

Topic: Palata Community Centre, Prague 5

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The elaboration of the project was preceded by a diploma seminar. The graduate based the design on an analysis of existing facilities of a similar nature and a detailed analysis of the area. However, in order to understand the presented work in context, the author's report is missing, in which the starting points, development and principles on which the design of the buildings is based are explained. In the opinion, it is only possible to guess at the author's reasoning, which can lead to the misinterpretation of intent.

Urban and architectural solution

The strict and uncompromising mass solution seems to be an interesting counterweight to the nearby Neo-Renaissance building of the Palata home and the adjacent Baroque estate of Pernikářka. These buildings deviate from the small scale of family villas, which prevail on the slope of Strahov Hill. The mass of the proposed community centre suggests that it can supplement the above-mentioned buildings.

The artificial elevation of the terrain around the house affects its expression, but not enough to be a clear answer to the question of whether it is necessary. Such a significant terrain adaptation, especially in the case of setting it on a slope, should be thought through in detail from an urban, layout-architectural and construction-technical points of view. In the design, however, the elevation of the terrain is unfinished, the solution of grown greenery is missing and the anti-erosion measure for steep slopes of grassy areas also remains unresolved.

The promising urban concept lacks a thrifty architectural design. The presented solution seems to stagnate in the initial sketches, which the author was unable to develop into a credible construction-technical, layout and graphic form.

Layout solution

The interesting concept of well-arranged modulation, opening of the building in all directions and strict positioning of paths towards the centre of the building is not sufficiently applied in the layout solution. On the contrary, it seems to have become an obstacle to the design of a reasonably functioning interior space.

The clarity of the concept of 'transparent around the perimeter with the facilities in the middle' is disrupted by the defragmentation of the facilities throughout the building (e.g. toilets at the north facade or unclear facilities outside the middle of the building).

The difference between the lowest floor and the others is inspiring, but not convincing.

The height blending of floors is nice, but too complicated and less clear for the user. The proposed space feels impersonal and lacks the necessary level of friendliness, which is important for community activities.

The design of transparent modular spaces around the perimeter seems to be an indication of search for how to combine strict structural aesthetics with a friendly environment for community purposes. The courage of the author to look for such a unique feature must be appreciated. Unfortunately, what remains from the concept is an awkward and poorly functional torso.

Construction technical solution

The idea of a building-construction and material solution is vague.

There is a lack of reflection on the characteristic details.

The design does not show consideration of sustainability and functioning principles of the building.

The fire safety solution is vague.

The glassed-in areas lack deeper consideration of screening, which can significantly affect the architectural expression of the building.

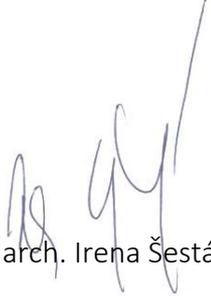
The access to the garages is non-functional.

Conclusion

The diploma thesis solves the given assignment in essence. However, the main idea is not completed, the presented work is schematic and its scope is not convincing. Despite the above comments, I recommend the thesis for defence.

Evaluation: **E**

Prague, on 08/09/2020


prof. Ing. arch. Irena Šestáková