

Summary

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Summary

Sven Silow, Sweden

"Why Architecture Exhibitions?"
(page 461-472)

House "1"

The architect has deliberately divided his plan into three parts. For him, living in a house starts with the entrance, and the mistress of the house, even when she is cooking, ought to feel in the midst of things. Relaxation and work are two distinct functions which ought to be separated both in the parents' and in the children's tracts. The hall is the area of contact; it is the entrance and the access to all the rooms. Its dimensions, its furnishings, its lighting render it a pleasant place.

The cupboards located in front of the children's rooms on the east side constitute a unit between the hall and the kitchen. The dining nook projects toward a terrace. The spatial succession from kitchen, dining nook, living room to terrace give this tract its air of generous openness.

The parents' bedroom, the bath and the infant's room are grouped around a corridor which is directly accessible from the living room.

Sverre Fehn, Norway

House "2"

It is rare to come upon a new plan employing such simple means. One assumes that such a plan is an experiment. The topological scheme may come as a shock. The customary cube is symmetrically broken in plan and in section. The ascending lines are sharply etched against the landscape but even so harmonize fairly well with it.

The centre of the house is constituted by a new core which serves as kitchen, bath, shower and WC. The high lateral illumination yields ideal light and permits rational wall use up to a height of 2.25 meters. The total height of this core is 3.66 meters, and there is not created any constrictive effect. The open cupboards between the kitchen, the hall and the living room ensure contact between the inside of the house and the outdoors.

The living room, without openings toward the outdoors, with its fireplace instils a feeling of repose and relaxation. In the back, there are various nooks all interconnected. The glazed fronts of the four large corner rooms integrate inside and outdoors. Large sliding doors separate the different areas one from the other. Thus, private spheres can be created within the house.

Lennart Kvarnström, Sweden

House "3"

In the centre of this house intended for a family with three children there is an open kitchen, surrounded by the dining nook and the living room, which, ornamented by a floral window on the east, is glazed on the south and faces onto a covered shelter on the west. The quality of the house consists in the great architectural unity created by the handling of the volumes.

To the left of the entrance are two children's bedrooms, spacious and commanding a broad view to the south. In front of the study and in front of the parents' bedroom there is an open-air seating area. The dressing room and the infant's room open onto a pretty inner court, which unfortunately is not in direct contact with the house. Only small windows and the glazed

wall in front of the ironing room open into this courtyard. It may be that the position of the house on the south end of the site determined the small number of apertures on the east and west sides.

Kristian Gullichsen, Finland

House "4"

This is a pre-fab house which served as a basis for another assembly study with various types.

The freely conceived plan is replete with ideas. The entirely glazed south face creates an effect of open-mindedness.

The entrance on the east side gives access to a large living room with dining nook, whose south wall contains a fireplace, both interior and exterior, constituting a unit with the kitchen and its annex facilities.

On the west side three bedrooms are grouped around a playroom. It is strange that the bath is not located in the vicinity. A rectangular roof extends over the interior volume and over the terraces. The garage comprises a hobby room for the owner.

Jörgen Bo and Vilhelm Wohler, Denmark

Houses "5" and "6"

The exhibition site slopes down steeply toward the east, where are to be found the Danish houses, which can easily be spotted owing to the high wall joining the two houses. Behind this wall are the entrances. One of the houses has two levels.

The level differential is equalized by flower troughs which diminish the great height on the east side. The garages are open on the entrance side.

In both houses, access from the road is via a spacious hall with skylight, with stairs leading on either to the cellar or into the garden. The two kitchens oriented toward the road have tiny-paned windows to ensure privacy; they adjoin the dining nooks. To the south and to the west of the walls which penetrate into the interior of the houses are the living rooms and the bedrooms. The interior conception is based on a schematic separation of the plans into rooms that are clearly delimited with four windows each. The rooms are here clearly sealed off one from the other, unlike the case in the other houses.

Also the terraces and balconies do not create the effect of spaciousness in the other examples. The vertical separations contrasting with the broad wall surfaces are not sufficient to lend these houses a distinct architectural expressiveness, although the site itself is an exceptional one.

Gunnar Martinsson, Stockholm

Landscape Architecture

Gunnar Martinsson is responsible for the outside arrangements. The houses will be sited later on in a kind of park made up of lawn rather than gardens. To provide protection against the wind and to ensure privacy, the site has undergone extensive spatial modifications. It has been moulded into hills which delimit the area from the outside and ensure privacy in the various gardens.

The landscape architect has chosen the same materials for his plastic elements as for the houses: untreated brick and impregnated wood. Thus there is even greater harmony between the buildings and their setting.

Some big trees and a number of shrubs establishing the scale along the roads and at the foot of the slope on the south are the only plants in the complex. The project is completed by two round play areas.

Aulis Blomstedt, Helsinki

Plan of a two-storey house situated on the Villa Parade slope in Norrköping

It is regrettable that this house was not realized, for it would have constituted one of the most interesting constructions of the exhibition. Sited perpendicularly to the slope, the house is composed, above, of the access, the garage, the kitchen with dining nook and the living room, which looks onto roof terraces leading to the garden via footbridges and patios.

To the north of the garden level there is located a patio with the swimming pool and the sauna; toward the slope

on the east the four bedrooms are aligned, another patio with a garden gallery and the library. The spatial succession would have made for very lively interior effects.

