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Les désavantages de l'implantation proviennent de la Kriegsbergstrasse au nord et de la Hegelplatz au nord-ouest toute les deux étant très bruyantes.

Non seulement des réflexions urbanistiques établirent le parti, mais beaucoup plus l'organisation intérieure de la bibliothèque oblige une répartition horizontale. La nécessité de rester flexible afin de pouvoir s'adapter aux circonstances définit la dimension des salles de lecture et entrepôts.

Plan

Les départements Bibliothèque-Revue, Administration et Visiteurs furent réparti sur trois étages superposés.

Le sous-sol contient les entrepôts et les locaux techniques. La capacité de la bibliothèque est de 600 000 livres. L'inventaire actuel est d'env. 200 000 livres mis à disposition sous forme de prêt libre.

Au rez-de-chaussée se trouvent les locaux de l'administration, la direction, les locaux d'échange et de dissertation, la reliure et l'atelier de photographie.

En plus il fallait prévoir 525 places de travail. Elles sont répartie dans les différentes salles de lecture.

On accède à l'entrée principale par le sud. Le hall s'étend de l'est à l'ouest et contient les vestiaires, une aire de lecture des journaux quotidiens. L'escalier principal conduit aux salles de lecture à l'étage supérieur. A droite de l'entrée à été aménagé un patio où se trouve la salle d'exposition qui aussi peut être utilisé comme salle de conférences.

Mais c'est l'étage supérieur qui appartient aux visiteurs. Là sont réparti les différents services de prêt intérieur et extérieur, le local des catalogues, l'index de littérature comme pendant au catalogue. Ce dernier peut être considéré comme la zone d'information.

On atteint les salles de lecture en passant par un contrôle latéral. Au sud se trouve la grande salle de lecture englobant deux étages. Elle est subdivisée en quatre compartiments spéciaux. A gauche de l'entrée la bibliothèque libre. Elle sert de tambour entre les salles de lecture et les entrepôts. A côté de la grande salle se trouve l'aire des revues contenant régulièrement 1800 exemplaires courants.

Deux escaliers conduisent aux galeries. Ils relient les salles de lecture inférieures à la bibliothèque des études classiques avec celle de la bibliothèque courante où sont relié les revues des 10 dernières années. D'autres salles spéciales de lecture suivent ainsi que d'autres locaux spéciaux.

Au nord sont aménagés les entrepôts. En cas de nécessité ils peuvent être transformé selon le besoin.

Les places de travail sont ainsi disposées et aménagées que chacun peut choisir sa place selon son état psychique ou sa nécessité.

Aménagement

L'aménagement fut maintenu sobre. L'ameublement étudié et exécuté d'après les dernières expériences bibliothécales.

Construction

La construction en béton armé repose sur des piliers ronds de 40 cm de diamètre. La portée est de 5,60 m. L'épaisseur des dalles nervurées mais sans sommiers est de 42,5 cm. Le revêtement des façades est en métal.

Installations techniques

La commande des livres s'effectue par poste pneumatique à travers 14 stations. Le transport se fait sur bande. La bibliothèque est mécaniquement aérée et ventilée. La saturation de l'air des entrepôts est maintenu constamment entre 40 et 60%. Un vitrage sur toute la hauteur des locaux permet un éclairage naturel. En plus des brises-soleil et des stores adéquatés en Alu complétèrent l'installation.

Coût

Le coût de construction du m³ est de: DM 120,-. Celui de l'édifice terminé avec aménagement extérieur, installation spéciale, ameublement, engins et imprévus: DM 170,-.

1/3 de la somme fut couvert par la Fondation Max Kade, New York. Directeur de la bibliothèque et organisateur: dr. Manfred Koschlig.



Summary

Jean Ginsberg

Apartments on the Quai de Boulogne (pages 362-365)

After flowing around Boulogne, the Seine turns north. Many new building projects have been carried out recently on its banks.

The building codes determined the lay-out of the houses here. It was necessary to build between two already existing buildings. The architect divided his project into three blocks: a platform two stories high containing the parking facilities, the utility premises and the cellars. Then on the Quai side, on ground floor level, the shops. Then pillars take over the 12-storey apartment house. At right angles to its diagonal stands the second, 8-storey building. The two buildings are connected by a third wing containing one 3-room apartment per floor.

The platform is improved by the presence in front of a lawn and flowerbeds. From the terrace there is a view over the Seine and the opposite bank. In spite of the restrictive building code and the town-planning considerations that had to be heeded, the plans and elevations testify to a sincere architectural conception. The very sober plan of the apartments is excellent. The east elevation on the Quai in particular reflects a harmony that ought to be more prevalent in buildings. The interplay of balconies and living-rooms is effortless and thus confirms the special character of this complex combining as it does variety and exclusivity.

