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BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION - NOT A RESULT OF
A THEORETICAL HYPOTHESIS.

★ CONSTRUCTION OF A BLDG. CANNOT BE
SEPERATED FROM THE PATTERN LANGUAGE
AS IMPORTANT AS THE PATTERNS, SOCIAL
CRITEREA AND GEOMETRY.

SEQUENCE OF LECTURES FOLLOWS THE
" " WORK OF THE CENTER
FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE.

CONSTRUCTION. CAME LATE IN CENTER'S WORK.

◇ IS IT POSSIBLE TO SPECIFY A SERIES
OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION.

AS SERIES OF REQUIREMENTS FOR PATTERN
LANGUAGES.

1. BUILDING SYSTEMS SHOULD BE AMENABLE TO
USER DESIGN.

2. PATTERN LANGUAGE - BUILDING SYSTEM
SHOULD BE COMPATABLE WITH THE PATTERNS.

→ TO BE ABLE TO SHAPE THE PATTERNS
AND REALLY SHAP IT.

EXAMPLES: CEILING HEIGHT
COLUMN CONNECTION.
CEILING VAULTS.

3. STRUCTURE FOLLOWS SOCIAL SPACE.

~~STR~~ - RESOLVES A CERTAIN SET OF SOCIAL
FORCES.

- STRUCTURAL FORCES BEING RESOLVED.

★ THIS OCCURS AT ALL LEVELS.

★ COULD BE SEEN FROM PURELY GEOMETRICAL
PT. OF VIEW.

THE ENTIRE CONSTRUCTION RESPONDS TO

~~★~~ FORCES ACTING ON IT: SOCIAL, STRUCTURAL, GEOMETRICAL.

→ THUS THE ~~BLDG~~ BLDG SYSTEM HAS TO BE DEFINED IN TERMS OF THE PROCESS NOT IN TERMS OF THE PARTS.

→ FINE ADAPTATION OF PARTS TO THE WHOLE. ONLY THROUGH

A PROCESS WHICH ALLOWS US TO GENERATE A BLDG WHERE THE PARTS ARE RELATED TO THE WHOLE.

IMPLYS. REQUIREMENTS:

1. SEQUENCE OF OPERATIONS.
2. NO DIMENSIONAL CONSTRAINTS ON THE ACTUAL BLDG.
3. FROM Pt of View of builders - EACH STEP ^{HAS} ~~IS~~ TO BE FELT AS A WHOLE OPERATION, IN THE PROCESS.
4. A BUILDING SHOULD ALLOW FOR VARIOUS LEVELS SYSTEM OF FINISH AT VARIOUS STEPS OF THE CONSTRUCTION.

example: STUD WALL FRAMING HAS TO BE FINISHED.

HOUSE IS FINISHED BEFORE IT IS TAKEN TO ITS FINAL COMPLETED STATE.

IT ALSO MEANS PEOPLE CAN HAVE A HOUSE WITH AN INITIAL AMOUNT OF MONEY.

◇ BUILDINGS ARE CLEARER WHEN SEEN. IN HOW THEY WERE BUILT.

IF WE ASSUME THAT MORE PEOPLE ARE TO BE INVOLVED IN THE SHAPING OF THE ENVIRONMENT. AND CONTROLLING WHAT HAPPENS.

→ IT REQUIRES BLDGS TO BE CLEARER.

MEXICALI:

1. FOUNDATIONS.
2. WALLS.
3. VAULTS.

1. FOUNDATIONS:

- TRIED TO ENSURE THAT THE STAKES BECAME ACTUALLY THE ROOMS -
- NO PLANS.
- FOUNDATION BLOCKS PLACED ON THE CORNERS.
- FOUNDATION TIED BY A BEAM WHICH CONNECTS THE CORNERS.
- POURED SLAB WITH NO FORMWORK!
- SOIL WAS EXPANSIVE - NEEDED TO BE NEUTRALIZED - USING A SOLUTION OF LIME AND WATER TO SOAK IT.
- ONCE SLAB IS POURED.

2. FIRST WALL BLOCKS WERE LAYED OUT.

[THE USER PARTICIPATION BECAME EASIER WHEN THE SYSTEM IS EASY TO USE...]

- STACKING UP BLOCKS WITH NO MORTAR.
- WINDOWS WERE DESIGNED AS WALLS CAME UP PUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY WERE BEST.

3. VAULTS

ADVANTAGES:

- ① → THE ROOMS WERE SLIGHTLY REGULAR. THUS VAULT HAD TO BE BUILT IN SITU ON THE ROOF.
- ② → THE IDEA OF FINISHING SOMETHING NO FORMWORK - LED TO DESIGNING IT AS ~~THE~~ IT WAS...

CONCLUSION:

1. IN SITUATIONS WHERE EVERYTHING IS FUNCTIONING IN A HARMONIOUS WAY:

THERE IS LITTLE FORMAL DISTINCTION BETWEEN A PATTERN LANGUAGE AND THE SYSTEM OF RULES BUILDING IT.

EX: TRADITIONAL CULTURES.

IN PLACES WHERE THERE IS A LONG SEQUENCE OF TRADITION - IT SEEMS THAT THERE IS A STRONG RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CONSTRUCTION SYSTEMS AND WAYS OF BUILDING.

