Summary

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Summary

Oliver Vaudou and Reymond Luthi, Paris

The railway station of the new "Halles" of Paris

(Pages 280–284)

Rungis railway station, built for "Sogaris" (Rungis Railway Company) covers an area of 38 ha. and is situated in the Rungis area which includes the important national market "Région Parisienne" – to replace the "halles de Paris" – and a road network.

It serves a multiple function:

- to receive unloaded of all categories with the exception of marketable foodstuffs on the "Marché d'Intérêt National". To sort out, allot and reload them on other vehicles.
- warehouse these goods if necessary either in general warehouses or in warehouses for hire.
- see to the distribution and collection of these goods in the Paris area by means of a haulage company.
- promote exchange between forwarding agents on the various routes.

The station buildings are as follows:

- administration unit
- I transit quay
- I general warehouse
- I rentable warehouse

The administration building, with two levels on a semi-submerged basement, measures 45×45 m with a patio of 20×20 m. It provides accomodation for all the services which have to do with the organization and control of all operations effectuated within the station area.
The transit quay where all transactions between the trucks of the forwarding agents and the vehicles of distribution take effect is 306 m in length and 40 m wide and comprises 180 loading positions.
The general warehouse, partly submerged, is 306 m×85 m and has a berthing quay 90 m long.
The hireable warehouse, 306×150 m, is served by railway and has a quay 612 m long for the loading and unloading of trucks.
The handling of the goods is effected by means of a chain conveyor encased in the ground and connecting the quays with the warehouses.

Construction

Administration Building

Level half submerged, in reinforced concrete. Upper level a metallic structure with supports in tubular steel on a screen of which 3.30 m are to the façade and 6.60 m to the interior. Ceiling joists are metallic and H. E. profiled.
Ceiling in prefabricated slabs of reinforced concrete with insulation on the underside. Roof terrace with multilayered density.
The façades are of aluminium bands lacquered in the furnace. Horizontal sunshades using projecting aluminium profiles. Blinds in canvas movable by electricity.
Air-conditioning by means of ejecto-convectors placed within the depth of the floors on the side of the facade. Offices lit by illuminated ceilings. Office dividing-walls of woodwork, lamified. Cupboard and door units of conglomerate, lamified panels. Floor covering in moquette "Tapisom".

Transit quay

Metal structure consisting of transversal cranes with a 36 m range, spaced at 18 m. Profiled joists (H. E.) parallel to the façade. Roofing in aluminium. Façades in aluminium and glass consisting of parts in aluminium weather-boarding incorporating drop doors and fixed frames in reinforced glass. Above the doors lighted boxes in plexiglass with the numbers of the quay positions.
Each quay has a platform adjustable in height with hydraulic manipulation permitting adjustment to the various truck levels. Lighting by means of rounded fluorescent lamps. Goods are transported by a chain conveyor sunk in the ground.

General warehouse

Supports by means of posts in reinforced concrete. Longitudinal beams poured on site. Prefabricated transversal beams in the form of an inverted "U". Protection of landing quays by a metallic roof made watertight by aluminium sheets. Bays are closed by means of revolving aluminium shutters. Ventilation of the warehouse is mechanical. Lighting by means of fluorescent tubes. Goods handled by chain conveyor sunk in the ground.

Rentable warehouse

Metallic structure consisting of profiled supports reconstructed on a mesh 18×20 m inside and on a 9 m screen at the front; metal openwork beams set transversally at intervals of 9 m. Longitudinal joisting on openwork girders. Terrace roof of "Aciéroid" and multilayer density.
At the front, metal roof with aluminium roofing suspended on transversal beams of the framework. The façades at the lower level consist of aluminium sliding doors and, at a higher level, glazing of corrugated reinforced glass with "NACO" type ventilation. Filling of the metal skeleton of the gabled facades of plan brick. Interior partitioning in light concrete panelling in a metal frame. Fluorescent balloon lighting. Handling of goods by chain conveyor let into the ground.

Jacques Schader, Zurich

To the theme: judgement of competition Competition for a Brown-Boveri research center near Baden

(Page 285–300)

Password "Flexible"

The author develops his conception on the basis of a system which forms a double comb the central functions of which such as the offices of the management, administration offices and general units along with the technical services are situated at the head of the main axis. The idea is a good one insofar as it implies a clearcut construction divided into functional areas; but here it misses the mark because it is subjected to an interpretation which is too schematic. The placing of central functions at the periphery offers certain advantages from the point of view of flexibility of the parts and of the plant as a whole. But this leads to complications during the daily round of activities. In line with the main idea the construction provides for different constructional modes and grids in accordance with the utilizational structure of each functional area. Viewed from the outside the impression is not one of constructional unity because the constructional units and the various forms of the buildings are placed side by side without being essentially related to each other.

