

Abstracts – doktorsavhandlingar

Magnus Bergquist:

En utopi i verkligheten.

Kolonirörelsen och det nya samhället

An Achieved Utopia. The Allotment Garden Movement and the New Society. (Written in Swedish with an English summary).

Skrifter från Etnologiska föreningen i Västsverige, nr 21. 1996.

Key words:

modernity, social movement, individuation, social organization, citizenship, legitimation, negotiation, institutional culture, identity, allotment gardens.

Distribution:

Göteborg University, Dept. of Ethnology,
S-412 98 Göteborg, Sweden.

Cecilia Häggström:

**The Absent Meaning
of Concrete Form in Theory
of Architecture.**

Theoretical and Applied Aesthetics, School of Architecture, Chalmers University of Technology, 1996.

This paper deals with Gothenburg's Allotment Garden Movement between 1905 and 1945 and its role in the building of the Swedish welfare state. The Movement anticipated the social and cultural changes that occurred in Sweden during the twentieth century. The allotment gardens, which were seen as a type of utopia, differed from other utopias in that it was made real. The Allotment Garden Movement members were regarded as citizens with the right to vote and influence the running of the common utilities. The gardens also provided financial resources for the members.

The freedom that the members enjoyed was not without demands. The Association guaranteed the members access to common resources, while also demanding that the members conform to the all-embracing purpose of the Association. Discussions took place at the Association's meetings where it was decided whether different demands should be viewed as private or public. The Allotment Garden Movement's main purpose was challenged by individuals and by groups. The board's duty was to mediate between different interests and try to defuse conflicts and disagreements so that communal decisions and strategies could be carried out. Rituals, rhetoric and disciplinary action were also used to unite the members.

The Allotment Garden Movement has been seen in many different ways over the years. This can best be explained by the allotments' characteristics: limited area and its role as a borderland between the city and the countryside, nature and culture and the modern world. The Allotment Garden Movement can be seen as a reflection of the complexity which is part of the growth of the modern welfare state.

The aim of this dissertation is to discuss architecture as forming practical conditions for our *way-of-being*, and to clarify that which prevents traditional theory of architecture from dealing with these practical conditions as such.

The dissertation investigates a theoretical problem concerning the nature of the relation between human being and the built environment. The main question is: *In what way can we treat architecture as concrete material form, involved in such a way in our practical being, that it contributes to the maintenance and development of our way-of-being?* A related question is: Why is this practical meaning usually so hard to treat in theory?

By comparing and discussing a selection of theoretical works marked by their turning away, in different ways, from the actual concrete material form (towards something else), the traditional embrace of a Cartesian concept of human being is found to be what prevents theory of archi-

Key words:

aesthetic theory, architectural theory, architecture, artifacts, body, building function, environmental theory, phenomenology, practical knowledge.

Rasmus Wærn:

**The Time of the Competitions:
The Impact of Architectural Competitions
in Sweden during the Bourgeois Era.**

School of Architecture, Department of History of
Architecture, Postgraduate Programme in Theory
and History of Architecture, 1996.

Key words:

History of modern architecture, architectural
competitions, Swedish architecture, nineteenth century,
twentieth century, academy, bourgeoisie, architect,
profession.

ecture from treating a practical meaning of architecture. The persistence of this concept is also found to be strengthened by the influences of closely related practices in which the use of architectural images, as a means to certain knowledges, play a vital role.

A possible solution is found with the support of pragmatic and phenomenological approaches to knowledge, both aiming to transcend the impossible subject-object dualism by taking into account the inter-subjective character of reality. Some pragmatic and phenomenological concepts are used to find a way to treat action and, thereby, the concrete material form as practical conditions that are involved in the development and maintenance of our way-of-being. This way, architecture can be analysed as serving differently directed usages, and, by being *taken-into-usage*, as articulating the intentionality of our everyday doings and participating in the development of our dispositions (abilities and needs).

