ABSTRACTS

Katarzyna Asanowicz
ACTIVATION OF SMALL TOWNS IN NORTH-EASTERN MACROREGION OF POLAND PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, BIALYSTOK UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

The paper concerns the problem of supporting improvement of urban and architectural situation in the Podlasie region. The main problem is that in the majority of small towns employing architects is very rare. As a result the decisions concerning space aesthetics are undertaken by people who are completely unprepared to this task, although full of good intentions. That is why active participation of Faculty of Architecture is necessary in shaping spatial image of small towns. In the paper students’ works created for these towns are shown.

Keywords: spatial development, space aesthetics

Grażyna Dąbrowska-Milewska
DOES THE NATIONAL URBAN PLANNING STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL AREAS ARE NEEDED IN POLAND?

For almost 30 years in Poland there are no urban planning standards for residential areas. Some of the issues found in previous, established in 1974, national standards, are now subject of national building regulations. But there are no government regulations of social infrastructure and public areas for green, sport and recreation, which should complement the residential development. According to the Spatial Planning Act in this field standards are set at the local level. In practice, this system does not work correctly and does not guarantee the proper quality of residential environment. It is therefore desirable to develop new central (national) standards for urban residential areas, taking into account current realities and needs. They should include two kinds of standards: obligatory - to a strict application, and recommended - that should be the set of current indicators and guidelines, which can be use with the principle of flexibility and substitution.

Keywords: urban planning standards, residential areas, social infrastructure, public areas for green, sport and recreation

Grażyna Dąbrowska-Milewska
URBAN PLANNING STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL AREAS - CHOSEN ISSUES.

The paper refers to some issues that should be included in the planning standards for urban residential areas. There are proposed: the demographic indicators of demand for basic educational infrastructure (based on demographic forecasts); indicators of space requirements to locate this infrastructure, and principles of programming public recreation areas. The paper also presents the study of intensity of land exploitation for determining a reasonable relationship between the intensity of building development and participation of biologically active area in the current conditions of housing investment.

Keywords: urban planning standards, residential areas, intensity of land exploitation, social infrastructure, public areas for green, sport and recreation

Justyna Kobylarczyk
EVALUATION OF RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENT QUALITY ON AN EXAMPLE OF JAROSŁAW

The aim of the paper was to present the research on the quality of residential environment in the centre of Jarosław, based on polls and town-planning analysis. In the polls the inhabited area was evaluated by respondents. The town-planning analysis was based on locality visit, photographic documentation and measurements together with analytic diagrams. The article presents also up-to-date requirements for residential area, elements affecting its quality and pro-health character. The essential ones include the need for privacy and quiet, safety, accessibility of sufficiently large backyards.

The survey covered four characteristic areas located within the town centre. These were the market square, an area located in the closest vicinity of the centre itself, and two areas on the fringe of the centre. One was characterised by modern high multi-family building - blocks of flats, the other - detached houses in private gardens. Regardless of location, all the dwellers of the centre of Jarosław found the same elements of residential environment particularly important.
Keywords: quality, residential environment, centre

Maciej Kowalewski, Marek Ostrowski
HOME - A PRIVATE SPACE? PRACTICES OF UNIFORMIZATION OF INTERIORS...............................................................

Home spaces are usually treated as an opposition of public space, however privacy and intimacy of home, are a relatively new phenomenon. Home is not only a place of interaction with others, but also a space of representation, the attribute of social position. Therefore, homes of the interior design magazines want to be "nice" - global furniture brands style become the new aesthetic compositions. These practices of uniformization are described at the paper, in reference to the “Postcards from the places” project, where the amateur photos of interiors of houses were researched. The aim of the project was to collect photographs of home spaces and to analyze them using the methods of visual sociology. The primary objective of the project was the artistic experiment, consisting the questions of “publicizing” private space, then the data have become an impulse for scientific research, presented in the article.

Keywords: home, uniformization, private space, public space, visual anthropology

Krzysztof Kwiatkowski
CREATION, RECONSTRUCTION, SUSTAINING SOCIAL BONDS IN HOUSING COMPLEXES.............................................................

The contemporary housing complexes and housing estates are not on the whole animated by lively social contact and bonds. The forms of communal life can be encountered even more rarely. In the contemporary artificial world, also personal contacts, social bonds and communities have to be built up and sustained to some extent artificially. This creation may be realized on three planes. The first is to do with architectural space which enables symbolic interaction in the sense proposed by G.H. Mead and H. Blumer. The second plane is created by the area of animation activities. The third plane of generating potential bonds is to do with specially erected buildings and facilities. The communal buildings could enable, among others, the realization of behaviors “suppressed” by the restricting character of the neighborhood (definition of one of the levels of neighborhood according to the classification of sociologist P. Kryczka). Then above-mentioned restricting character consists in foregoing activities which might be met with a negative reaction of the neighbors, e.g. loud parties, family get-togethers, communal grilling, hobbies and DIY activities and other similar types of behavior characteristic of community life. Apart from other activities, the “centers of social expression” could also permit such “suppressed” behaviors and turn them into the axis of social bonds.

Keywords: social bonds, housing estates, community centres

Halina Łapińska
CHARACTERISTIC OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL SPACE OF COMMUNITIES SITUATED IN THE BORDER AREA OF NORTHEASTERN POLAND AIMED FOR ANALYSIS OF POSSIBILITIES OF THEIR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT..................

