Architecture and the Public World

Kenneth Frampton

Edited by Miodrag Mitrašinović

BLOOMSBURY VISUAL ARTS LONDON • NEW YORK • OXFORD • NEW DELHI • SYDNEY

Contents

List of Figures xi Acknowledgments xvii Editorial Notes xix Kenneth Frampton: A Biographical Sketch xxi

Introduction 1

Kenneth Frampton in Conversation with Miodrag Mitrašinović 11

The Human Condition and the Critical Present

- 1 Introduction to Section 1 31
- 2 The Status of Man and the Status of His Objects: A Reading of *The Human Condition* 37
- 3 Industrialization and the Crises in Architecture 53
- 4 Apropos Ulm: Curriculum and Critical Theory 67
- 5 *Modern Architecture: A Critical History*, Introduction to the 1st Edition 81
- 6 Towards an Ontological Architecture: A Philosophical Excursus 85

Urban Landscape and the Eclipse of the Public Realm

- 7 Introduction to Section 2 93
- 8 America 1960–1970: Notes on Urban Images and Theory 101
- 9 The Generic Street as a Continuous Built Form 111
- 10 Technology, Place & Architecture 123
- 11 Civic Form 131

- 12 The Legacy of Alvar Aalto: Evolution and Influence 139
- 13 Toward an Urban Landscape 157
- 14 Megaform as Urban Landscape 167
- 15 Land Settlement, Architecture, and the Eclipse of the Public Realm 177

Cross-Cultural Trajectories, Place Creation, and the Politics of Counter Form

- 16 Introduction to Section 3 185
- 17 On Reading Heidegger 193
- 18 Towards a Critical Regionalism: Six Points for an Architecture of Resistance 199
- 19 Tadao Ando's Critical Modernism 211
- 20 Place-Form and Cultural Identity 219
- 21 Modernization and Local Culture 231
- 22 The Predicament of the Place-Form: Notes from New York 239
- 23 Plan Form and Topography in the Work of Kashef Chowdhury 247
- 24 2018 Society of Architectural Historians Plenary Talk 251

The Predicament of Architecture in the New Millennium

- 25 Introduction to Section 4 259
- 26 Architecture, Philosophy, and the Education of Architects 265
- 27 Reflections on the Autonomy of Architecture: A Critique of Contemporary Production 271
- 28 Seven Points for the Millennium: An Untimely Manifesto 281
- 29 Typology and Participation: The Architecture of Álvaro Siza 289
- 30 Towards an Agonistic Architecture 295
- 31 The Unfinished Project at the End of Modernity: Tectonic Form and the Space of Public Appearance 305

Afterword: "The Criticism of Architecture is Worth More Than Architecture," by Clive Dilnot 317

Bibliographic Sources 344 Biographies 348 Index 350

List of Figures

- 1 Unified Education Center in Jambeiro em Guaianases, São Paulo, Brazil (2001–04). Centros Educacionais Unificados (CEU) were developed by architects Alexandre Delijaicov, André Takyia, and Wanderley Ariza as a network of 21 community and learning centers in the city's poor areas during the administration of Mayor Marta Suplicy. Photo © Henrique Boney, licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 license. Source: Wikimedia Commons 16
- 2 Corringham Building in Bayswater, London. Kenneth Frampton with Douglas Stephen and Partners (1960–1962). Photo © No Swan So Fine licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International license. Source: Wikimedia Commons 20
- 3 Corringham Building in Bayswater, London. Kenneth Frampton with Douglas Stephen and Partners (1960–1962). Illustration courtesy of Kenneth Frampton 21
- 4 Corringham Building in Bayswater, London. Kenneth Frampton with Douglas Stephen and Partners (1960–1962). Sections and plans.
 Illustrations courtesy of Kenneth Frampton. Illustration courtesy of Kenneth Frampton 21
- 5 Public courtyard in the Marcus Garvey Park Village, built in Brownsville, Brooklyn, New York. Kenneth Frampton, Arthur Baker, Anthony Pangaro, and Michael Kirkland (1973–1976). Drawing by Craig Hodgetts, 1973. Source: *Another Chance for Housing*, MOMA exhibition catalog, June 12–August 19, 1973: 20 27
- 6 "The Aurora Room," in Thomas Hope's Duchess Street house, London, 1807. Source: "The Aurora Room," Plate 7, "Household Furniture & Interior Decoration," by Thomas Hope, London, 1807. NAL Pressmark 57.Q.1. Courtesy of Victoria and Albert Museum 39
- 7 The Ringstrasse plan, Vienna. Camillo Sitte, 1889. Source: Camillo Sitte, *Städtebau*, 1889-39

