DIFFERENT TYPES OF HOUSING

The house and the inhabitants

MASS HOUSING

SINGLE HOUSING

INHABITANTS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSING</th>
<th>MASS HOUSING</th>
<th>SINGLE HOUSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TEMPORARY</strong></td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PARTICIPATION WITH INHABITANTS</strong></td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FLEXIBLE</strong></td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STANDARDISATION</strong></td>
<td><img src="image7" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="image8" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CONTROLLED</strong></td>
<td><img src="image9" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image10" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plug in City reworked two slightly repressed motifs to be found in modernism: those of the megastructures and the ‘building-in-becoming’.
Plug in City combines all of his precedents; the principle of collectivity, of interchangable apartment units, and the incorporation of rapid transport links.
(SADLER Simon, Architecture without architecture, p14).
From every point of view the space capsule was an inspiration: how different in concept and in efficiency from the tradition of building! The statement was a capsule dwelling with the ergonomy and the sophistication of a space capsule. The parts would be tailored and able to be updated as technology moved forward and as the dweller changed his needs (COOK Peter, Archigram, p44).

People often change their jobs and with it their living environment. The time to live in one house goes down towards 3-5 years. People no longer have strong relation with the place they live in. (Atelier Specific Neutrality, p3).

Which are the dwellers?
To give people the up-to-date living conditions they should have [in] a building which allowed them to have the freedom to create a new life there... to give them the maximum possibility of choice [and] to prepare habitat only to the point at which man can take over. (WILLIAMS GOLDFHAGEN Sarah, Freedom’s Domiciles: Three Projects by Alison and Peter Smithson, 2000, p77).

What is a house?
Which are the dwellers?
PARTICIPATION
Mass housing

MATEOTTI_DI CARLO

Participative planning

Which are the dwellers?
The commission for the “Möbius House” came from a couple who both worked from home during the day and wanted a house where they could have ‘complete individual privacy, but also the possibility of instantaneous connection to one another’. The Möbius strip provided a spatial diagram of how connection and separation could be achieved at the same time. The house is designed around a flexible programma, where activities of sleeping, eating and working can take place at any point on either of the two routes.

(RENDELL Jane, Art and architecture: a place between, p185).
No Stop City, like other works of Archizoom, is a reaction against modernist architecture that explores the imaginative at the expense of the practical. In this drawing, which presents an idea rather than an actual plan, technology eliminates the need for a centralized city.

(RILEY Terence, The changing of the avant-garde, p101).
The Capsule Tower is nothing more than a superstructure with numerous prefabricated units “plugged in”. In a sense, they presage much of the minimal urban living that has gained prominence in more recent years. In that vein, the Capsule Tower is a seminal work in that it is not only emblematic of Japanese metabolism but also reinvents the apartment and hotel building types. Hyperdense, prefurnished, and in a sense antifamily. Kurokawa’s capsules celebrated the flexibility and freedom by minimizing the domestic choices of inhabitant.

(BERGDOLL Barry & CHRISTENSEN Peter, Home deliver: fabricating the modern dwelling)
His Molenvliet project was the first project ever to explore the architectural and urbanist potential of distinction between a ‘base building’ designed by the architect and the subsequent ‘fit-out’ done by the user.

(LEUPEN Bernard & HEIJNE René & VAN ZWOL Jasper, Time-based architectur, p28)
How to build a house with maximized volume with the same elements and not destroy the meadow. Using the same off-the-shelf parts, but ordering one extra steel beam, Charles and Ray re-configured the House.

(www.eameshouse.org, History of the house)
In many ways, towns like Celebration are about mastery as well. They may provide a sense of reassurance and control in what has become an unpredictable world, even more so than at the time the town was conceived. But Celebration has become the embodiment of a community of tomorrow, based on the concept of Main Street and new urbanism.

Questions about surveillance and privacy, and heightened attention to codes of meaning in social behavior and in the material world of American postwar consumer culture helped produce a new awareness of the importance of being, appearing, “normal”.

(EGGENER Keith, American architectural history: a contemporary reader, p334)
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(Atelier Specific Neutrality, p3).

Inhabitants become self builders that create their own living environment according to taste and budget.
(Atelier Specific Neutrality, p5).

The loft is a mix of public and private. It can be a home, office or both. In former times people went on the street, now they prefer to stay at home.
(Atelier Specific Neutrality, p6).

A dwelling is only a dwelling when people come to live in it. The notion dwelling is entirely subjective and is certainly not related to any particular form.
(HABRAKEN, Supports, p15-16).