Password "Tête"

The area given over to research is arranged like a comb spreading out on the two sides of a main axis, while along the axis itself other service areas have been planned. At the centre of the main axis are the offices of the management and executives, as well as other general-purpose rooms such as the library, the main hall and the restaurant.
The technical services have been scattered among the research departments, an organisational concept which can be regarded as effective.
Access to the operational area for goods and people is at two different levels, and the same principle is adhered to inside. The idea behind the construction is to provide a unified referential screen for the entire plant.
As far as the bilateral comb goes the project may be said to provide a certain variability of ultilization, but apart from this there is a fair amount to criticize.

Password "Evolution"

The various functional areas are placed along the length and width of a main axis. The research area is developed following a double comb system. The central functions are conceived as independent units with possibilities of extension that are largely independent, a fact which is corresponds to the different character of their interior structuration. Within the framework of the arrangement as a whole this conception conforms to the requirements of a research centre as far as the factor of flexibility is concerned. This is achieved thanks to the formation of variable areas that are great or little "unknowns". The variability of utilization in the research area is somewhat increased thanks to the presence of secondary communications. The general conception is that of a constructional group that is terminated and enclosed, for which reason it lacks the specific character of flexibility which, is required of such a construction.

Password "Axiom"

The basic concept is a straightforward horizontal structure with functional areas. The research area follows the pattern of a simple comb. The technical departments are arranged in a first line situated transversally to the comb, while in another line there are the general-purpose units such as the offices housing management and executives as well as other service departments of the works.
The restaurant is placed laterally as a separate unit.
This conception provides an acceptable basis for a research-centre project. It offers all operational areas a certain liberty of movement and of development. Access to the plant from the outside is at the same level for goods and people, but the entrances are separate. Interior access is on the basis of a referential network. This principle is less satisfactory applied to the interior than it is to the exterior because a main access that may be considered adequate is lacking. Utilization variability in the research area is, relatively speaking, considerable thanks to the arrangement of the operational units in two directions and the referential network in the form of a grid.

Password "Palaestra"

The conception is based on a formation of functional areas which are clearly expressed horizontally and vertically. At the interior of the entire complex, the research area is the centre of gravity around which the central functions are grouped on three sides. In strict accordance with this idea of formation around a gravitational centre, the research area is not developed on a comb system but as a system of rings which furthers the tendency to concentration in the enterprise. A closed system such as this one regarded as suitable for the research area has the advantage of being capable of considerable adaptation to the size of the departments required, but it leads to certain difficulties when it comes to thinking in terms of expansion.
The steps taken to provide for extension are a proof of the fact because the ring principle is no longer suitable and this leads to the idea originally formulated by the author being expressed in a manner which is vague.
The internal connections within the research area and the connections of this area with the management offices, administration offices and the general purpose units are good. The construction has been carefully studied on the basis of a square grid.
The variability of utilization in the research area is considerable thanks to the vast horizontal surfaces and the possible liaisons horizontally and vertically. The author, when constructing the work areas within the research area, does his utmost to arrive at a solution which conforms to the specific requirements of the problem with which he is faced.

Password "Rome"

The functional unity of "office-laboratory" constitutes the system of the research area. As far as the spatial arrangement of the two elements (office and laboratory) goes, the requirements stipulated by BBC for the carrying out of the project have been adhered to.
For the formation of spatial groups there result possibilities of arrangement other than those arrived at by the linear addition of functional units. Another characteristic which is significant for the conception of the project is the interlacing and superposition of the organization of the various functional areas: research, administration, services etc. are not placed next to each other as if they were isolated elements, but merge into each other horizontally and vertically. It is true that such a conception offers the possibility of intense spatial arrangement, i. e. the advantage of concentration. However because of the superposition of functional areas structurally diverse there results a state of mutual dependence which is necessarily bound up with a partical restriction of liberty of movement and of the development of certain areas. This complication is further accentuated by the principle of expansion that has been chosen (satellite formation).

Actuality

Peter C. von Seidlein, Munich
Collaborator: Horst Fischer

"SGS-Germany's" assembly factory for semiconductors in Wasserburg

(Pages 301–306)

In 1965 the enterprise "Società Generale Semiconduttori" of Milan decided to build, for its German branch, an assembly factory for semiconductors in Wasserburg on the Inn.
The new building, with a ground area of 3000 sq. metres, had to contain 1000 sq. metres of air-conditioned production area, 500 sq. metres of air-conditioned office area, a casino near the production area, as well as technical and recreation rooms.
The production and office areas, as well as some of the adjoining rooms, should be capable of extension at a later date. The planning in its final phase allows an extension of exactly 130% of these surface areas.
The supporting structure consists of steel with I supports and primary and secondary joists.
All the partitions limiting through-traffic have been set in blocks of finished concrete. The remaining partitions are assembled in plaster boards.
The units of the installation systems are assembled in the middle zone.
The low structure of the building is functional and economically advantageous.