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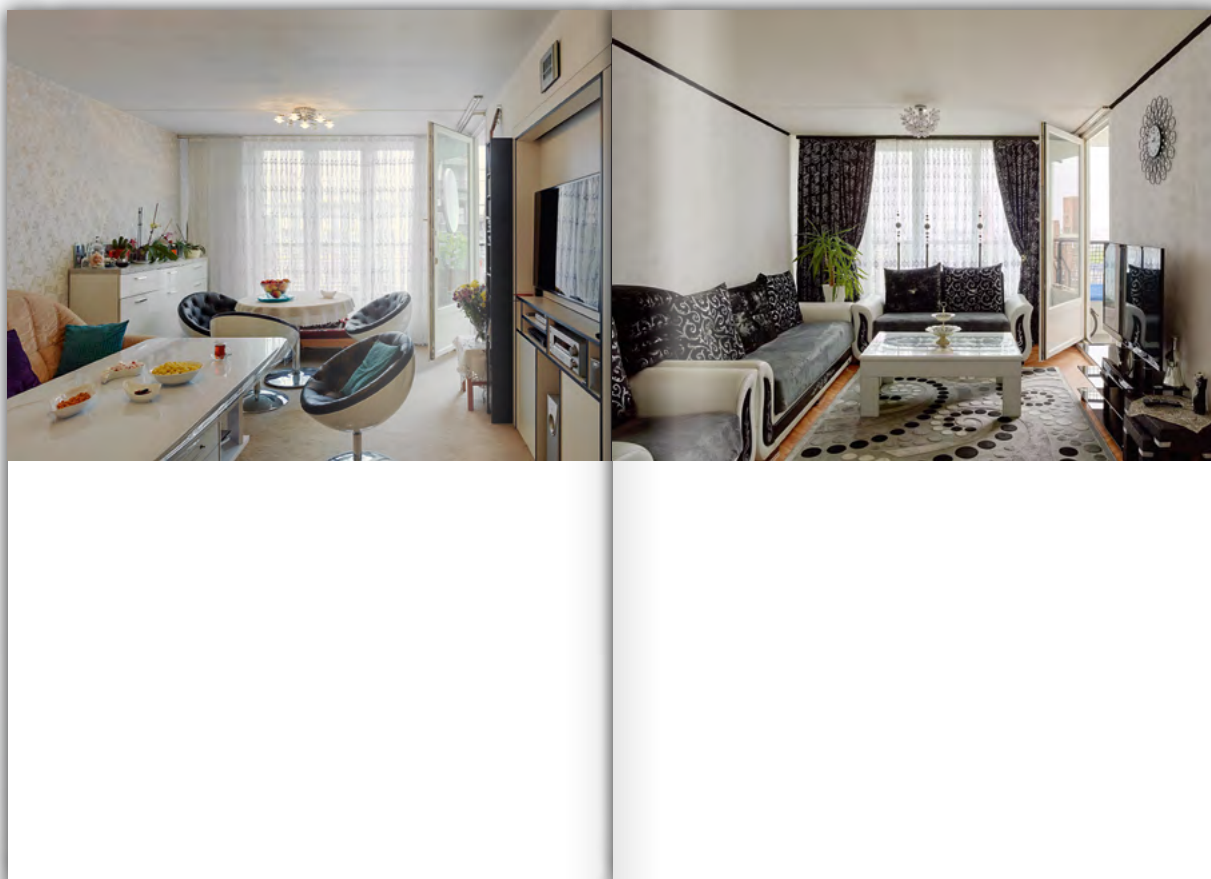
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PHOTOGRAPHY:
MICHEL BONVIN

514 WAYS OF LIVING

BUILT	1974-1977
NUMBER OF INHABITANTS	1,700-2,000
DEVELOPMENT	254
DEVELOPMENT AREA	high-rise slab: 314 low-rise buildings: 200
DEVELOPMENT AREA	36,000 m ²
GREEN AND COMMON AREA	16,000 m ²
COMMERCIAL SPACE	1,000 m ²

The Pallaseum by Jürgen Sawade is known above all on account of the 200-meter-long, high-rise slab with its iconic facade. At the southern end the building rests on a bunker, occasionally tales from the past about harder times when it was known colloquially as the "Sozialpalast," still resonate faintly. Erected between 1974 and 1977 on the site of the former *Sportpalast* (Palace of Sport) this building follows strictly rationalist principles expressed, for example, by the precisely worked-out, highly optimized floor plans. This housing complex has between 1,700 and 2,000 residents—a small city in the city—and we were allowed to visit six of the apartments in order to photograph the living rooms for this series of illustrations: the uniform living room, in each case designed and filled differently with stories, meaning and significance.

SMALL INTERVENTIONS

New Ways of Living in Post-War Modernism

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NILOUFAR TAJERI

SMALL INTERVENTIONS AND THE HOUSING QUESTION

Niloufar Tajeri teaches as a research assistant in the area of Architectural Design at the Institute for Architectural Design, Art and Theory (EKUT) at the KIT and is working on her doctorate in the field of architecture theory. She writes for *ARCHA*, *deriva* and *Volume Magazine*, among others.