- 8 Miletus, Greek Hippodamia city, 5th Century BC. "The gradual growth of three sequential public realms or 'agoras' linked to each other by Stoa: the harbour agora, the market agora, and the civic agora. The 'sacred' public realm is removed from this sequence to one side." Source: Kenneth Frampton, "Labor, Work & Architecture," in *Meaning in Architecture*, eds. Charles Jencks and George Baird (New York: George Braziller, 1969), 153. Drawing by Sara Dević 42
- 9 Augusta Raurica, 44 B.C. "The Roman Ideogram of the town as reflected in the street is rotated through 36° from the cardinal north so that on the summer and winter equinoxes respectively the sun shines down the streets on rising and setting. In contrast, the land division, the sub-urban area surrounding the town was divided to correspond with the cardinal points." Source: Kenneth Frampton, "Labor, Work & Architecture," in *Meaning in Architecture*, eds. Charles Jencks and George Baird (New York: George Braziller, 1969), 156. Drawing by Sara Dević 42
- 10 "Karl Gruber's reconstruction of a typical walled medieval city. Note the standardisation of the urban vernacular construction of the new colony or *faubourg* being added to the initial foundation and the protection afforded by the castle keep etc." Source: Karl Gruber, *Die Gestalt der Deutschen Stadt* (Berlin: Bibliographisches Institut, 1937). Drawing by Sara Dević 42
- 11 *La Cittá Nuova, casa a gradinate con ascensori esterni*. Antonio Sant'Elia, 1914. Illustration @ Sailko under the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported license, Wikimedia commons 48
- 12 New Babylon Paris. Constant Nieuwenhuys, 1963. Collection of Haags Gemeentemuseum, The Hague 48
- 13 Crystal Palace, London, United Kingdom. Joseph Paxton (with Fox and Henderson), 1851. Construction details. Source: P. Berlyn and C. Fowler Jr. *The Crystal Palace: Its Architectural History and Constructive Marvels* (London: J. Gilbert, 1851) 54
- 14 Crystal Palace, London, United Kingdom. Joseph Paxton (with Fox and Henderson), 1851. The "Glazing Waggon." Source: P. Berlyn and C. Fowler Jr. *The Crystal Palace: Its Architectural History and Constructive Marvels* (London: J. Gilbert, 1851) 54
- 15 "Cathedral of the Future," woodcut, cover for Bauhaus program. Lyonel Feininger, April 1919. In the collections of The Museum of Modern Art, New York, and Harvard Art Museum, Busch-Reisinger Museum 59
- 16 The 3rd Battle of Ypres Salient, 1917. In the collection of the Imperial War Museum, London 59
- 17 Pravda newspaper building, Leningrad (St. Petersburg), Russia. Leonid, Viktor, and Alexander Vesnin, 1924–63
- 18 Master plan for Stalingrad, Russia, N.B. Miliutin, 1928 63
- Hochschule f
 ür Gestaltung Ulm, Germany. Max Bill, 1952–1955.
 Axonometric drawing based on the original Max Bill's drawing. Drawing by Eddy Voltaire 68
- 20 Hochschule für Gestaltung Ulm, Germany. Max Bill, 1952–1955. A view of the building in 1955. Photo © Florian Aicher, Rotis; HfG-Archiv/Museum Ulm. Inv. Nr. HfG Ar Sti F 55.0001 68

- 21 Kenneth Frampton, *Modern Architecture: A Critical History*, cover of the first Thames & Hudson edition, 1980. Cover of Kenneth Frampton's personal copy. Courtesy of Thames & Hudson 80
- 22 A "three-strand" Linear City Proposal for linked townships in Central Lancashire, UK. J.R. James for the British Ministry of Housing and Local Government, 1967 105
- Analysis of the ground surfaces in downtown Los Angeles, California. Konstantinos Doxiades, 1968. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 105
- Bochum University competition entry. Candilis, Josic and Woods, 1962.
 Source: Joedicke, J. (Ed) (1970) Candilis, Josic, Woods. A Decade of Architecture and Urban Design. London: Alec Tiranti Publishers 117
- 25 Student Housing Union Building (HUB), University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. A. J. Diamond and Barton Myers, 1973. The linear arcade. Photo @ Ken Eckert licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International license. Source: Wikimedia Commons 117
- 26 Frankfurt-Römerberg Center competition entry, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany. Shadrach Woods and Manfried Schiedhelm of Candilis, Josic and Woods, 1963. Model. Source: Joedicke, J. (Ed) (1970) Candilis, Josic, Woods. A Decade of Architecture and Urban Design. London: Alec Tiranti Publishers 118
- 27 Brunswick Center, London, United Kingdom. Patrick Hodgkinson, 1973. Section. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 118
- 28 The Centraal Beheergebouw insurance company office building, Apeldoorn, The Netherlands. Herman Hertzberger, 1965–1972.
 Plan and section. Drawings by Eddy Voltaire, based on the original drawings 128
- 29 The Centraal Beheergebouw insurance company office building, Apeldoorn, The Netherlands. Herman Hertzberger, 1965–1972. Photo @ Willem Diepraam. Courtesy of Herman Hertzberger 128
- The British Library, London, United Kingdom. Colin St John Wilson and Mary Jay Long, 1963–1997. Panoramic view of the library. Photo @ Patche992 licensed under the Creative Commons CC BY-SA 3.0 license. Source: Wikimedia Commons 133
- 31 The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, Athens, Greece.
 Renzo Piano Building Workshop with Betaplan, 2008–2016.
 Longitudinal section. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawings 135
- 32 The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, Athens, Greece. Renzo Piano Building Workshop with Betaplan, 2008–2016. Photo by Nikos Karanikolas. Courtesy of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center 135
- 33 National Pensions Institute, Helsinki, Finland. Alvar Aalto, 1952–1956.
 Aerial view of the Institute. Photo @ Suomen Ilmakuva Oy. Courtesy of Suomen Ilmakuva Oy 141

