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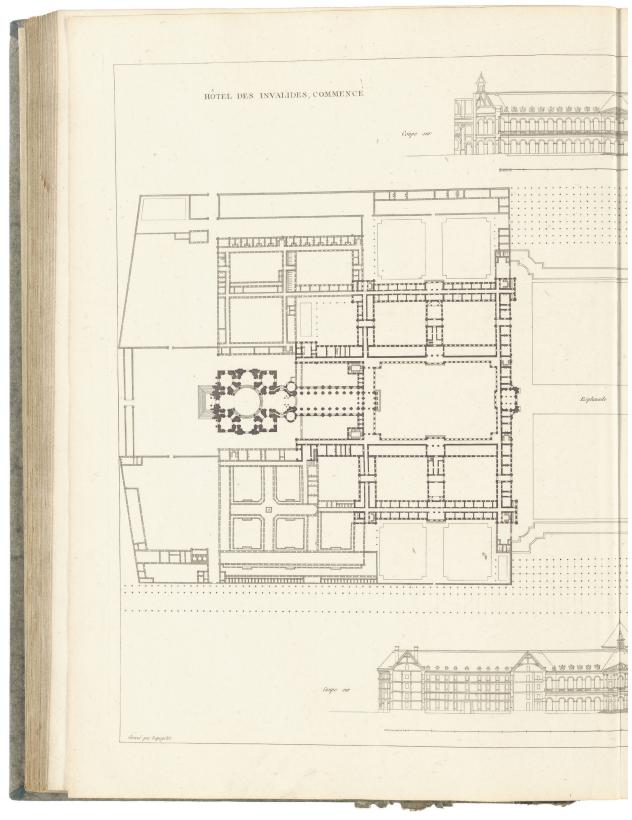
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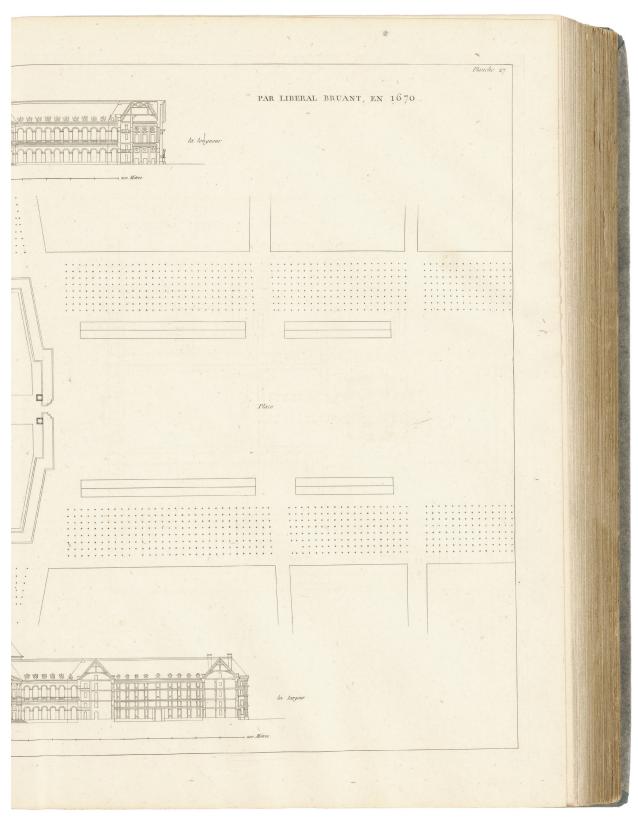
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From the gta Archives Selected by Daniel Weiss