Jean Ginsberg

Apartments on the Boulevard Lannes in Paris (pages 366-369)

Along one side of the Bois de Boulogne runs the Boulevard Lannes. A building site became available at the intersection of a side street. As was the case at the Quai de Boulogne, the building code called for a compact plan. Ginsberg organized his project by siting his main building along the Boulevard and the second, kept very low, along the side street. The mass of the cube receives the accent in this project. The exterior disposition is particularly careful: pools and fountains faced with mosaics, etc. The apartments are laid out in the same way as those on the Quai de Boulogne. In accordance with the distinctively Parisian custom, tenants and delivery men have their separate entrances, stairways and lifts. Two spacious entrances serve the five buildings.

E. Helfer

Neuhaus High-rise Buildings in Berne-Bümpliz (pages 370-374)

Project: the site located to the west of the city has an area of 21,000 sq. metres. The general plan provided for 190 flats, family houses and a shopping center. The land is bounded by the Murten Road and Eymattstrasse and on the north by a gravel pit. The architect Werner Künzi drew up a preliminary plan in 1954. The distribution of the masses had in general to be taken over from this plan.

Approaches: the site is accessible via Neuhausweg and the local street. Parking zones have been planned along these thoroughfares. The green belts are reserved for pedestrians. An underground structure is used as a garage.

Disposition of the high-rise buildings: an attempt was made to arrange the 41 flats in such a way as to reduce to a minimum the internal traffic areas. The siting of the 3 blocks permits a satisfactory orientation of all the flats. The variety of different types of flat is expressed very clearly in the elevation.

Construction: all the supporting elements of the elevation are of concrete 14 cm thick, insulated with polystyrol and plaster panels. The non-supporting elements are of pre-fabricated white synthetic stone. The buildings are equipped with radiant ceiling heating and central hot water. A drawback is that the 3-storey buildings lack flat

roofs. This would have preserved the unity of the whole complex. The buildings were under construction from 1956 to 1958. The cost amounted to Fr. 115.60 per cubic metre. With all the special circumstances borne duly in mind, the fact remains that this complex is an important achievement.

Stillman + Eastwick-Field

Hide Tower, Westminster (pages 375-379)

Creating something implies a host of responsibilities. One is suddenly faced by a number of questions and contradictory problems in the fields of aesthetics, sociology and politics. Our own ideas and those of the people directly concerned with the project only accentuate this chaos. This is especially true if the work in question is not merely of a commercial nature.

For all this the designer has to evolve and determine his ideas when bringing a building about and he cannot allow his inspiration to flag before it is completed. This is for him the only way he has of assessing his work accurately, of comparing his vision with reality. To do this he must take into ever greater consideration the views of those for whom the work in hand is finally destined.

This introduction to the Hide Tower project in London will act as a definition of the history of its birth and its technical development. Comparison and analysis will show how this building has contributed to development in construction and housing.

Everything goes to show that the structural relations holding between the various trades and professions and industry itself are going to be profoundly changed. In this sphere we feel that Hide Tower is, in its modest way, of technical interest and is worthy of discussion.

We were given a free rein as to our ideas and the approach we should adopt and we have been able to carry all of our plans into being. Our clients had confidence in us and this made for a stimulating climate of work. The contract was clear and precise without being irksome in its detail.

We were commissioned by the Westminster City Council in August, 1957. The site was near Vincent Square and the Thames, lying as it did almost directly behind the Tate Gallery. Our concern was to adapt our 35-storey building to the gallery itself and to overcome the reticence felt by the authorities. Three factors encouraged us in our aims: the wish of our clients to have such a building constructed, the population density of 200 inhabitants per acre (approx. 4,000 m²) and, finally, the surroundings, which tend towards the petty and are unrelieved in their constriction with the exception of Vincent Square, which is not accessible to the public.

Although the contract stipulated that the costs of construction were to be kept as low as possible and we knew from experience that building upwards tends to be costly, we persisted in our plans. A regrettable feature is the fact that the architect can have no idea how his work should be integrated in a locality as there are no general planning directives available.

With regard to the execution of the work, we felt that the entrances should be in keeping with the size of the building so as to avoid the usual jams and in planning them we took these for the flats in the Berlin Hansa district as an example. After we had overcome the objections raised by various committees, we were given permission by the Townplanning Commission to build a 20-storey tower with 8 flats on every floor. In collaboration with our engineers we studied the use that had been made of prefabricated concrete elements in the UNESCO building in Paris. Pier Luigi Nervi informed us as to their composition. The Housing Committee was responsible for the lay out of lavatories and bathrooms. To avoid the impression and costs set up by façades of glass alone, we used prefabricated concrete elements as cladding. These accentuate the fact that it is a skeleton building and make it clear that the walls have no bearing function.

Hodler + Nüesch,
Del Fabro + Gerosa

High-rise Building "Graphika", Zurich
(pages 380-382)

The Wydäckerring-Letzigraben complex consists of five buildings containing from two to four stories and comprises 90 apartments. 24 of these enjoy public subsidies.

On the basement level beneath the courtyard are situated the garages and workshops. The high-rise house contains 56 flats.