- National Pensions Institute, Helsinki, Finland. Alvar Aalto, 1952–1956.
 Construction detail drawing of the skylights. Drawing by Eddy Voltaire, based on the original drawings 141
- 35 National Pensions Institute, Helsinki, Finland. Alvar Aalto, 1952–1956.
 Interior of the customer service facilities. Photo @ Richard Peters.
 Courtesy of the Alvar Aalto Foundation 141
- 36 The Säynätsalo Town Hall, Säynätsalo, Finland. Alvar Aalto, 1949–1951. Section through the courtyard. Drawing by Eddy Voltaire, based on the original drawing 147
- 37 The Säynätsalo Town Hall, Säynätsalo, Finland. Alvar Aalto, 1949–1951. Plan. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawings 147
- 38 The Säynätsalo Town Hall, Säynätsalo, Finland. Alvar Aalto, 1949–1951.
 Radiating trusses of the Council Chamber hall ceiling. Photo by Kenneth Frampton. Courtesy of Kenneth Frampton 147
- 39 Kenneth Frampton in front of the Säynätsalo Town Hall, 1980s. Source: Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA), Kenneth Frampton fond. Courtesy of CCA 148
- 40 Alvar Aalto's Structural Map of the General Town Plan of Imatra, Finland. Dated 1 August 1951. Source: *Imatra. Kauppalan yleisasemakaava.* Courtesy of the Alvar Aalto Foundation 152
- 41 Robson Square, Vancouver, Canada. Arthur Erickson and Cornelia Hahn Oberlander, 1979–1983. Section through the complex. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 169
- 42 Robson Square, Vancouver, Canada. Arthur Erickson and Cornelia Hahn Oberlander, 1979–1983. A panoramic view of Robson Square and the Law Courts complex (1986). City of Vancouver Archives, image # COV-S544-: CVA 784-115. Photo by Vancouver (B.C.) Social Planning Department. Courtesy of the City of Vancouver Archives 169
- 43 The Berlin Philharmonie, Berlin, Germany. Hans Scharoun, 1960–1963. Section. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 172
- 44 The Berlin Philharmonie, Berlin, Germany. Hans Scharoun, 1960–1963. Plan. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 172
- 45 Igualada Cemetery, Barcelona, Spain. Enric Miralles and Carme Pinós, 1984–1994. Site plan. Courtesy of Carme Pinós 174
- 46 Bagsværd Church, Bagsværd, Denmark. Jørn Utzon, 1968–1976. Section and plan. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawings 205
- 47 Bagsværd Church, Bagsværd, Denmark. Jørn Utzon, 1968–1976.
 View of the main chamber. Photo @ seier + seier licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic license. Source: Wikimedia Commons 205
- 48 Koshino House, Ashiya, Kobe, Japan. Tadao Ando, 1980–1984. Plans and axonometric. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawings 214
- 49 Koshino House, Ashiya, Kobe, Japan. Tadao Ando, 1980–1984. Section. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 214