The aim of this thesis is to survey the impact that competitions have had on the architectural profession, mainly in Sweden, between the middle of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century. During this time architectural competitions shifted from individual experiments to a regular method for selection. The thesis concludes that architectural competitions have usually been related to what are known as bourgeois societies, from Athens during the representative democracy and Florence during the oligarchy to the bourgeois revolutions in America, France and Austria. Decisions on the appointment of architects for such projects were mostly handled by committees which were expected to act in an impartial, democratic way. To be objective became important. However, the earliest competitions seldom generated any results that could be developed. The reason was mostly the future proprietor's lack of concern about the program. Starting the building process with a schematic building program became one of the most important effects of the competitions and, thereby, one of the central prerequisites for functionalistic architecture. The competition situation gave rise to a critical architecture, created with the ambition to present something new. Whatever ambition an organizer had for an individual competition, the system in itself gave rise to and spread new ideas widely in Swedish architecture around the turn of the century. The two roots of the modern competition, the academy and the marketplace, resulted in two different kinds of architectural competition. The academic type aimed for maximum quality with a reasonable price, while the marketplace type aimed at a reasonable quality with the lowest possible price, a pattern still visible. However, during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the academies also had a role in setting the standard regarding taste. Thus, public competitions in the academic tradition were to establish a "proper architecture" as defined by the most prominent representatives of the profession. In the mass society, the competitions no longer functioned as arbiters of taste.

Tomas Tägil:

**Arkitekten Hans Westman,
funktionalismen och den regionala särarten.**
Department of Architecture, Division of History
of Architecture, Lund University,
Box 118, S-221 00 Lund, 1996.

Language: Swedish, ISSN and key title: 1101 - 962X,
ISBN 91 85460 58 3, Number of pages: 312.

Distribution:

Arkitekturmuseet (Swedish Museum of Architecture),
Skeppsholmen, S-111 49 Stockholm.

Key words:

Modern Architecture, 20th Century, Functionalism,
Regionalism, Building Tradition, Swedish Architecture,
Skåne, Hans Westman, Critical Regionalism, Regional
Characteristic.

This thesis deals with the regional aspects of Swedish modernism exemplified by the architecture of Hans Westman (1905–1991). The main purpose of the dissertation has been to make a survey of what is perceived as particularly regional in Westman's buildings and if we can really talk about modern regional architecture. Modernism's breakthrough brought about the introduction of an architecture which was meant to be international in style. Gradually however, both individual and regional differences emerged in architectural practice. This development raised a great interest among architects such as Kenneth Frampton, who in his work "Critical Regionalism" examines the connection between modern and regional architecture. Skåne, Sweden's most Southern province, can be considered a region with its own distinct building tradition. Despite a flood of impulses from outside, rather than being wiped out, the regional peculiarities have instead been fused with modern architecture. Hans Westman, who practised as an architect in Skåne from 1932 until 1983, used this consciously in his architecture. He attempted to unite functionalism with the building traditions of Skåne. In doing so, rather than continuing a "true" tradition, he attempted to create a new distinctive regional architecture which was in reality more "Westmanian" in its expression. Westman began as an out-and-out functionalist and throughout the rest of his life he continued to profess his belief in modern architecture. However, he made one reservation against the functionalists, who didn't take account of the so-called "human factor". In this rather unclear term, Westman reveals his critical position towards functionalist architecture and also its deficiencies: the large scale, the monotonous repetition, the engineering style and the routine approach. It was out of this critical attitude that the motive for a more human modern architecture developed. Westman saw regional references as an essential part of this aspiration.

Siv Ehn:

**Family and Neighbours in Built
Environment.**
Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan
Stockholm 1996.

In this thesis I present two studies. Interactionism, phenomenology and culture-analysis make up my basic theories.

The studies focus on social life in some of the residential areas that were erected in Sweden in the period of the "one-million-flats" program, 1965–74. These areas are often characterised by multi-high-rise family buildings. Interviews were analysed in a qualitative way.

Social life (book 1) is contrasted with that in a Serbian village where I was doing fieldwork through participant observation in 1971–72. The contrastive perspective helped me to get a better understanding of some of the crucial differences between traditional and modern man and their consequences for social life. It exposes totally different views of the individual and of his or her relation to others. The Serbian village could be defined as a *Gemeinschaft*, especially with reference to the deep and intimate relations between people. Social life in the modern housing areas often showed signs of *Gesellschaft*. Here people have become

Language:

Swedish.

Key words:

Social neighbourhoods, social norms, social responsibility, individuality.

Elisabeth Tostrup:

**Architecture and Rhetoric
– Text and Design in Architectural
Competitions, Oslo 1939–90.**

Oslo School of Architecture 1996.

individuals, free from traditional ways of thinking and social control. When they described their contacts with neighbours, their views and actions often displayed indifference and calculative and strategic actions. Different strategies of inaccessibility seemed to emerge from a wish to protect their privacy and to control the extent of their involvement.

