Planckstraße. Thus the architect was confronted with the problems bound up with the erection of an apartment house in a noisy area.

To begin with, the architect set up two guiding principles: the elevations facing the source of the traffic noise should not be completely closed, because this is also the side commanding the view. Moreover, the flats had to be ventilated without recourse to an air-conditioning system.

Finally, the following solution to the problem was adopted: The view and the ventilation system were separated. On the second floor, windows installed exclusively for the sake of the view from the bedrooms were put in. These are fixed-pane windows. Ventilation is effected by way of a loggia, the three sides of which are glassed in; on the other hand, the top remains open. This system permits the window situated behind the loggia to be opened at partition level so that the flat can be ventilated without

being subjected to disturbing traffic noise.

The first floor above street level is made up of two different levels. The upper tract, accommodating the dining and living rooms, faces onto the garden, that is, the quieter side, while the lower tract (library) faces the street. Here there is a large window, but, again, the two functions, view and ventilation, are separated.

In front of the windows of the architecture office, which is situated on the ground floor, there is a recessed wall of reinforced concrete. Thanks to the measures adopted, the architect has succeeded in creating good residence conditions within a noisy urban zone.

Jürgen Joedicke