- 50 Kahere Eila Poultry Farming School, Koliagbe, Guinea. Heikkinen-Komonen Architects, 1997–2000. Site plan. Drawing by Eddy Voltaire, based on the original drawing 236
- 51 Kahere Eila Poultry Farming School, Koliagbe, Guinea. Heikkinen-Komonen Architects, 1997–2000. Plan of the school complex. Drawing by Eddy Voltaire, based on the original drawing 236
- 52 Serge Chermayeff and Christopher Alexander, Community and Privacy: Toward a New Architecture of Humanism. Anatomy of urban realms: areas of responsibility. Source: Serge Chermayeff and Christopher Alexander, Community and Privacy: Toward a New Architecture of Humanism (New York: Anchor Books, 1963), 206. Diagrams by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 241
- 53 Serge Chermayeff and Christopher Alexander, Community and Privacy: Toward a New Architecture of Humanism. Urban clusters incorporated into a linear superblock. Source: Serge Chermayeff and Christopher Alexander, Community and Privacy: Toward a New Architecture of Humanism (New York: Anchor Books, 1963), 211. Diagrams by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 241
- 54 First phase of the low-rise, high-density housing plan for the Garden City Puchenau, Austria. Roland Reiner, 1965–67. Source: Frampton, K. (2020) *Modern Architecture: A Critical History*. London: Thames & Hudson: 587. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 242
- 55 Siedlung Halen, Bern, Switzerland. Atelier 5, 1955–1961. Cross-section through the Siedlung Halen housing estate. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 242
- 56 Siedlung Halen, Bern, Switzerland. Atelier 5, 1955–1961. Site plan. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 242
- 57 Belapur Incremental Housing scheme, Navi Mumbai, India. Charles Correa, 1983–1986. Schematic diagrams of the basic housing configuration composed of nine units with a courtyard (9×9 meters), is grouped into a larger housing configuration (21×21 meters) with a shared space at the heart of this artist village. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 243
- 58 The Asian Games Village, New Delhi, India. Raj Rewal Associates, 1980–1982. Photo @ Raj Rewal Associates. Courtesy of Raj Rewal Associates 243
- 59 The Friendship Centre, Gaibandha, Bangladesh. Kashef Mahboob Chowdhury, 2012. Section. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 249
- 60 The Friendship Centre, Gaibandha, Bangladesh. Kashef Mahboob Chowdhury, 2012. Panoramic view of the complex. Photo @ Iwan Baan. Courtesy of Iwan Baan 249
- 61 Montessori School Delft, The Netherlands. Herman Hertzberger, 1960–1966. Overall plan. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawings 273

- Montessori School Delft, The Netherlands. Herman Hertzberger, 1960–1966. Planned extensions between 1960–2009. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawings 273
- Montessori School Delft, The Netherlands. Herman Hertzberger, 1960–1966. Exterior view. Photo @ Herman Hertzberger. Courtesy of Herman Hertzberger 273
- 64 Bouça housing settlement, Porto, Portugal. Álvaro Siza, 1974–1977. Site plan. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawing 292
- 65 Bouça housing settlement, Porto, Portugal. Álvaro Siza, 1974–1977. Forecourt between the housing blocks. Photo @ António Amen licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike Unported 3.0 license. Source: Wikimedia Commons 292
- 66 Seabird Island School, Agassiz, British Columbia, Canada. John and Patricia Patkau, 1988–1991. Plan and section. Drawings courtesy of Patkau Architects 301
- 67 Seabird Island School, Agassiz, British Columbia, Canada. John and Patricia Patkau, 1988–1991. East exterior view. Photo @ James Dow/ Patkau Architects. Courtesy of Patkau Architects 301
- 68 The Philopappou Hill pathways approaching the Acropolis, Athens, Greece. Dimitris Pikionis, 1954–1957. Site plan. Drawing by Sara Dević, based on the original drawings 308
- 69 The Philopappou Hill pathways approaching the Acropolis, Athens, Greece. Dimitris Pikionis, 1954–1957. Photo @ Miodrag Mitrašinović 308
- Madrid-Barajas Airport Terminal 4, Madrid, Spain. Rogers Stirk Harbour
 + Partners with Estudio Lamela, 2005. Photo @ Diego Delso licensed
 under the Creative Commons Attribution ShareAlike 4.0 International
 (CC BY-SA 4.0). Source: Wikimedia Commons 311
- 71 Luigi Bocconi University, Milan, Italy. Grafton Architects, 2008. View of the auditorium under the new public square. Photo @ Paolo Tonato/ Camera Work. Courtesy of Paolo Tonato and Grafton Architects 311
- Fuglsang Art Museum, Lolland, Denmark. Tony Fretton Architects,
 2008. Building plans and sections. Drawings by Sara Dević, based on the
 original drawings 314
- 73 Fuglsang Art Museum, Lolland, Denmark. Tony Fretton Architects, 2008. East facing panoramic window, Fuglsang Kunstmuseum. Photo @ Grey Geezer licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike Unported 3.0 license. Source: Wikimedia Commons 314