The border communities of northeastern Poland are significantly poorer than other parts of the country. People live here in much worse conditions. Reason of this situation should be found in long lasting disinvestment of the “Eastern Block”. Nowadays, when phenomenon of the globalization and taking over the European standards is observed, this area should be treated carefully. The purpose of this study is making a characteristic of the natural and cultural features of the communities situated in the border area of northeastern Poland. Then the analysis of possibilities and ways of future development was done.

Keywords: border communities, area sustainable development, economical activation

Beata Majerska-Pałubicka
THE QUALITY OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT IN ASPECTS OF QUALITY OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BASED ON EXAMPLES OF ECO-SETTLEMENT..........................................................................................................................

The quality of our life depends on the environment we live in. The relation between built environment and natural environment is crucial.
According to contemporary knowledge the care for natural environment in all aspects of human activity is important for standards of our life as well as for standards of life of the future generations. In reference to the residential areas it means: optimization of building technology and exploitation in comparison with comfort of living, recycling of waste and grey water, the reduction of energy consumption, using renewable energy sources as well as reducing the emission of CO2. Very important is supporting the mental revolution that should lead to environmentally-friendly and ecological changes in life standards.
The aim of the paper is presentation of the examples showing how to introduce the element of sustainable development into residential structures.

Keywords: eco-settlement, energy efficiency, reducing of pollutions, quality of environment

Marcin Michalski
QUALITY OF HOUSING DEVELOPMENT BASED ON HOUSING BUILDING COMPLEX OF RESIDENTIAL IN WROCLAW AFTER 2004

Increasing investments in housing development, easy flow of goods, services, capital and people observed after 2004 (when Polish market was open after accession to European Union), hope for better housing environment and living conditions has appeared. Large number of flats that was given to usage as much as forecasting future increase is a signal of distinct changes in housing sector. The number of investments and rapid growth of competitiveness in housing development offers force number of investors to create more attractive investments, so they can increase demands and surpass concurrency.

This paper presents state of housing development and its quality level of offered infestations that was based on few examples of buildings and buildings complex of residential. Furthermore analysis of architectural-urban planning parameters of investments was confronted with current law, creates a field for further consideration about changes that was done in housing development environment - the actual and surface one.

Keywords: housing estate, urban planning of housing estate, habitat

Piotr Setkowicz
COLOUR – THE OFTEN IGNORED DIMENSION OF HOUSING ENVIRONMENT

The sense of the classical adage Homo mensura rerum became distorted in the industrial era, under the influence of the faith in the need and possibility of full emancipation of the people representing the world of nature. The attempt to bring man down to the role of the last relic of biosphere in the technosphere had led to a deep crisis in both nature and culture - including the culture of dwelling. By contrast, in the post-industrial era, the new hierarchy of values imposes on one the need to shape the environment which is constructed in accordance with the principles of ecology, and sometimes of “ecocracy”, i.e., conscious granting of priority to the protection of valuable biotops.

Yet, numerous human needs can be fully satisfied without running the risk of coming into conflict with the eccentric paradigm. Among these needs, one finds, for instance, a friendly color scheme of the housing environment - as an indispensable element of an integrated social, ecological and spatial order which constitutes the foundation of a balanced development.

Unfortunately, the everyday practice in this sphere is invariably characterized by a tendency to ignore the issues associated with the physiological and psychological impact of colour and its symbolism, its links with the tradition of the place and the perception of architectural form.

The goal of the present article is to point out to the reasons why the above problem is becoming more and more acute and answer the question whether there are any chances of satisfying the changing needs of the “AC generation” (after computer) in the sphere of the colors of the built up space.

Keywords: colour, integrated order, constructed environment, external housing space

Waldemar Szeszuła
THE CRITERIA FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF SPATIAL SOLUTIONS IN THE FAMILY HOUSING

In the age of intense one-family housing gradually covering Polish suburban areas, the alarming effect of lowering quality of their spatial arrangements becomes apparent. In this article new quality criteria for the assessment of spatial solutions in suburban housing are proposed. The key to such quality appraisal are the correctly defined spatial requirements. Essential - but often neglected - are these that concern the social frames of human functioning, i.e., the sociosphere of the residential environment. To these requirements, previously perceived as immeasurable, a new set of criteria has been assigned, which enables the comparative analysis and measurable value judgment. It includes 8 criteria which are: the readability (legibility) of the composition of the housing arrangement, the eventuality of getting synergetic spatial and landscape effects, the degree of privacy, the safety of the space, the existence of the space that brings people together, the degree of complexity of the spatial arrangement, the possibility of appropriation and identification with the semipublic space by a given group of inhabitants, and the criterion of possible conflict between the public and the private spaces.

The drawing marks - applied to the analyzed plan - are the graphic illustration of the proposed assessment method.
The proposed set of criteria for the assessment of the spatial arrangements of family housing - these already existing and these being designed - complements the universally applied but incomplete appraisal method. Well used by municipal authorities, investors and building contractors it may help to improve considerably the quality of our housing environment.

Keywords: one-family housing, quality of space, criteria

Grzegorz Wojtkun
HOUSING ESTATE IN POSTMODERN URBAN SPACE

The subject of the present article is an attempt to grasp a phenomenon of a spontaneous spreading of the housing estate’s settlement in the areas of modern cities. Undoubtedly it is a result of depleting the possibilities to build more residential buildings in the downtown areas as well as a result of passing the efficiency of constructional and technical infrastructures existing on the adjacent areas. The comparative analyses of the existing residential complexes may lead us to formulate the guidelines for architectural design and town planning or even to create the spatial and functional model of the settlement area.

Keywords: estate’s settlement, monofunctional residential areas, spontaneous spreading of multifamily housing