Steen Høby Rasmussen, Copenhagen Private home at Holte near Copenhagen

(page 473-477)

This house, built in 1963 in a residential district north of Copenhagen, is situated in a hilly landscape with views of water. A module of 3.10 meters is the basis of the room arrangement on the ground floor. The south-west slope made it possible to include a study and record room on the basement level, the eastward prolongation of which constitutes a sheltered solarium. The construction materials are typically Danish: untreated whitewashed brick for the walls, wooden window frames, outside timberwork on horizontal parts, wood also for the inside partitions, doors and cupboards (skeleton of timber, white-lacquered laminated facing), for the framing (beams of glued wood) and for the timber roof structure taking the flat facing elements (built-up procedure). Wood is also employed on the floor of the ground level, as well as on the ceilings, which are of rough pine. Slabs of Opdal gneiss are used as flooring on the basement level, concrete in the foundations, the basement floor and the oil burner, the ducts of which are set in the concrete. The heating units on the ground floor are built into the floor.

This house is characterized by a spare, sober use of materials. The architectural means are applied with economy. Nevertheless, this house is a convincing demonstration of the hierarchy of true values.

Hermann Blomeiser, Constance

"T"-shaped house on two levels at Gundelfingen

(page 478-481)

The west access of this house, composed of a living room and of four bedrooms, sited on a nearly square lot, leads in front of the sleeping wing toward a connecting space comprising the garage, the kitchen and the living room. As this wing projects beyond the other toward the south, the result is a T-shaped plan.

The arrangement of the rooms as well as the choice of materials are very simple: untreated brick inside and out, concrete deck, cornice and window frames of metal.

The living room serves three functions: living, dining, working. The kitchen and the pantry are directly accessible.

Aarne Ervi, Helsinki

Twin Houses at Westend near Helsinki

(page 482-485)

Separated by a shore road from the sea, this triangular site, sloping gently to the south, was large enough for two houses in staggered order, each commanding a free view over the sea, the indented coastline and the islands. A connecting tract comprises two garages and the service entrance of the lower house.

The two plans are identical:

The garden level of the upper house contains a large living room facing south and west, plus a sauna with dressing room, lavatory and hot room. The remainder of the lower level is taken up by cellar rooms. This level serves both houses. The access to the living rooms is on the north side. To the right, there is the cloakroom, the kitchen and the maid's room, to the left, the bedrooms, the bath and the cupboards. The southwest corner is occupied by the living room and the dining nook, which are separated by a wall with a fireplace. The terraces in front of the living rooms look onto a garden serving both houses.

Construction:

Structure of steel columns and concrete decks; basements of raw concrete; parapets and cornices faced with white asbestos-cement slabs; ceilings and floors of wood, walls rendered, fireplace of large yellow clinker tiles. The surroundings are typically Scandinavian: boulders, tall pines. It is a very suitable setting for the constructions of man, lending them a frame and a scale.

Kurt Ackermann, Munich

Two-storey home with two garages in Munich

(page 486-489)

The site in a suburb lacking any architectural unity (one level, two levels, flat roofs or pitched roofs, etc.) allowed the architect to proceed with a free hand. The large programme on such a restricted site called for a two-storey house.

The house, completely open on the groundfloor level toward the south and toward the garden, is blind on the east and on the west to ensure privacy. The plan is based on a strict module of three by two fields, two of which correspond to the rooms on the south side of the upper level, two by one and a half to the children's rooms, one to the parents' room and one-half to the bath. The access to the centre is via the spiral staircase with a skylight and leads toward the living room, which occupies three fields of the module. The strict arrangement facilitates construction. Skeleton of reinforced concrete, interspaces of untreated brick, whitewashed, decks of reinforced concrete, flat multi-ply roof with interior drainage. Window frames of afzelia wood left natural and insulating panes, on the south, brises-soleil and constant ventilation. Floors covered with large terra cotta tiles or wall-to-wall carpeting.

Associate: Peter Jäger, Pat Deby.

Guex and Kirchhoff, Geneva

Country house at Weiningen near Zurich

(page 490-492)

The romantic site, located in a lateral valley of the River Limmat, is surrounded by vineyards, and a wooded hill on the east, and it commands a broad view over the city, the Lake and the Alps to the south. The entire plan, with the living room, the terraces, the swimming-pool and the shelter of laminated wood which continues into the interior of the house, gives an effect of relaxed unconventionality "under the pergolas", as suitable for family living as for more formal occasions. The spiral staircase of steel on the outside, which links the children's bedrooms and the swimming-pool, proves that the plan is well adapted to the needs of this couple with its two children. Since the commune prescribes pitched roofs, the architect took advantage of the situation by allowing light to enter on the west side between the staggered shed roofs, although less than was proposed in the first plan (cf. B+W 4/62). The foundation of untreated concrete lent itself well to decorative effects. The modern interior appointments testify to the good taste and sense for the authentic of the owners, who are of an old family with a tradition behind it.

Jean-Marc Lamunière, Geneva

"La Gambade" Riding, Club at Lacconnex near Geneva

(page 499-502)

The Riding Club stands near the Route de Sèzégny in a clearing.

The complex of buildings comprises:

- the riding school measuring 15.5 meters x 31 meters with a height of 6.4 meters, the cloakrooms, a gallery for spectators and an office,
- the stable for twenty horses, a smithy, a saddler's shop and a kitchen,
- a covered passageway connects the stable and the riding school,
- the sleeping quarters for the personnel,
- the owner's flat.

The buildings are of wood and are composed of a series of tie beams situated every 5.2 meters and resting on concrete foundations. All the timberwork is bolted.

Between the beams there have been placed prefabricated and standardized wooden panels which serve to bind the building together. These panels are made up of pine boarding tongued and grooved.

The roofing and the flooring are also of panel elements measuring 5.2 meters x 2.6 meters, with insulation at necessary points. The building is painted green on the structural parts and the panelling white.