The cost of the latter breaks down as follows:

Construction	Fr. 2,166,400.--
Special foundation	Fr. 74,900.--
Landscaping	Fr. 181,200.--
Interests and fees	Fr. 140,000.--
Share in building site	Fr. 902,500.--
Total	Fr. 3,465,000.--

Cost per cubic metre	Fr. 128.30
Rents for the flats amount to:	
2 rooms with kitchen-living-room on 1st through 14th floors	Fr. 180.-- to 206.--
4 1/2 rooms on 1st through 14th floors	Fr. 225.-- to 264.--

The supporting element consists of special bricks for the high-rise building, thickness 25 cm on face plus insulation.

The interior walls are of identical brick 15 cm thick. The floor slabs are of solid concrete housing the radiant heating installations.

The parapets of the east and west faces are clad with corrugated Alu. The windows are double-paned with roll-up Alu blinds mounted outside. The face walls are rendered and dispersion painted. The central heating plant for the whole complex is located in the high-rise building.

Mies van der Rohe

Lake View Apartments in Chicago
(pages 383-384)

A 29-storey block of luxury flats is now being built in Chicago near Lake Michigan. The glazed ground floor,

which is identical with that of the Lakeshore Drive Apartments, consists solely of a hall leading to the lifts accessible from the car by way of a covered footpath to the vestibule. The hall contains the block for the four lifts, the installation channels and the emergency staircase. The first eleven storeys are given over to one and two-room flats set around a central core. The drawback with this lay-out is that some of the flats only look out towards the north. The entrance generally leads straight into the living-room by way of a corridor. These flats have kitchenettes that can be partitioned off with a sliding door. The bathroom and the dressing-room can be reached directly from the entrance. The three-room flats run from the 12th to the 18th floors. Generally speaking, the entrance leads directly into the living-room behind which are separate sleeping-quarters. The fittings are sumptuous: built-in cupboards, spacious bathrooms and extremely modern kitchens. The four-room flats are on the 19th to 30th floors. They are identical with the former but in addition there is a second bathroom. These flats have their own lifts. The tenants have the use of a swimming-bath.

Prof. Hans Volkart

Library of the Stuttgart Institute of Technology
(pages 389-396)

The original library was completely destroyed during the last war. The new structure is situated between the student residence and the Institute annexes, on the edge of a green zone and fronts on the municipal park. The very high buildings in the neighbourhood lack coherence. The new library was deliberately, for the sake of contrast, kept compact and low, in no case exceeding the height of the neighbouring trees.

The disadvantages of the site stem from the proximity of Kriegsbergstrasse on the north and Hegelplatz on the north-west, both being extremely noisy.

The lay-out was not determined alone by town-planning considerations, but, rather, the internal organization of the library rendered a horizontal disposition necessary. The need to remain flexible in order to be able to adapt to changing conditions determined the dimensions of the reading-rooms and stacks.

Plan

The different departments of the library-repositories, administration and visitors-were disposed on three floors one above the other.

The basement level contains the stacks and the technical installations. The library has a capacity of 600 000 books. The present inventory shows a figure of around 200 000 books freely circulating.

The administration offices are located on the ground floor, along with the Librarian's office, the exchange points and the dissertation room, the binding shop and photographic room.

Moreover, it was necessary to provide for 525 desks. They are distributed over the different reading-rooms.

The main entrance is approached from the south. The hall runs from east to west and contains the cloakrooms and a newspaper reading-room. The main stairs lead up to the reading-rooms on the first floor. A courtyard has been laid out to the right of the entrance; here is situated the display room, which can also be utilized as a lecture hall.

The first floor is the one open to visitors, those actually using the facilities. Here are located the various internal and external circulation services, the catalogues, with attached indexes. This area can be considered the information zone.

The reading-rooms are reached via a lateral check-point. To the south is located the main reading-room taking up two floors. It is subdivided into four special compartments. To the left of the entrance is the free library. It serves as a vestibule between the

reading-rooms and the stacks. Beside the main reading-room is the periodical section regularly containing 1800 copies.

Two stairways lead to the galleries. They connect the lower reading-rooms with the classical studies library to the general section containing periodicals covering the last ten years. Other special rooms for reading follow as well as other special purpose areas. On north are the stacks. As the need arises, they can be adapted to various uses.

The working-desks are thus arranged so that a user can choose where he wants or needs to work at any given time.

Finishing

The interior was kept subdued. The furnishings were worked out and finished in accordance with the latest trends for libraries.

Construction

The reinforced concrete construction rests on round pillars with diameter of 40 cm. The bays measure 5.60 metres. The thickness of the ribbed floor slabs, without stringers, is 42.5 cm. The faces have metal cladding.

Technical installations

Book control is effected by pneumatic communications via 14 stations. Books are transported on conveyor belts. The library is mechanically ventilated and air-conditioned. The humidity of the air in the stacks is maintained constantly between 40 and 60%. Glass walls ensure natural daylight illumination. Also sun-breaks and Alu blinds control the light.

Cost

The construction cost per cubic metre: DM 120.--. That of the finished building with landscaping, special installations, furnishings, equipment, etc.: DM 170.--. 1/3 of the total sum was covered by the Max Kade Foundation, New York. Director of the Library and Organizing Manager: Dr. Manfred Koschlig.

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