

Final Report

Project AKTION 71p4 – History of Mass Housing of Czechoslovakia and Austria

The project “History of Mass Housing of Czechoslovakia and Austria” supported by AKTION has been successfully realized according to the project proposal without major changes or problems. The main body of the project – an international symposium and field trip – was realized in April and May 2015. Symposium titled “Housing the Masses” with the subtitle “International Conference on the History of Institutionalized Housing of Socialist Czechoslovakia and Austrian Welfare State” took place at the conference hall of the Moravian Gallery in Brno, the Museum of Applied Arts on 28 April 2015. Three speakers from Austria and three speakers from the Czech Republic respectively delivered their lectures on the topic of institutionalized housing in both countries. See the annexe A for the details.

The field trip took place in the cities of Brno, Ostrava, Zlín and Vienna between 29 April and 3 May 2015. Nine students and one scholar from Austria and seven students and three scholars (organizational team) visited representative housing estates documenting evolution of institutionalized housing in the first and second half of the 20th century in Austria and former Czechoslovakia. Visit of each location was accompanied by local expert commentary and guidance. See the annexe B for the details.

Both the symposium and the field trip were highly beneficial to participating students and teachers in terms of education and acquiring information that was previously unavailable to them due to the language barrier and insufficient English literature on the topic. Besides the transfer of the knowledge the form of symposium and the field trip led to the development of professional connections with serious aim for the further research on the proposed topic. An established online cloud service for the exchange of historical documents and literature can serve as an evidence of the early stage of possible future cooperation. The symposium was also open to the general public and was attended by students and scholars from other universities. This was also beneficial in terms of broadening the contacts even further.

The whole project including recordings of the conference and the field trip photos is documented on the web site www.housingthemasses.cz. The process of making the project is partly documented also on its Facebook page www.facebook.com/housingthemasses.

The changes made in the proposed budget and the programme of the project were mainly due to the decrease of the initial funding (applied for 134 920,- Kč / obtained 115 000,- Kč) and the availability of proposed speakers and accompanying experts at the time of the realization of the project. Nevertheless, the project was fully realized in high quality in terms of organization, logistics, professional speakers and expert guides and relevance of the topics. The available budget of 115 000,- Kč was slightly reorganized in order to fulfil the proposed scenario of the project in an appropriate quality. The main savings in finance concerned bus transportation (received 29 900,- Kč / spent 18 127,- Kč) and accommodation costs (received 33 880,- Kč / spent 22 490,- Kč) to be reinvested in more urgent items such as renting of the conference hall (5 000,- Kč), simultaneous translation to English for symposium speaker Michaela Janečková (8 470,- Kč) and graphic design of related project presentation (posters, invitations, web etc., 11 325,71 Kč). See the annexe D for the details.

Renting of the properly sized, technically equipped representative conference hall, which is not available at the moment within the spatial options of the Faculty of Fine Arts BUT, was essential for the accommodation of broader public to the conference. This was also beneficial in terms of overall impact of the conference and widening the scope of participating professionals in the audience. It led to the broadening of the professional contacts as well. Part of the saved finances enabled us to provide architect Janečková with simultaneous translation of her lecture including necessary audio technics, which increased quality of her speech. The topic of early prefabrication delivered in Mrs. Janečková lecture was crucial to the conference programme. The rest of the saved finance was mainly reinvested in the decreased budget on the “Publishing and editorial expenses” in order to promote the whole event accordingly on a professional level.

Based on the consultation with the Department of Transportation of the Brno University of Technology (Pavel Brtník) the savings on transportation were achieved by hiring a bus for the second day (Ostrava) and third day (Zlín) of the field trip only. Later, during the stay in Vienna, the participants depended on

public transportation. Use of the independent bus in the city of Vienna was uneconomical due to the parking and emission fees and costly accommodation of the driver. The Czech participants left Vienna for Brno with a regular cross-border bus service ran by the Student Agency company at the end of the trip. The savings on accommodation were achieved by reduced prices for students and academic staff at the student residences in Zlín.

All changes were approved by the higher faculty management as necessary or beneficial for the realization of the project.

List of participants

Austrian participants

Academic staff: Michael Klein, Mag. Arch., Univ. Ass.

Students: Kamila Drsata
Tina Haselbacher
Jasmin Krickhaus
Rebecca Merlic
Kadri Muzaqi
Silvan Stefan Niculita
Daniel Kruml
Fabjan Farkas
Partrick Aprent

Czech participants

Academic staff: Ing. arch. March Jan Kristek, Ph.D.
Mgr. Jana Kořínková
Mgr. Markéta Žáčková, Ph.D.

