

Zeitschrift: Das Werk : Architektur und Kunst = L'oeuvre : architecture et art

Band: 55 (1968)

Heft: 1: 60 Jahre Schweizer Architektur

Rubrik: 60th Anniversary Federation of Swiss Architects : 60 Years of Swiss Architecture

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 04.04.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

60th Anniversary Federation of Swiss Architects

WERK, itself an offspring of the Federation of Swiss Architects, is dedicating a special issue to the 60th anniversary of the Federation and is presenting a survey of architectural developments in Switzerland during this period of 60 years. In the year just past there died the last of the group which, on June 27, 1908, in Olten joined together in a spirit of forward-looking idealism in order to unite 'those architects practising their profession as artists' and 'to promote artistic and socially useful building'. The first phase of the history of the Federation, now ended, will surely be decisive for the next phase. However, it is absolutely necessary to examine which of its principles still possess validity today and to find out how they can be extended or altered, and steps in this direction have already been taken.

This Issue takes us back to the overcoming of the historicist approach effected by the Modern Style and then on to the still more revolutionary Modern Architecture, to the Romantic Traditionalist reaction, to the assimilation of tendencies in Functionalism down to the recent polarization between systematic severity and emotionally conditioned creative freedom. The survey reflects the transformation both in the available means and in their application. It is less capable of revealing the change in constructional procedures that has been confronting the architect over the last 60 years – unless he has kept his eyes closed ... or fascinating him with new constructive and formal design principles. The industrialization of building, the mounting burden of problems of orientation, research, programming and organization, the development of the large-scale 'pool' for dealing with the multifarious questions that arise – all these things are compelling us to tackle the question to what extent and under what conditions the architect can maintain his role of leadership in the building sector.

The Federation of Swiss Architects itself has retained its structure during this period, its organization being that of a restricted membership club. I, however, believe – and the experience of the Federation bears me out – that it is precisely this structure that permits an intensive dialogue among the members and that is in the highest degree suited to stimulate fresh approaches to all the outstanding problems. What is necessary, to be sure, is a most candid exchange of experiences and insights among all those concerned in the building trades.

I should hope that the interesting range of examples selected by the editors of WERK will be viewed against the background of the abovementioned confrontation with the structural development in the building trades. If we are fully aware that viable results are attainable only on the basis of a systematic analysis with all concerned working together, the examples given here can perhaps show that, in the last analysis, good results always stem from that creative synthesis of which we believe architects to be, in the main, capable.

Zurich, October 23, 1967

H. v. Meyenburg, Chairman

60 Years of Swiss Architecture

In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Federation of Swiss Architects, we are publishing examples of constructions by Swiss architects ranging over this 60-year period. The buildings on which we are reporting in this Issue are all still extant; that means that this Issue can be used as a travel guide. For this reason we have arranged the material according to regions and not by types; within the given regional classifications the material is arranged chronologically.

Numerous persons have come forward with advice on the selection of the material and have aided us in assembling it. In French-speaking Switzerland we have been especially assisted by André Corboz, Geneva and Montreal, and by Roland Willomet, Lausanne. The final selection had to be made by one single person applying uniform criteria: Diego Peverelli, Zurich and Chiasso, assumed this responsibility. We express our thanks to all who have helped us.

The editorial board of WERK is not a historical institute and is not a documentation centre. The job of putting together this Issue was an unusual one for us. It is quite possible that errors have crept in, that important things have been left out. We should be grateful for all corrections; all suggestions would be carefully registered.

We herewith congratulate the Federation of Swiss Architects on the 60th year of its existence and wish it all success in the future as it continues with its pioneering activities.

The Editors of WERK