
Katharina Borsi and Anna Shapiro

Type, New Urban Domesticities and Urban Areas

Abstract

Typology can be understood as a form of principled reasoning about architecture's spatial and organisational capacities; type being both product and process working through generative analysis, classification and projection of architectural concerns and objectives. This paper brings this discipline immanent perspective on typology to bear on three current housing projects to highlight architecture's contribution to the reformulation of urban domesticities. Opposed to a focus on their social and economic sustainability, or their capacity of forging a different development model, the description of the projects formal and spatial specificities highlights particular typological moves that propel the multiplication of relationships of association, intimacy and care. Moreover, we suggest that these projects are spatial exemplars that call into question the very boundaries of the current definition of the neighbourhood, and instead can be seen as delivering spatial and programmatic intensities propelling the dynamism of the urban area.

Keywords

Housing, Domesticity, Neighbourhood, Berlin, Spreefeld, Musikerwohnhaus, Am Lokdepot