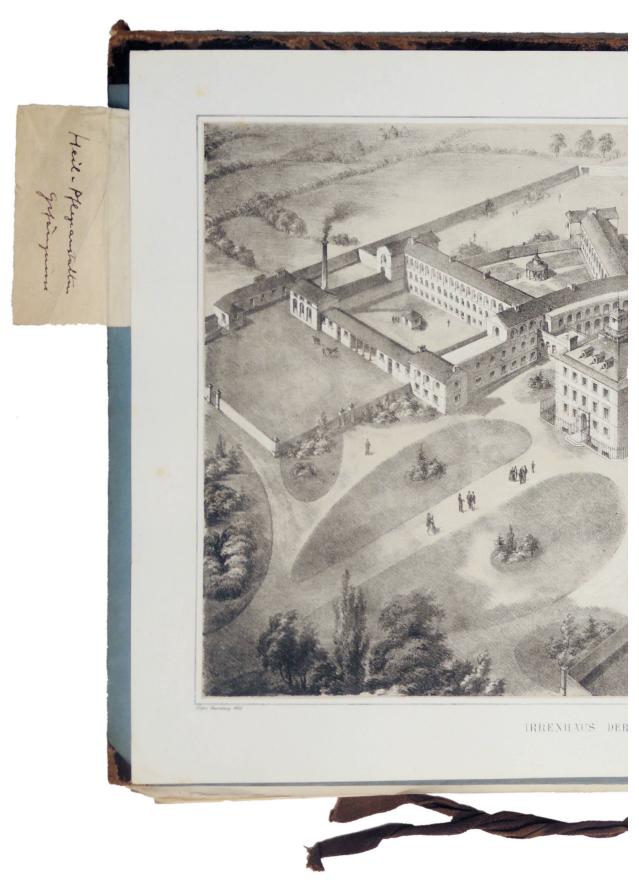
1 Libéral Bruant and Jules Hardouin-Mansart, Hôtel des Invalides in Paris, 1670–1671; plafe 27 from Jean-Nicolas-Louis Durand, Recueil et parallèle des édifices de tout genre anciens et modernes, remarquables par leur beauté, par leur grandeur, ou par leur singularité, Paris 1800; Bequest of Dolf Schnebli, gta Archives, ETH Zurich.

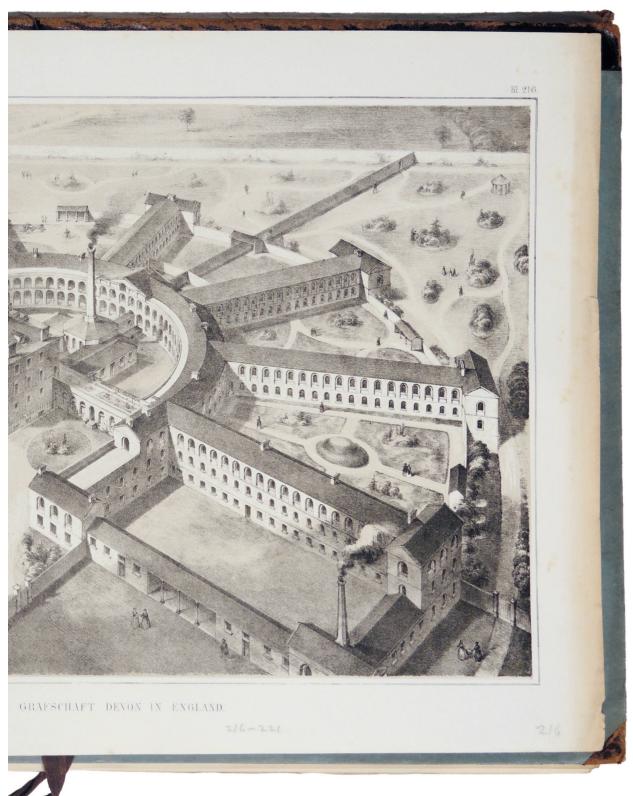




Durand's encyclopedic standard work included, among studies of numerous other building types, an entire section on hospital buildings and homes from various eras. The Hôtel des Invalides in Paris, commissioned by Louis XIV, is described in detail on a double page spread. The monumental complex, typologically a mixture of palace and monas-tery, was intended as a home for war-disabled, old, impoverished, or homeless soldiers. In this building project, the absolutist ruler was not only concerned with solving a social problem but also with demonstrating munificence and magnificence. In return for shelter, the inmates were to follow a regular daily routine of religious services and manual labor behind the walls of their magnificent asylum.

