Building Typologies and Housing for the Elderly in an Changing Urban Context

Observations and Strategies Towards Independent Living at an Old Age
Project Cooperation

Partner Institutions

Institut für Kooperationsforschung und -entwicklung, Hochschule für Angewandte Psychologie

Institut Sozialplanung und Stadtentwicklung, Hochschule für Soziale Arbeit HAS

Institut für Produkt- und Produktionsengineering, Hochschule für Technik HT

Institut Architektur, Hochschule für Architektur, Bau und Geomatik HABG

Project Introduction

How can old people be supported to remain living independently in their own home for longer?

• Age and Housing, individual and independent living
• Ambient Assisted Living (AAL)
• Technology and Support
• Current Situation and Needs

Context and Environment
Activities of Daily Living
Spatial movement

Chronocyclegraphs, Motion Studies similar to the work done by Frank and Lillian Gilbreth around 1920
Project Focus Architecture

- Focus on the home interior space as
  - physical condition, layout of rooms
  - personal representation, interior design and occupancy
- Understand it as an environment
- Static Layout vs functional interpretation
- Everyday life adaptations to changing circumstances and occupancy
- How much space is required

For the fieldwork we were focusing on elderly people that were on the verge of needing support or already have a low level of care and/or support but still live in their own home.
Research Questions

• Role of spatial configuration
• Role of physical space
• Role of Architecture
• How is the space used
• How much space is used
• How much space is not used
Fieldwork & Participants

Cooperation with Spitex (home support agency) for recruiting elderly participants who already need some degree of support.
Study Method

Home visit with guided tour by the resident
Interview based on questionnaire
Space use tracking using sensor network
Photographic documentation
Home Biographies – Movers
Home Biographies – Remainer
Home Biographies – Critical Cases
Space Use Tracking

J-Graph:

Spatial configuration

Time spent in each room

Active / passive room use
Space Use Tracking – Usage and Apartment Layout
Space Use Tracking – Abandoned Rooms
Photographic Documentation – Functional Room
Photographic Documentation – Representative Room
Conclusion

Change of living conditions not taken in to consideration.
Setbacks and challenges doesn’t lead to relocation.
Excessive space can be difficult to manage.
Lack of low-cost small apartments.
New builds don’t satisfy demand.
Lacking vision of alternative lifestyles.
Recommendations – Relocation as chance

Relocation as preventive Strategy.
Adaption and renovation of existing buildings.
Raising awareness for changing needs and alternative lifestyles.
Assistance and support to find accommodation and move house.
Project Partners

Partner: Spitex Kanton Basel-Stadt

Authors: Marco Bamberber, Dr Fabian Neuhaus
Contact: fabian.neuhaus@fhnw.ch

Project Team:

Prof. Dr. Fred van den Anker (PI), Dr. Julia Klammer, Roger Burkhard und Alexandra Tanner, Dr. Fabian Neuhaus und Marco Bamberger, Prof. Dr. Matthias Drilling und Sandra Janet, Stefan Kobler, Max Edelmann und Joachim Villinger