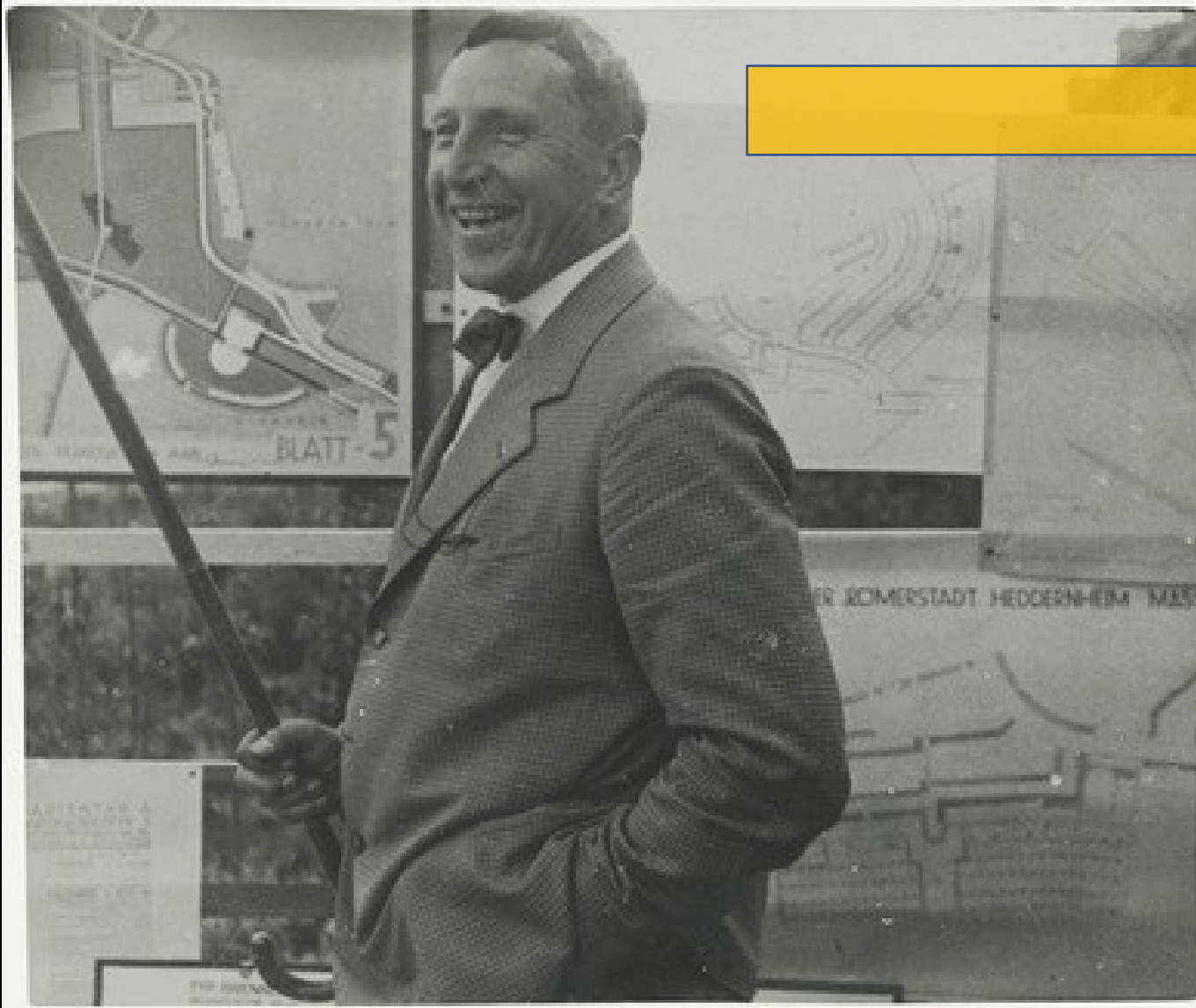


ERNST MAY HOUSING POLICY OF FRANKFURT ON THE
MAIN

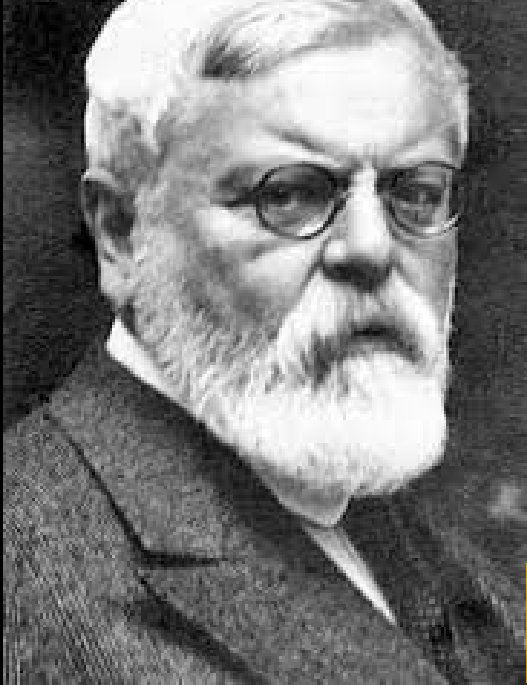
BURAK AĞBULUT – MEHMET AKÇAKOCA



ERNST MAY

Ernst May was born in Frankfurt am Main in 1886. He was a city planner and architect. He spent his time from 1908 to 1912 for education under Raymond Unwin. He took education from Raymond Unwin about garden city movement. After the graduation from Technical University of Munich, he worked with Friedrich von Thiersch and Theodor Fischer and he was student of Theodor Fischer. Raymond Unwin and Theodor Fischer worked about garden city concept, they have unusual ideas. He impressed from garden city movement and he applied these ideas to the Frankfurt on the main project. In 1918, he started to work in Silesian building department in Breslau. Silesian building department is the first experience for him with working the prefabrication method in multi family housing.

