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Common Construction of Options

Publicities throughout the developing process
and the utilisation of architecture

Abstract

Dealing with the phenomenon of publicity, often understood as the antipole to privacy, which has to be protected, is an essential part of the architectural design process.

This article is based on Georg Simmel's understanding of publicity being generated by individuals interactively sharing a secret as common knowledge, sensation and action. Thus, excluding outsiders, they form a community.

Taking the example of the cooperative residential project *Spreefeld Berlin*, the formation of publicities and their communities is being examined throughout the developing process and the utilisation of architecture.

Public spheres within and beyond the project, the conditions of their formation, their unifying secret and their interrelations are specified. Their process-related and interactive elements are being examined with regard to their potential of actively generating the collective and the project. Furthermore, this article analyzes to which degree architecture can provide for publicity.

Keywords

Georg Simmel, Privatness, Boundary, Housing Cooperative, Participation