2. IN SITUATIONS WHICH ARE HEALTHY - ALL BLDGS SEEM SIMILAR - A SAMENESS IN MATERIALS, CONSTRUCTION METHODS:

(ALEXANDER) QUESTION OF RULES + FREEDOM.

THE REASON FOR THIS: THE AMOUNT OF INVENTION REQUIRED FOR NEW BUILDING PROCESSES.

HOWARD DAVIS.

"PEOPLE REBUILDING BERKELEY."

→ WHAT DOES IT TAKE FOR A CITY TO COME TO ORDER.

→ EXPERIMENT DOES NOT REVOKE THE PAPER.

✧ PROBLEM IS NOT ONE OF PLANNING. PROCESSES ARE NOT SEPERATE FROM EACH OTHER.

✧ PLANNING PROCESS WHICH THEORETICALLY COULD DEAL WITH ALL SCALES OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

✧ SAME WITH CONSTRUCTION.

1. PLANNING

2. BUILDING

3. CONSTRUCTION.

↘ HAVE TO BE ALL TOGETHER.

→ OREGON EXPERIMENT

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OREGON + CITY OF BERKELEY IS THAT THE FIRST HAS A SINGLE LAND OWNER.

→ MOST OF THE CITY OWNED BY INSTITUTION - ALSO BERKELEY NOT HOMOGENOUS - MUCH MORE COMPLEX.

① → IN A SMALL NEIGHBORHOOD - SMALL NO. OF PEOPLE SO PEOPLE KNOW EACH OTHER. WHEN IT IS SMALL ENOUGH IT CAN BE COMMUNAL

② → THE PEOPLE IN A LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF ENERGY. (LABOR) IF EACH DOES A SINGLE ACT IT WILL AMOUNT TO A LARGER ACTIVITY.

1974. CITY COUNCIL REWROTE THE MASTER PLAN. GROUP OF ~~SEVERAL~~ CITIZENS. COMMITTEE FOR REVISION OF MASTER PLAN.

AT THE TIME - 4/9TH RADICAL... A FEW YEARS AFTER PEOPLE'S PARK.

→ PEOPLE DECIDED THEY WANT TO CONTROL THEIR OWN AREAS.

→ TRAFFIC DIVERTERS.

→ NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION ORDINANCE. STOPPED THE DEVELOPMENT OF BERKELEY.

②

→ PROJECT WAS CRUDE. BUT IN THE CONTEXT
OF THE POLITICAL ~~THE~~ ERA.
→ WAS A REASONABLE THING AT PEOPLE'S LEVEL.

- ① LAND - COMMON LAND IS THE ~~THE~~ TYING THING
AMONG PEOPLES.
- IT RECURRS IN MOST ENVIRONMENTS...
A ROOM, CLUSTER HOUSES, A STREET...
- ② CONTROL - PEOPLE WHO SHARE A PEKE OF LAND AND
DO NOT HAVE CONTROL OVER IT - THEN THE
PRACTICAL EFFECT IS LOST.
→ BECAUSE - TOGETHER CREATING A PLACE...
- ③ MONEY - IF PEOPLE HAVE PERMISSION TO DO
WHAT THEY WANT TO -
→ THEY COULD IMPROVE THE STREETS ON
THEIR OWN...
→ TRAFFIC DIVERSION - COSTS \$1300
PEOPLE COULD DO IT CHEAPER + FREE.
→ PROPOSED: $\frac{1}{2}$ OF CITY BUDGET - NOW CONTROLLED
BY CENTRALIZED GOV'T.
COULD BE REDISTRIBUTED DIRECTLY INTO
THE NEIGHBORHOOD. AS THEY SEE FIT
ACCORDING TO DIAGNOSIS.

THE CRUX OF PROJECT WAS AN ORDINANCE.
→ SPELT OUT IN DETAIL HOW THIS
COULD BE APPLIED.

- HOW NEIGHBORHOODS IDENTIFY THEMSELVES.
- AGREEMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD ON PLANS.
- YEARLY DIAGNOSIS.
- EACH NEIGHBORHOOD COULD RELIEVE EQUAL
SHARES OF FUNDS.
- CONTROL OVER CERTAIN THINGS NOW UNDER
CITY ORDINANCE.

• IF $\frac{2}{3}$ PEOPLE IN NEIGHBORHOOD APPROVE A ~~SO~~ VARIATION
IN $\frac{1}{3}$ THE BUILDING CODE.

• THERE ARE NOW PROGRAMS. BUILDING INSPECT-
ORS HAVE TO BE HELPFUL.

• LOCAL CONTROL OF ZONING.

→ THE ORDINANCE IS BUREAUCRATIC. NOT WORKABLE.
IT HAS TO DO WITH - ① IT IS NOT EASY TO EVALUATE
A PROJECT ACCORDING TO A
PROBLEMS : → DIAGNOSIS.
• RATE OF TAX RISING

2. IT DOESN'T DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM AT ③
ALL...
IT DOESN'T DEAL WITH PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT.
A LOT OF MONEY AND POWER.

3. DOES NOT DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THE
LARGE SCALE ~~AN~~ STRUCTURE OF THE CITY...
→ WHAT HAPPENS IN CENTER?
→ ROADS?
→ COMMERCIAL PARTS IN CITY...