Students: Tereza Kvapilová
Lucia Kolesárová
Kumar Kunal Jha
Alžběta Widholmová
Katarína Hládeková
Alberto Muñoz
Ivana Pavlíčková

Part of the final report of the project AKTION 71p4 – History of Mass Housing of Czechoslovakia and Austria are the following annexes:

Annexe A: Realized programme of the SYMPOSIUM

Annexe B: Summary of the realized programme of the FIELD TRIP

Annexe C: IMAGE APPENDIX

Annexe D: Copy of the FINANCIAL REPORT

Annexe E: Copy of the ATTENDANCE SHEET

Annexe A: Realized programme of the SYMPOSIUM – 28 April

- 09:00 – 9:25 Accreditation of participants
09:25 – 9:30 Introduction
- 09:30 – 10:15 **LECTURE: Mgr. Roman Krakovsky Ph.D.**
(Institute of Political Studies, Paris)
Was there something as privacy in Communist Czechoslovakia?
- 10:15 – 10:30 Discussion
- 10:30 – 11:15 **LECTURE: Ing. arch., Mgr. Michaela Janečková**
(Archip, Prague)
Solidarita and early experiments with prefabrication
- 11:15 – 11:30 Discussion
- 11:30 – 11:45 Coffee Break
- 11:45 – 12:30 **LECTURE: Mgr. Hubert Guzik, Ph.D.**
(CTU in Prague, Faculty of Architecture)
The Great Depression, World War II, and Czech collective houses
- 12:30 – 12:45 Discussion
- 12:45 – 13:45 Lunch
- 14:00 – 14:45 **LECTURE: Mag. Arch. Michael Klein**
(Faculty of Architecture and Regional Planning, Vienna UT)
Universal Solutions? Vienna's Housing in the Cold War.
- 14:45 – 15:00 Discussion
- 15:00 – 15:15 Coffee Break
- 15:15 – 16:00 **LECTURE: MSc Walter Matznetter, Ph.D.**
(Department of Geography and Regional Research, University of Vienna)
Urbanization, Suburbanization and Deurbanization in Czech and Austrian City Regions – with comments on the role of post-war mass housing in keeping cities compact.
- 16:00 – 16:15 Discussion
- 16:15 – 17:00 **LECTURE: Dipl.-Ing. Dr.phil Michael Zinganel, Ph.D.** (Institute for Art Theory and Cultural Studies, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna),
Superblock – Free Spaces and Voids in Social Housing Blocks of the Red Vienna.
- 17:00 – 17:15 Discussion
- 17:15 – 17:30 Conclusion

Annexe B: Summary of the realized programme of the FIELD TRIP – 29 April – 3 May

29 April: EXAMPLES OF MASS HOUSING IN BRNO

- Visit to BVV Trade Fairs Brno (with Ing. arch. MArch Jan Kristek, Ph.D. and Mgr. Markéta Žáčková, Ph.D.)
- Visit to the Lesná Housing Estate (with Mgr. Martin Maleček and Mgr. Jana Kořínková)
- Visit to the Juliánov Housing Estate (Not realized due to the lack of time; The visit of Juliánov Housing Estate was substituted with a visit of Janáček Theatre by Jan Víšek build in the centre of Brno between 1961–1965; with expert commentary of Mgr. Jana Kořínková and Mgr. Markéta Žáčková, Ph.D.)

30 April – Day Two: EXAMPLES OF MASS HOUSING IN OSTRAVA AND ZLÍN

- Visit to the Memorial of Ostrava Operation in Hrabyně (with Mgr. Martin Strakoš)
- Visit to Nová Ostrava (with Mgr. Martin Strakoš and Ing. arch. MArch Jan Kristek, Ph.D.)
- Visit to “Bařas” Zlín (with Ing. arch. Jitka Ressová and Mgr. Ladislava Horňáková)

1 May – Day Three: EXAMPLES OF MASS HOUSING IN ZLÍN

- Visit to the collective house in Zlín (with Mgr. Vít Jakubíček)
- Visit to the experimental panel housing prototypes in Zlín (with Mgr. Vít Jakubíček)
- Visit to Nová Dubnica (Not realized due to the bad weather condition)

2 May – Day Four: EXAMPLES OF MASS HOUSING IN VIENNA

- Challenges in Housing: Appropriation and Co-housing (with M.Arch. Ernst Gruber)
- Contemporary Developments: Seestadt (with M.Arch. Ernst Gruber)
- Contemporary Housing in Vienna: Nordbahnhof (with Dr. Art. Lina Streeruwitz, Ph.D.)
- Visit to large-scale Welfare State Housing Projects 1960–2000 (with Mag. Arch. Michael Klein)

3 May – Day Five: EXAMPLES OF MASS HOUSING IN VIENNA (PART II)

- Early Social Housing, Visit to the Buildings of Red Vienna (with DI MA Christina Linortner)
- Post-WWII Housing, Visit of Project of the Reconstruction Years in Vienna 1945–60 (with Mag. Arch. Michael Klein)