The indifference, however, often hid feelings of insecurity and doubtfulness. Many people did not know what to expect from their neighbours, nor what to do in order to get to know them. This atmosphere of "social hesitation" often resulted in confusion about social norms of behaviour in semi-public spheres. In the Serbian village, norms were created out of the necessary actions that upheld everyday life and therefore no one had reason to question. Economic affluence has influenced relations among neighbours in modern society by making them independent of each other in terms of practical help and economic support in everyday life. "Social hesitation" also obstructed the spontaneous "social responsibility" that seems to be demanded for the development of a friendly, unpretentious atmosphere between neighbours.

In book 2, I focus on the different ways of furnishing that I discovered in a block in Rinkeby, a suburb to Stockholm, where about 60% of the residents were of foreign origin. The apartments had the same layout, but most foreign households (especially those from southern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East) had furnished their homes in a different manner from what is common among Swedes. The kitchens were often furnished with sofas and an extra TV-set. Spontaneous "social responsibility" proved to be an important part of everyday life. Not only family members participated but also neighbours who suddenly popped in. No child under the age of 13 had a room of its own. Children's bedrooms were used to sleep in. They were not regarded as private spaces equipped with a lot of personal belongings reflecting the individuality of the occupant.

This study of architectural competitions held in Oslo in the period 1939–90 deals with architectural projects and the ways in which the competition material communicates the value orientations that are embodied in the designs. I wanted to explore the degree to which there is consistency between the hegemonic competition architecture and its visual and verbal presentation, and to what degree this type of rhetoric promotes the profession. The threefold rhetoric which consists of (1) the prefigured architectural design, (2) the graphic or visual rendering itself and (3) the competition texts, allows a broad and many-sided advocacy. It mediates the value orientations both as a response to the major currents in society in general, and as a more specific expression of the underlying artistic drives within the profession of architecture. I have studied the competition material from three angles: (1) the new architecture in relation to the old, (2) space and conceptions of use

English text, original Norwegian quotations in appendix, 207 pp. illustrated. A limited number available from Oslo School of Architecture, the Library.

and (3) facades and interfaces. These aspects follow different rhythms and lines of development. Thus important changes in the hegemonic architecture can occur while, at the same time, a continuity is manifest. My study revealed results which both serve to confirm the assumption that there is a certain degree of consistency or coherence within the advocacies, and also indicate that the presentations are often vague and insubstantial. The rhetorical nature of competition projects and their verbal advocacies act persuasively by enhancing the altruistic and optimistic aspects. Simultaneously and inherently this rhetoric amplifies the relative and ambiguous aspects of architecture. The question may, however, be posed whether this kind of rhetoric can promote fruitful debates on architecture in society, or whether the implicit vagueness in fact serves to prevent the discussion of fundamental, underlying principles by leaving vast parts of the design process unexplored and unuttered.

Jan Eriksson:
**Research, Development, Utility:
On the Assessment of Utility
and Relevance in Research & Development
Supported by the Swedish Council
for Building Research.**

Published 1996 by the Swedish Council for Building Research, Stockholm, Sweden.

The supplement is published 1996 by KTH, Centre for Built Environment, Gävle, Sweden.

The results of sector financed research projects are supposed to be relevant; i.e. must be able to be used as arguments for practical applications and fulfil the demand for usefulness within the sector. However, everything called "research" is not research, and sometimes the expression "R&D" is used instead to cover many different activities – primarily experimental development, but also investigations, evaluations, tests, demonstrations etc. Development results, like for example energy-saving refrigerators or new window glass coatings, are not relevant; rather they are functional, efficient or environmentally-friendly. Although many R&D results cannot be relevant, they can be used in other ways for practical purposes and thus be very useful. Therefore, in assessments of R&D, utility is superior to relevance and comprises the common basis for assessments of the very diverse kinds of results produced by R&D supported by the Swedish Council for Building Research.

These are some of the theses argued for in this dissertation. It also contains discussions of differences and similarities between various kinds of R&D, especially between scientific research and experimental development, but also science and technology, natural science and social science and the humanities, and the different objectives of research depending on what kind of interests motivate the research. Other issues discussed include different ways of using R&D results and applicable criteria for assessments of utility.

Four previously published articles (in Swedish) are reprinted in a supplement to the dissertation. The borders and contents of architectural research are discussed in the first article. Two different approaches to research evaluation are compared in the second article. The differences between scientific research and experimental development are analysed in the third article, and in the last one the question about the meaning of "societal relevance of research" is treated.

Language:
Swedish.

Key words:
Assessment of R&D-utility, Research and experimental development, Science and technology, Relevance of research results, Societal relevance, Research motivating interests, Criteria of utility, Use of R&D results.