In recent years the large housing estates and housing complexes found throughout Europe that date from the 1960s and 1970s have been given considerable attention. This is due to the fact that they now require extensive renovation and refurbishment work. Given the large number of such buildings and the substantial investment that they require, this process is accompanied by an important debate about financing, building conservation, social focal points and demographic change. At the time they were built the slogan "Urbanity through Density" was a symbol of industrial prefabrication, mass production, optimization of building processes and an understanding of planning as a science. It also represented a departure from the functionalist urban planning of modernism and, in concrete terms, from the large housing estates of the 1950s.¹ Consequently efforts to develop forms of housing for a new society often took the form of housing experiments and not infrequently introduced innovative concepts and new building forms paired with the use of new production technologies such as modular building and systems building. During this period two central building typologies emerged: first the large estates and satellite towns of the 1960s—rows of buildings and high-rise structures with extensive open areas between them, and second the large housing complexes of the 1970s—inner city developments with high building and spatial density and a mix of uses.²

At the same time, astonishingly, in dealing with the existing fabric a social and typological examination of the fundamental housing concepts and the forms of housing they produced has remained the exception rather than the rule. Refurbishments include improvements to the housing surroundings, modernizations, thermal retrofits and barrier-free adaptations; in extreme cases the approach to existing buildings has been to vacate and demolish them.³ In the course of the refurbishment measures considerable attention is given to the urban scale—the external appearance, the facade and the surroundings of the housing are the focus—but the suitability of the particular form of housing for

1. Karen Beckmann, *Urbanität durch Dichte? Geschichte und Gegenwart der Großwohnsiedlungen der 1970er Jahre* (Bielefeld: transcript, 2016), 13. Beckmann assumes that housing construction from the 1950s and 1970s does not represent a continuous further development of modern urban planning but is shaped by a break that occurred at the end of the 1950s. For more on this change of paradigm in architecture, see Tom Avermaet's essay, "The Social of Modern Architecture: Spatializing the Social and Socializing the Spatial in CIAM and Team 10," in the present volume on page 26.
2. Ibid., 8-14.
3. Compare the essay by Owen Hatherley, "These Homes Need People, These People Need Homes," in the present volume on page 33.

100 HOUSING COMPLEX AS A DESIRE MACHINE

Andreas Rumpfhuber, Expanded Design

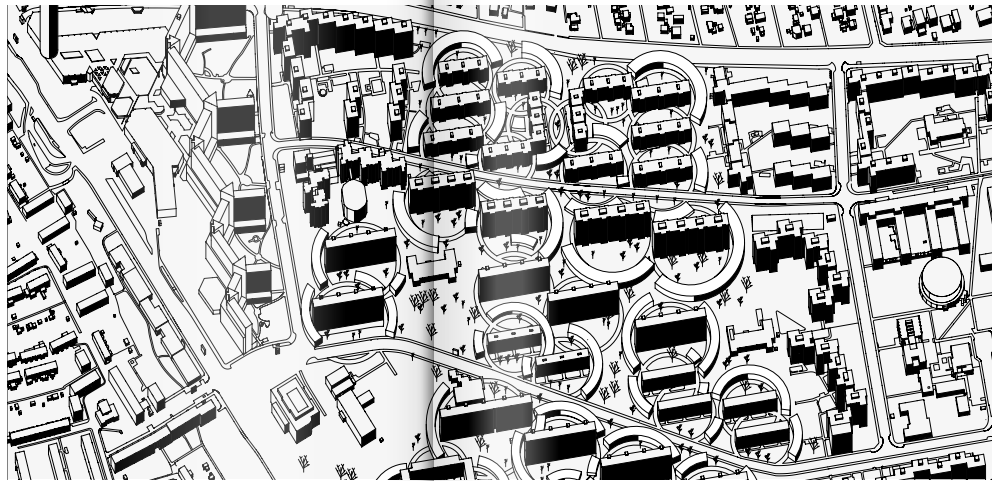
SMALL INTERVENTIONS

New Ways of Living in Post-War Modernism

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46 MUNICIPAL HOUSING COMPLEXES IN VIENNA
A Study on Increasing Functional Density

ARCHITECT	Andreas Rumpfhuber, Expanded Design, Vienna
LOCATION	Vienna, Austria
DEVELOPMENT	1950-1980
NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS	50,000 dwellings? potentially double this figure
CLIENT	City of Vienna
ORGANIZATION MODEL	non-profit housing and work cooperative that is to be newly founded
BUILDING COSTS	in the framework of the Viennese housing subsidy legislation: 5,000 euro/m ²



● Exemplary implementation of the Desire Machine in the Per Albin Hansson housing complex
● The general urban planning principle defines which part of the landscape remains in its existing state, which part can be built on, where special forms are possible, and how the complexes are accessed.
● In the urban plan the existing development is repeated in the building depth, but its layout differentiated. This makes a variety of layouts and spatial relationships possible between the existing building and the buildings added to increase density.

