

August 5, 1978

We met ~~at~~ today with the ~~Gamm~~ Garin for the first time to discuss the pattern language for the large scale aspects of the Garin.

Up until now, the Garin have not really understood our statements that ~~they~~ the physical and social environments are completely intertwined. They have started work on a constitution (a set of rules governing behavior, action, money, property, rights and obligations), but they have not yet seen that this will be completely intertwined with the process of the environment, its patterns, and its gradual construction.

Today, this started to become clear, as we discussed certain very fundamental patterns.

The two most crucial discussions were about (1) gardens and (2) scattered work.

(1) Gardens. The Garin members have apparently accepted the idea of house clusters - that is, they have accepted the idea of ~~the~~ common land, common to small groups of houses, and under the responsibility of these families. However, the concept of private land is not yet at all clear. The Garin members first proposed ~~a~~ that each house whose own area will be about 100 m^2 , sit surrounded by a garden of some 400 m^2 , making a total lot size of 500 m^2 .

They ~~a~~ began by saying that ~~this~~ most of this 400 m^2 is not truly private, but semi private, in the sense that

what is done there depends on the approval of other Garin members (from the cluster, or other affected areas). ~~And~~ And they also proposed an area close to the house, where the family can do anything they want, at all, without havin permission. In addition they have the idea of a band, 5 meters wide, in front of the house, ~~where~~ which is still more public, where other people can go, but which is still the responsibility of the ~~Garin~~ family in the house.

~~Imkxixadmkx~~ We tried to make their idea of the 400 m² more precise: can others go into it freely (answer: no); can a wall be built ~~at~~ around it (answer:no) - so it is neither for the benefit of the public, nor ~~for~~ ~~for~~ for the private enjoyment of the family. I asked why is it so large. Answer: in case someone wants to grow many thingsx there. I pointed out that a large area can be neglected, and have weeds, which will grow even without approval of other Garin members. The answer (a fine, ~~whixmxxaxm~~ to pay for work done by others) seems thin. We discussed the possibility of a family having a small area, behind their house, with a tree, a foun~~d~~ain, a flower bed, very intimate, a view, and that the lots are laid out touching open country, so that families can also have as much extra land as they want, for cultivation of vegetables, flowers, etc.

This still leaves unclear what happens in front of the house, how private is the private area, are vegetables grown in a separate vegetable garden (allotments), or near the house, and the question of ~~wh~~ room for expansion of the house itself. It does seem clear, however, that Garin members are willing to com~~templ~~ate a variety of levels of ownership, intermediate between private and public, with considerable complexitv,

Scattered work.

We discussed the merits of scattered work as an ideal. Garin members pointed out that the whole Segev area is a cluster of settled ~~Moshav~~ Moshavim, surrounding a central industrial site where major industry will occur. I pointed out immediately that this is a straight copy of present day suburban model, and that if accepted, this will make the Moshav a glorified suburb, with all the problems of ~~the~~ women raising children in isolation, etc.

It was agreed that greenhouses for ~~the~~ growing hothouse flowers (one proposed ~~a~~ industry) could be on the Moshav. Also a Bakery, proposed, could be on the Moshav. However, ~~the~~ a factory making solar toys and educational toys, was felt to be best in the industrial center, ~~the~~ as was a proposed factory making medical instruments.

I pointed out that women will be discriminated against, since they will be less likely to work ~~at~~ away from the Moshav - among four women present two agreed with me, two felt it was better to work away from home. Other Garin members ~~mentioned~~ a desire to "go to work" - to go to a place where they can leave family problems, and totally address themselves to work. Also, several people feared possible contamination of housing area, by industry???? (A very unrealistic view of how large industry really is - people seem to have idea of huge dirty noisy factories, when in fact we are talking about small quiet workshops).

Finally, I explained that work place could be separate from houses, but still in the Moshav - ~~Imankadmw~~ pointed out that the real issue is whether you want to go 40 blocks to ~~wa~~ work (300-400 meters), or 20 blocks (~~x~~ 1 to 2 miles). General sentiment was ~~xx~~ that four blocks is better. ~~Howdxxm~~ However, there is concern about ~~the~~ not meeting other people from other Moshavim if industry is too self contained - possibility of sharing knowhow, tools etc, and general atmosphere in central industry might be ~~xx~~ helpful.

Some discussion of the need to create enough things in the Moshav which will keep a steady stream of outsiders from nearby Moshavim coming in - for work, for purchases - one woman wants to run a library, for example, which all surrounding Moshavim could use... this is ~~xxx~~ vital to give the Moshav an urban quality - not the suburb of dreary sleepy homes, where only stream of movement is outwards - but a balanced mixture of work and home, which invites people from outside as well, thus creating much richer human interchange.

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~~We~~ Amos called me today, to tell me that Ranan Weitz has agreed to give us all three contracts - i.e. planning, design of houses, and construction of houses. In short, the Israeli government is committed to a full scale experiment. In order to ensure the success of the experiment, they want a new site - not Rakefet - since Weitz feels that the bureaucratic process which has already started Rakefet down ~~a~~ the path of the conventional Krei nplan, will interfere with the process we wish to set in motion. A new site has therefore been ~~selected~~ chosen, Danny and Roberta and Amos visited it yesterday, and they say it is even more beautiful than Rakefet~~x~~.

Weitz has promised to keep the project on the same schedule, and has personally committed himself to securing the ~~x~~ funds for capital expenditure, by the same date as we agreed before. However, there is some mystery about this, just how it will be accomplished..

~~The~~ Danny and Roberta, ~~and~~ feel that it is worth the ~~xxx~~ risk. Amos stresses the fact that this ia a major revolution for Israel, to contemplate a process as far as this one is from

the normal ~~xxx~~ process, and urges Garin members to recognise the immense benefits they are getting, and to be willing to take part in the struggle which may be involved, in getting the funds on time.

Talking later with Andy, he thanked me, and asked me to thank Howard and Amos also, because, as he put it, the members of the Garin are beginning to realise that they are actually ~~xxxxxxx~~ creating a new society, a new social order, and that they have only just now begun to realise this.

Up until a few weeks ago, they ~~xxx~~ simply felt that they were all moving to Israel, to live in Israel.... but now, after the discussions about patterns, the discussions about the detailed patterns of work and family life, ~~xxxx~~ and the changes which are possible within this process, they realise that they are doing something momentous, something much larger...