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HOUSING - HOME?

EXAMINATION OF TRANSITIONAL SPACES, IN APARTMENT HOUSES BUILT BETWEEN 1959-62 IN BUDAPEST

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THESES

1.1 Transitional spaces are a kind of meeting places where the home connects to its environment. Their task is to compensate the environmental factors: to filter, let through and be absorbed. They filter negative impulses, protect personal belongings and let in 'good'. Experiencing the comfort of home does not begin at the entrances; the quality of transitional zone significantly influences the formation of 'home-feeling'. The built environment of transitional zone and the wider environment of the houses (plants, traffic etc.) have influence on the formation of 'home-feeling'. The built space's task is the 'good' contacts which can be created by the organisation, visibility, transparency, protection and stability of spaces. This connection is a gate too: it protects and lets in. The entrance of the house is a place where the resident steps out into public zone and it is the part of the property, where we are 'at home'. Its formation clearly correlates with 'home relation', which basically can be derived from architectural values. The protected entrance and the protected located communal entrance prominently help the development of proper 'home-feeling'.

1.2 The home should simultaneously be distinct and the part of the network in territorial meaning. If zonal frontiers are not clear and built space does not clarify us where we are allowed to cross-step over the dividing line, improper behaviour or conflict will leave an imprint on the environment sooner or later. Messages appear in staircases and we can notice disrepair instead of care. If semi-private or private space get in ambivalent situation and outsiders perceive it as a public space, the territory can not be protected properly. If the borders of the territory are not clear for other persons, personal zone comes overloaded for the owner. Optimal transitional spaces make possible the being of ideal environmental home.

2. The home, beyond the built and natural environment, integrates into social media too. Examination of the transitional zones of living spaces clearly show the demands of the residents. These demands become the part of social media. Visibility and transparency of spaces create the chance of social interaction. Visual control increases the development of sense of security.

3. 'Home-feeling' is not a stable but a constantly moving dynamic relationship between the resident and environment. Our intention to create the power of balance to decrease dissonance, never met. It keeps moving the built environment which is the symbol of stability. In fact, in smaller and bigger scale, it always regenerates: it responds for needs and takes a new shape. In its new shape it defines new relations, habits and situations.

4. Creating home is an ability with which resident dominates ones environment. It forms space, meanwhile space defines its habits. We have to have influence on our physical environment, while we have to accept its regularities.

5.1 The developed system of the examination of observing houses is suitable for examining other houses if we adapt it to particular circumstances. Studying life situations that are different from normal, it turns out that examining them helps to understand the ordinary 'home-demands'.

5.2 The examination of homes that are different from normal, highlights on the circumstances that influence 'home-needs'. 'Security-needs', 'comfort-demand', possibility of impersonation, ' the needs of private

life', 'social interaction-needs' and the knowledge and transparency of spaces (known as the six 'home-needs') do not appear equally and uniformly. Differences in different life situations generate 'differences'.