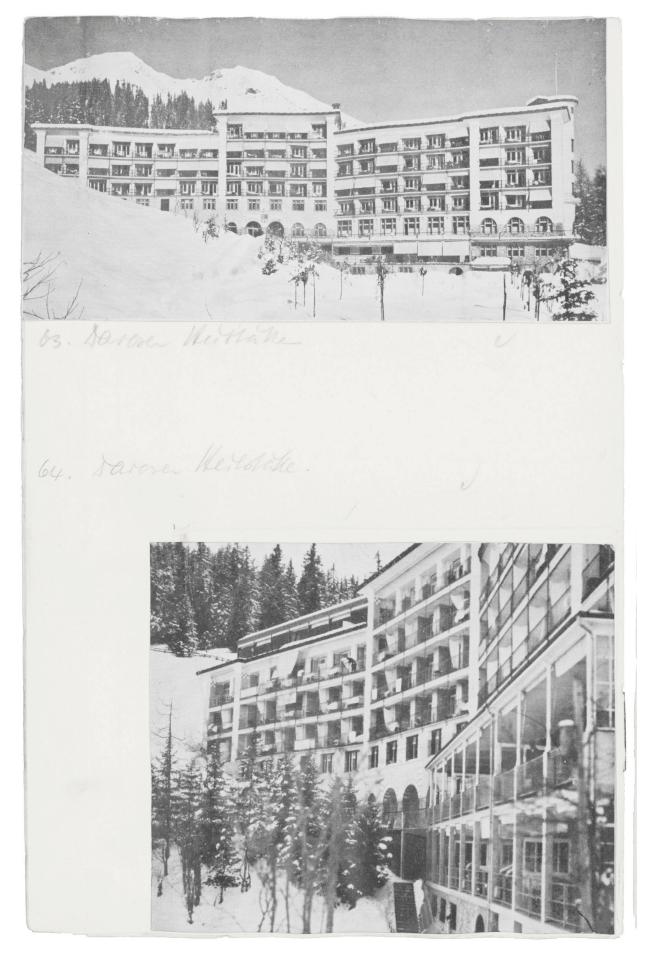
2 Folder on the topic of sanatoriums, nursing homes, and prisons with a perspective drawing of the County Devon Lunatic Asylum (opened 1845); Bequest Bauschule, gta Archives, ETH Zurich.

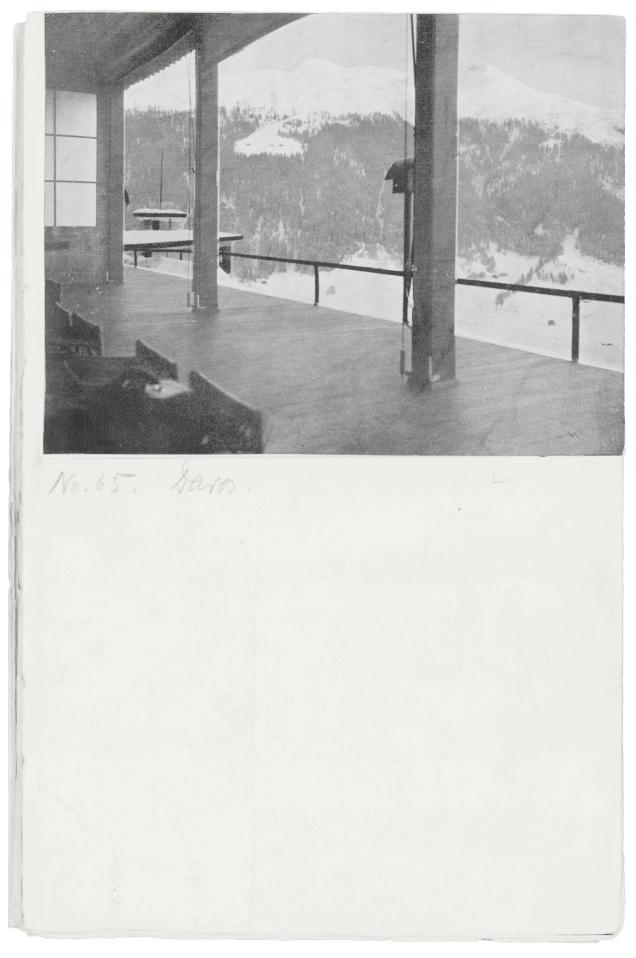




In his now-classic Discipline and Punish (New York: Pantheon Books, 1977), Michael Foucault examined how purely repressive techniques of power were gradually replaced during the modern era by a comprehensive disciplining of society in which the education and the social and health care of the population played an essential role. In his view, this process found its structural expression in the panoptic prison but also in the form of citizens' asylums, hospi-tals, insane asylums, or schools. In this context, one of the folders from the template collection of the building school of the Swiss Federal or the Swiss Federal Polytechnic (today ETH Zurich), with journal clippings on sanatoriums, asylums, and prisons, appears like physical evidence for Foucault's future theses. As the folder demonstrates, at the end of the nineteenth century, these building types already belonged together as a matter of course.

