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IN-SITU MUSEUM BUILDINGS: TRANSFORMATION OF ARCHITECTURAL FORM THROUGH PARAMETERS OF PLACE

ZGRADE MUZEJA IN-SITU: TRANSFORMACIJA ARHITEKTONSKE FORME KROZ PARAMETRE MJESTA

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The dissertation has 242 pages, 5 chapters, 67 sub-chapters, 78 illustrations, 232 footnotes, 132 bibliographic units, 7 tables, 8 catalogue units.

The dissertation investigates the relation between the architectural form of the museum and place with a specific analytical approach based on key parameters that define the museum's relation to place.

The dissertation introduces an analytical framework based on the integral assessment of the processes that established the museum's relation to place and the approaches regarding the protection, interpretation and presentation of place. The first part of the analytical framework outlines the development of the modern notion of the museum through a process in which the museum becomes a public institution. The inherent features of the museum that enable its function can be identified in this process, and those features are: collections and display, layout and circulation, and as a final stage in the development of the modern museum, the emergence of the museum as building type. In the second part of the framework, general knowledge on museums is accompanied with one specific stream that emerged in museum practice and led to the formation of museum concepts related to place, among which the influential concept of the ecomuseum based on in-situ museum interpretation. Three main aspects of the museological interpretation of place are developed through these new museum concepts: a holistic approach to the interpretation of place, the distinction between the synchronic and diachronic museological interpretations of place and the interpretation of buildings as museological objects. This stream in museum practice and theory greatly influence the notion of the museum and the transformation of the definition of the museum. One of the significant changes brought about by the new museum concepts that develop in relation to place are: defining the museum beyond the museum collections, revising the spatial characteristics of the museum by including the in-situ museum, defining new functions for the museum, recognizing and transferring protection approaches in museum studies, interpreting and presenting place.

In order to fully understand the relation of the museum with the place, as a particular aspect of the analytical framework, key documents that elaborate on the protection, interpretation and presentation of place have been reviewed, together with recommendations concerning the programmatic or spatial interventions, in order to find the main points of interaction and overlap with museum studies. Those points are in-situ protection, interpretation and presentation that are communicated in both fields, as well as the widening of the notion of museum based on this particular aspect.

This inclusive analytical framework is then used to extract key parameters that define the museum's relation to place built on the existing relations of place, and those parameters are: parameters that define the museum concept in relation to place, those that define spatial relations to place, and parameters that define the visual relations to place. The case study analysis of the architectural form of the museum is carried out using the postulated key parameters. From the observable characteristics, the museums related to place are presented through a wide spectrum of architectural forms: from museums in which there is an observable correspondence or similarity of form between the museum and the interpreted elements of place, to museums in which there is no clear perception of form and the museum is merged with the specific place. Key similarities and differences in defining the architectural form of the museum have been analysed to uncover the underlying architectural procedures in the design of in-situ museum buildings. The architectural procedures in the process of designing in-situ museum buildings are divided into four main groups, which are: the procedure of superimposition, the procedure of disposition, the procedure of integration, and the procedure of interpolation. These procedures reveal the relations between the museum and the place. They are based on museum content, the interpreted elements of the place in spatial and visual sense, as well as on spatial and visual relations with the

place, as three key aspects in the design of in-situ museum buildings. These aspects participate in the design approach. The viewpoint, which includes the possible architectural operations in a single frame with the recommendations for the protection, interpretation and presentation of the place, creates a basis for various comprehensive solutions in the design that respect the existing place, but can at the same time contribute to the advancement of the place.

The dissertation has three main scientific contributions. The first contribution of the dissertation is the introducing of the analytical framework based on the integral assessment of the processes that established the museum's relation to place and the approaches regarding the protection, interpretation and presentation of place. The introduced analytical framework uncovers the main features that define the in-situ museum, and those features are a result of the overlap of the two reviewed fields. The second contribution of the dissertation is the postulation of key parameters that define the museum's conceptual, spatial and visual relations to place for a systematic analysis of the architectural form of the museum. The conducted analysis reveals the key parameters that determine the architectural form of the museum. These parameters, which are a result of the interaction of the two fields of the museum and the place, define the frame in which the design of in-situ museum buildings can be realized. The third contribution of the dissertation is the recognition of operational architectural procedures in the process of the design of in-situ museum buildings. The procedures reveal the established relation between the museum and the place, as the most applicable approach between the preservation and the intervention in the place. The dissertation provides a basis for new comprehensive approaches in the design of in-situ museums based on the exchanges between the museum and the place and on the mutual contribution to the protection, interpretation and presentation of place.