

Post Box for the development of the Habitat (B.P.H.)  
 Boite Postale pour le developpement de l'Habitat (B.P.H.)  
 Briefkasten für die Entwicklung von Habitat (B.P.H.)

7  
 31-7-1961.

name of author nom d'auteur Name des Autors	subject sujet Subjekt	date date Datum	main points points essentiels wichtigste Punkte
65. John Voelcker, Staplehurst, England	commenting Maki's thought on collective form (postboxletter 54)	June '61	the problem of to-day is that everybody knows by instinct the kind of dwelling they want to live in, but don't know how to make it. As architects and townplanners our function is not to make the dwelling but rather to design the components which through our special knowledge, we know, can become any of these and more important, might become a new group form when used by a group concerned with providing themselves with an environment. Superficially it seems that you are concerned with "expressing" the functions you have selected and for me expression is part of the equipment of the compositional architect who wishes to decorate society rather than extend its freedom.
66. United Schools Organisation of India. Secr. Gen. Conference Jiya Lal Jain U.S.O. House Arya Smaj Road New-Dehli-5 India	First U.S.O. International Conference 7th-10th August 1961 New Dehli	20-4-'61	The United Schools Organisation of India is also holding the first U.N. Information Test at thousands of centres all over the world on 24th of October 1961 to celebrate the United Nations Day.
67. J.L. Sert Cambridge U.S.A.		March '61	We have stood and will stand for a constructive attitude. It is high time to do things, too much talking or writing will not help.
68. Anne Bruce Ass. librarian of Nova Scotia Techn. College Spring Garden Road Halifax N.S. Canada	Likes to have contact with Post Box Team X activities		
68. Unesco	asking for information about the actual structure of the organisation which is (was) C.I.A.M. Information about resolutions and decisions of the 11th session.	31-5-'61 14-6-'61	I (Postman) propose that Unesco is informed about what C.I.A.M. is now. Team X will inform Unesco about the actual group structure of Team X, developed since Otterlo 1959 and about the Post Box. (see general remarks at the end of this letter).



70. Le Carré  
Bleu

number 1  
1961

Blomstedt: Architectural form, inaugural lecture in which Paul Nelson's study "the suspended House" is taken as an example of full-bodied and firm architectonic form. Oscar Hausen: the open form or the art of the great number (see also the book CIAM 1959 in Otterlo).

Jean Jacques Schaerrer: On housing "In the automobile we do spend 1-2 hours a day, in the dwelling 18 hours in average. Flexibility and freedom should be here the "leitmotiv", from the letters sent to Sekler two facts emerged as a result:

1. the need for positive action along the lines Sekler had indicated: Need for contact. Clarification of architectural thinking. A definition of the situation in architecture which would sort out its genuine problems from the spurious ones of formalism.
2. Any organisational framework should grow up freely from the varying structures of architectural thinking in different parts of the world.

71. E. Sekler copy of brief June 13  
Vienna statement about 1961  
C.I.A.M. January  
20

72. Allison, program for Team June 14  
Peter Smithson X meeting in Lon-1961  
don, July 1 and 2

73. Hubert, meeting B.P.H. 26-6-'61  
Hoffmann  
Graz.

74. Friedman Paris Spatial 15-7-'61  
Paris (publication dans  
revue technique  
du batiment)

75. Tom J. a situationist 5-7-'61  
Holzbog architecture  
c/o F.A. Wilson  
30 Edwardes  
Square  
London W 8

Hoffmann proposes to have a next meeting in Hamburg of those corresponding to Post Box. Hebebrand could prepare the meeting (see answer at the end of this B.P.H. letter). l'essentiel du projet consiste en la construction des nouveaux quartiers au-dessus de la ville existante de telle façon que ces constructions n'extraignent pas de demolitions importantes dans la ville.

It appears that we must adopt a more radically progressive and dynamic architecture which, through organised collective effort, can better embody the forces present in our social and technological revolution, and which can apply a new esthetic expressive of technology and of our "relative" and "indeterminate" situation.

As creators of man's physical environment architects must forcefully exercise their authority and leadership in an effort to help mould a new society.

Under the impact of a bewildering and overwhelming reality, people search for a fixing point that will generate an essential stability and identity.

The populations of to-day and to-morrow will be concentrated in the cities; thus a new concept of the city would be central to a situationist architecture.

The city should be conceived as one large building as an organic complex of inter-related functions under a central planning control.

Like a growing organism, a glazed structural framework would "walk" over land or water, bridging existing areas, highways and rivers and could be expanded both vertically and horizontally.

The functional reality the "meaning" of the city and of any part within the whole could be manifest in its forms, and would be directly grasped by its inhabitants.

Nous sommes dans une revolte permanente qui est l'action du plus grand nombre se liberant de son anonymat (dans lequel il a tombé contre coeur!). Il faut aider échapper le plus grand nombre de son anonymat-monotonie-de son rythme sans diversité!! Alors il faut demander à l'industrie des éléments interchangeable avec lesquels l'architecte peut construire plus des variations, plus de diversité comme sont possible avec les constructions en briques, pierre et bois.

76. Bakema réaction sur juillet  
Rotterdam l'exposé par 1961  
Jerzy Hryniewiczcki  
6ième congres  
U.I.A. London  
"L'offet de l'industrialisation sur l'architecture"

Généralement:

Le livre "CIAM 1959 en Otterlo" est distribué entre les participants d'Otterlo et les membres directives CIAM.

Le Corbusier a écrit le 5 juillet de ce livre:

Ce livre me paraît très bien fait et d'un excellent esprit. Je suis très content de voir la ligne de conduite adoptée par les gens d'Otterlo. Il faut que chaque génération prenne sa place à l'heure utile.

Team X has formulated in July London its aims and structure. Team X propose to meet again in a wider circle at Otterlo at September 1962. After it there could be a trip to Hamburg (see letter Hoffmann). The meeting in Otterlo is intended as a sort of testing ground. The only condition of participation is to commit yourself with works or projects that demonstrate those techniques and that language you are developing to come to the point where "to build" also means to build towards the community structure.

I think it would be useful if you inform me about the groups which are established after Otterlo (see letter Sekler). This can be useful in order to see how actual international contact at the moment is prepared to face the actual architectural problems.

Then we can inform for example Unesco about how international contact has evolved since C.I.A.M. Otterlo. At the moment it is only clear that the group called Team X is working, a group in Japan with Tange and Maki in Japan and St. Louis is really creating and that many individual students and architects are trying to come face to face with the actual architectural planning problems. In the Post Boxletters I informed you about what I got about it in the Post Box.



I will go on to do so in order to communicate between those who like to build as architects at a community structure.

The Dutch Team X will publish the work of Tange and Maki in a next Dutch Forum issue called "building for the anonymous client".

The illustrations in Corbusier's letter are clarifying his opinion about the actual phase of international contact. For that reason we also will print this letter in Forum.

It seems to me that the evolution of Western Europe asks to architects and town-planners:

"how will be the living-conditions in the triangle Cologne - Antwerpen - Amsterdam if the second industrial revolution takes command at the scale of united Europe"

In this triangle we now already have the highest population density!

Architects of Europe who work in a research spirit cannot deny this problem!

Who said that in Europe the problems of modern architecture are solved? I think we still have to start!!!

It seems to me that this Triangle problem is an essential task which could be introduced by a group at Otterlo 1962! and I ask by this Post Boxletter who could join a group introducing this New Europe Triangle Problem at Otterlo 1962?

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