Summary

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Summary

The spatial city, the mobile city, the integrated urban structure, the green city: these are all formulas, some of them old ones, which are now suddenly finding themselves realized in practice. Side by side with the dream of the technological utopia, it is social conflicts which are furnishing the impetus behind new types of housing. The idea of a centralized service complex is not new. A pamphlet dated 1908 contains all the principal elements:

Preparation of meals in a centralized kitchen to save energy and expended on individual cooking and laundry; the central kitchen provide services is not new. A pamphlet dated 1908 contains all the principal elements:

Centralized domestic services: Housework in flats, washing-up and laundry, kitchen services, especially for the mother who works outside and whose children are supervised by trained staff.

General collectively organized recreation and dining facilities (dining-rooms, solarium, terraces).

The problem, then, is to reorganize a backward sector of the economy. In a publication dated 1920, Oskar Wičh explains the functioning of such a centre. Several projects intended for various social groups came out, but they failed, because the costs involved were too high for the means at the disposal of the groups concerned.

In 1970, two complexes were realized: the Arabella Building in Munich and the J. Hancock Center in Chicago. The facilities furnished in these complexes are very complete; in Chicago, for example, there is a branch of the fashion house of Yves Saint Laurent. It is scarcely necessary to leave the building for ordinary living purposes. In the face of the failure of cities as a whole to reorganize themselves, there is becoming apparent a withdrawal into the isolation of a private enterprise. The investments involved in such an operation are very sizeable. In Munich, rents vary from DM 4,000 to DM 13,000. In Chicago, the range between DM 7,000 and DM 3,000.

This isolation gives the resident a feeling of security, which fact refers us to the work by Jane Jakob on the development of American cities.

Joachim Schlandt

Service, collective and community housing

Relation between the types of buildings and their residents

The plan was drawn up in close collaboration with the future residents, who were prepared to accept, make use of and supervise the complex. The collective function of the community was envisaged by the architects, and the co-owners of the work which they would own their own flats.

Collective house project

Peter Rasmussen, Kastrup

Associate: Stig Eriksen

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The concept is the main components of a homogeneity of different parts: Project, in which they would become co-owners on the base on which they would own their own flats.

The plan consists of two separate parts:

1. The community part, comprises of a kindergarten plus day nursery and a child-care unit, located around a courtyard. The kindergarten and the nursery are also open to the children of the surrounding neighbourhood; this measure is calculated to avoid an atmosphere of exclusiveness. The collective house is used for meals, holidays, reading and musical activities.

The second part is made up of different residential buildings, in which the internal divisions of the flats are flexible enough to be made available by combining several flats. Moving out from the centre of the complex, each house can be expanded and developed towards the periphery.

Sollentuna service centre, near Stockholm

Cari Grandinsson, Stockholm, and Vattenbyggnadstyrnan with Ake Arell and Gunnar Linman, Stockholm

(Pages 164–167)

This collective is one of the few Danish urban projects. Thanks to the financial participation of the city, it is possible to have a large group of people of all social levels in the complex. Moreover, care has been taken to ensure that the integrated pattern structure in respect both of income and of age. 87 persons are available, 72 rooms for students, which are clearly legible in the elevation structure, are situated on the upper floors.

The services available, such as the kindergarten, the common dining-room, the shops, permit large families to live comfortably, even if the father and the mother are employed outside.

Jonstorpshusene collective residential housing, Jordvik, Denmark

Jan Gudmund-Hoyer, Copenhagen

Assoc:ers: Peter Bjørnø, Lars Gemzøe, Peter Hauch, Elisabeth Haar, Johannes Møller, Finn Stegarr, Svend Werner

(Pages 158–160)

This complex combines the advantages of a country village and those of high-density housing (collective services, supervision of children, etc.)

The planed complex comprises 33 family houses, most of them having an area of 175 sq. m., with ample terraces and large cellars. Advantage has been taken of the slope here; there have been created on the lower level garden sites in independent premises for the children, from where they have easy access to a central playground.

Experimental building project to study the social function of housing

Subject of dissertation submitted at the Berlin Technical University in 1970 by Michael Behr, Arno Bonanni and Wolf K. Reuer, students of Prof. W. Kreuer.

(Pages 168–170)

Whether the motivation be ideological or economic, a sizeable number of people are seeking to get away from the traditional patterns of family life. The way the reality will develop, for he will have to design the structures that objectify this new idea. To venture to collaborate with other specialists and the prospective residence of the residents, there is one way to pursue developments on a group basis.

It appears that groupings of six families, including children, comprising from 12 to 24 persons, would be able to combine in residential complexes for around 300 people. The important thing is to guarantee this unity, but is made up of two distinct parts.

Each main type of families has its particular characteristics and its corresponding types of buildings.

Buildings for young people's communities

Subject of dissertation at the Technical University, West Berlin

Kristin Amann, Annette Bendsrud, Klaus Brake, Dietrich Döppin, Michiko Kasugai, Michael König, Gottfried Martin, Margarethe Rhode-Miske

(Pages 171–173)

This work aims less at explaining a specific project and proposing constructive solutions, but at clarifying the social significance of the profession of architect, the architect being a person who ought to instigate certain transformations of the present-day society rather than to attempt to treat symptoms. The field of planning work ought to be considered with regard to their political import and treated on an international level in co-operation with those immediately concerned.

The choice of subject for our dissertation has been based on our experience of the conflict situation in which young people find themselves, who, caught between their parental home and public agencies, have no pattern of life that is adapted to their age. A lack of organization in the public sector has been observed in the case of a commune. The important thing is to create a system of education which prevents the development of children from being prolonged into adult life. Since the concepts of socialization are sufficiently defined, we have been able to give them concrete form in the shape of a commune in the city and, above all, to select the sites for these communes.

A commune ought to be meshed with a differentiated population located close to centres of activity and consumption. For Berlin, we have distinguished three locations:

-Kreuzberg, in the centre of the city-Schöneberg, area of reconstruction-Märkisches Viertel, new peripheral neighbourhood.

The drawing up the program was ticklish owing to the instability currently inherent in the situation of young people. Each member of the commune has at his disposal a room measuring 12 m² where he can withdraw, but which he can also combine with other rooms. Each commune has a common room, a central kitchen and collective washing and toilet facilities. For the commune at Schöneberg, according to its scale, other collective installations are envisaged.

The possibility of possible groupings is such that people will have to content themselves with subdividing room areas by bringing into play particular conditions. A number of different practical possibilities appear in projects A and B, as well as in project MW.