Matts Mattsson:
Vinter i folkhemmet
– en studie av den svenska modellen på
lokalplanet.
Hard times – A study of the Swedish Model
on a local level.
Göteborg University 1996.

Keywords:

Locality development, local community, territorial and functional integration, social capital, civic community, system of action, tradition – modernity – postmodernity, Bourdieu, Crozier/Friedberg, Putnam, Rothstein.

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Göteborg University, Department of Social Work,
Sprängkullsg. 23, S-411 23 Göteborg, Sweden

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Jari Heikkilä
Balcony as an outdoor space in Finnish
apartment buildings
Department of Architecture, University of Oulu,
FIN-90100 Oulu, Finland
Acta Univ. Oul. C 91, 1996
Oulu, Finland

This dissertation is a result of an action-research-project carried out during 1991–1993 in the community of Gullänget, located in Örnköldsvik, a municipality in the Northern part of Sweden. The aim is to examine community work strategies.

Locality development is here analysed as part of the complex reality of a local community. Several themes, events and reflections are included in a historical perspective which sheds new light on the power structure significant for the Swedish model. In Gullänget strong labour unions have for many years related, in a corporate way, to an expanding private capitalism. In tracing processes and emerging structures Pierre Bourdieu's concept of "field" is important. So is the concept "system of action" introduced by Michel Crozier and Erhard Friedberg.

The empirical analysis of "civic community" proves that in Gullänget this was never an autonomous sphere. Civic community is interrelated with a local culture, which in turn, to a great extent, is formed by actors, processes and power structures emerging from the market economy. Corporatism on a local level has marginalized political and cultural opposition. In the beginning of the 1990s it is hard for citizens and voluntary associations to form effective strategies to bring about a change. The Swedish model is dysfunctional, there is a legitimation crisis. That is why community workers face great difficulties.

The study is summarized in terms of tradition, modernity and post-modernity and ends up with a critical analysis of the three classical strategies of community organization: locality development, social planning and social action.

The planning of outdoor spaces is an important aspect of housing design. Outdoor spaces provide a significant extension of indoor space. Even in apartment buildings, each apartment should have a balcony as an outdoor space. Balconies have never been examined in detail in Finnish architectural research. The stages of the development of balconies as well as the premises of balcony design remain unknown. The purpose of this study was to outline the development of Finnish balconies since the early stages of urban apartment buildings in the 1860s. Balconies attached to single apartments began to appear in the period of functionalism in the 1930s. Emphases on outdoor life, health and equality resulted in a numerical increase of balconies. The significance of balconies in housing design has varied over time, as it can be seen from project descriptions written by architects. It was only in the 1980s that every apartment began to have a balcony of its own.

Balconies add nuance to the architecture of an apartment building. They make up a transitional zone integrating the interior and exterior spaces. This transitional zone gives the facade both depth and friendliness. When there are many balconies, it is possible to use order, rhythm, repetition and contrast in the composition. From the functional viewpoint, the balcony should be sufficiently large and deep to allow

Keywords:

Housing design, façade, protective glass panelling, suburban renovation.

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versatile uses. From the technical perspective, the balcony should be correctly oriented, safe and able to bear loads and stresses. In the northern climate, balconies must be protected against weather. Protective glass panelling that can be closed is a practicable solution.

In suburban renovation, it is not enough to repair damage, but an effort should also be made to improve the qualitative level of apartments and facades. Balconies play an important role in renovation. One third of all balconies are in need of major repair. Most of the damage inflicted on concrete balconies is due to water. The most common types of damage are carbonization, frost weathering and corrosion of steel components. The repair measures should also eliminate the causes of damage, which means that many balconies have to be partly or completely rebuilt. The quality of living can be improved by making balconies larger or adding balconies to apartments that do not have one. It is also useful in renovation projects to provide balconies with protective glass panelling.

According to the inquiry made in this study, residents consider the balcony an integral part of the apartment. Balconies are, however, considered small and inconvenient. Large balconies are used more than small ones. Protective panelling increases both the use of the balcony and the period during which it can be used. Balcony use is restricted mostly by weather. Glass panelling minimizes the effect of weather. Protective panelling is considered an advantageous solution that involves no problems.

Slender glass structures offer new possibilities to articulate the façades of apartment buildings. Balconies can be used to add variety to the architecture of new buildings and to renovate old suburban buildings.

Rättelse

I Nr 1, 1996 hade följande personer granskat artiklarna:

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