3 Pfeghard & Haefeli, Queen Alexandra Sanatorium, Davos, 1906−1909; layout design for Sigfried Giedion: *Befreites Wohnen*, Zurich 1929; Bequest of Sigfried Giedion, gta Archives, ETH Zurich.

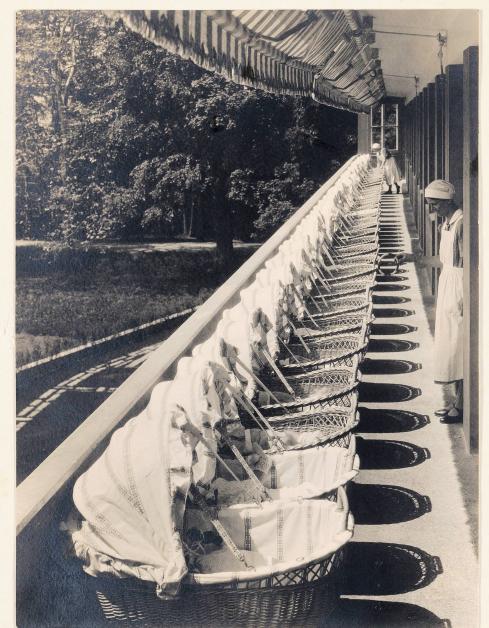




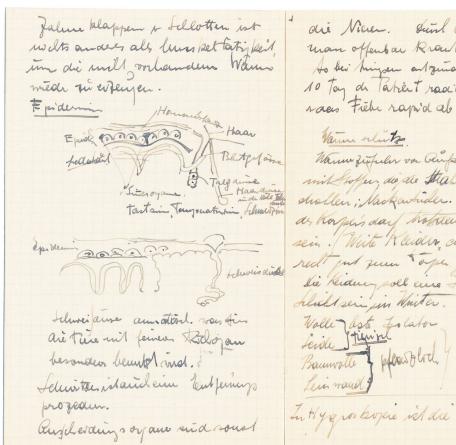
Until well into the twentieth century, the lung disease tuberculosis had one of the highest mortality rates among epidemics. Before the discovery of the tubercle bacillus and the development of a vaccine, doctors hoped that rest, healthy mountain air, and sunshine would cure the disease. High-altitude spas were developed all over the Alps in the second half of the nineteenth century, and the new type of sanatorium developed in close cooperation between physicians and architects. One of the pioneers was the Zurich office of Pfleghard & Haefeli. The Queen Alexandra Sanatorium in Davos, built between 1906 and 1909, features rooms with generous windows facing south and loggias in front, where patients were to lie in the open air for several hours a day as a therapy. Sigfried Giedion celebrated the building in his booklet Befreites Wohnen as an "anticipatory solution" with a view to "liberated living" in general.

4 Otto Rudolf Salvisberg and Otto Brechbühl: a home for babies and mothers at Elfenau in Berne, 1928—1930; Bequest of Otto Rudolf Salvisberg, gta Archives, ETH Zurich.

Otto Rudolf Salvisberg was one of the leading hospital construction specialists in Switzerland around 1930. On the basis of his successes in competitions, he was able to execute a series of hospitals in a short time. As a professor at the architecture department of ETH Zurich, he lectured on hospital construction and repeatedly gave his students the topic of hospitals as a design task. His own hospital buildings each followed a similar basic scheme: elongated structures accessed by a central corridor with south-facing patient rooms opening onto ribbon-shaped balconies that ran along the building's length.



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5 Hannibal Naef, lecture notes on the subject of building hygiene, ca. 1922; Bequest of Hannibal Naef, gta Archives, ETH Zurich.

Around 1900, the subject of building hygiene appeared for the first time in the curriculum of the building school of the Swiss Federal Polytechnic in Zurich (now ETH Zurich), and in 1903 it even became part of the final diploma. The lectures were given by the physician Otto Roth, who from 1894 held the newly created professorship for hygiene and bacteriology and advocated a broad concept of preventive health care, including accident prevention at work, sensible nutrition and sport, and the right to decent housing. Under his successor, Wilhelm von Gonzenbach, future Swiss modernist architects also came into contact with the ideas of the hygiene movement. Hannibal Naef's lecture notes on the subject of building hygiene have been preserved. The topics ranged from the structure and function of the human skin to personal hygiene and adequate clothing for different climates.