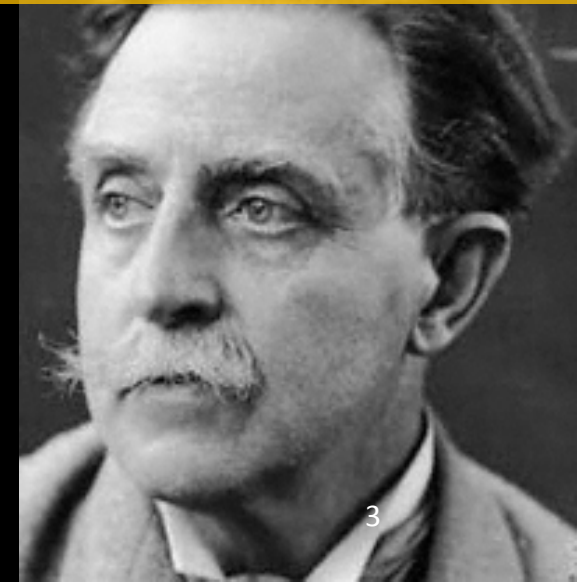
THEODOR FISCHER



He was the architect and founder of Deutscher Werkbund. He worked on public housing projects. He was the first chairman of Deutscher Werkbund. He was the teacher of Ernst May, Bruno Taut, Paul Bonatz...etc. He is the member of German city garden movement and he has specific style which mix of historicism and art nouveau.

RAYMOND UNWIN

He was an English architect, city planner and engineer. He focused to work about improvements in working class housing. John Ruskin's and William Morris's lectures attracted his attention. He worked for popularising the Art and Craft movement and lots of buildings created according to his ideas.

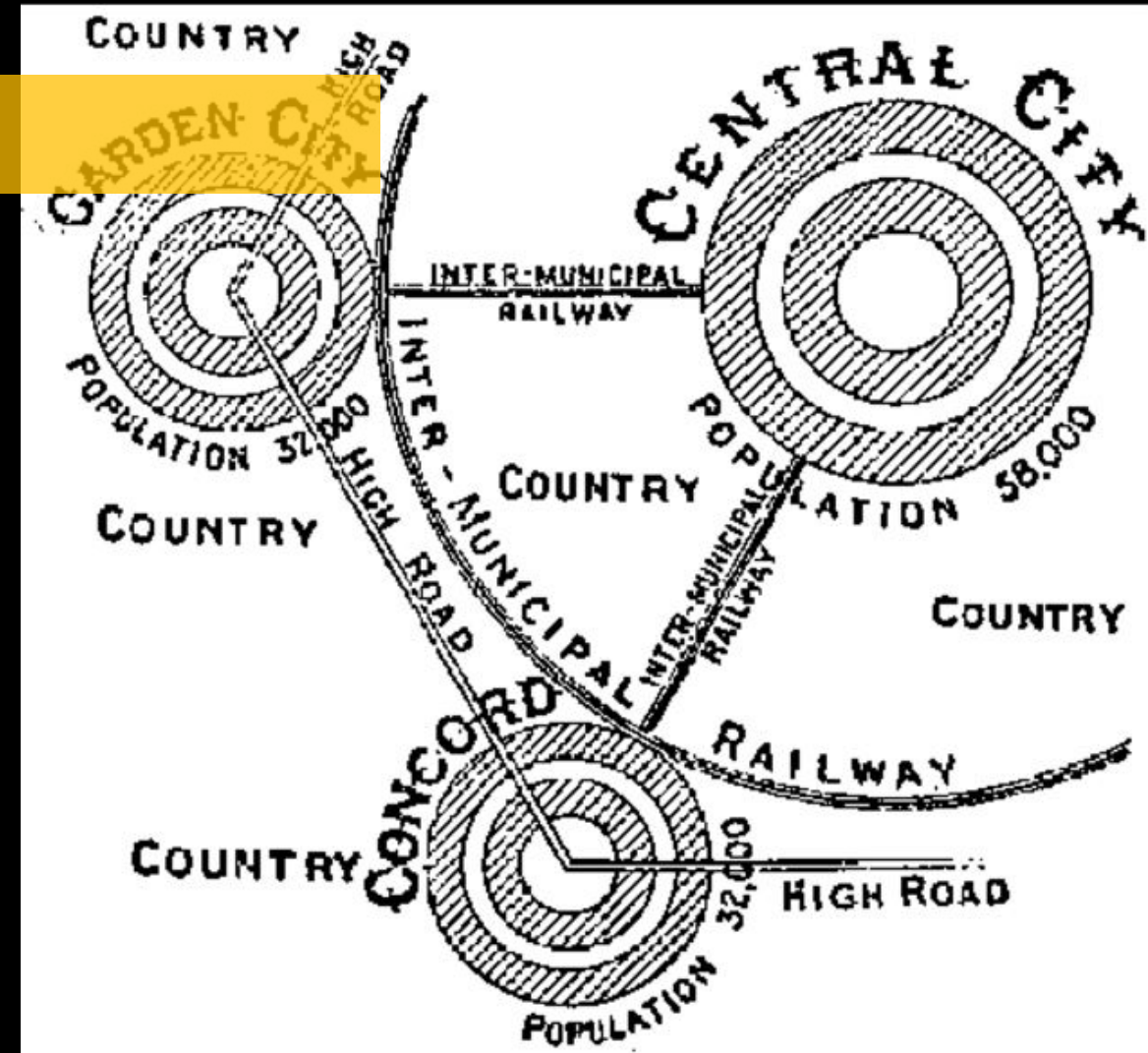


GARDEN CITY

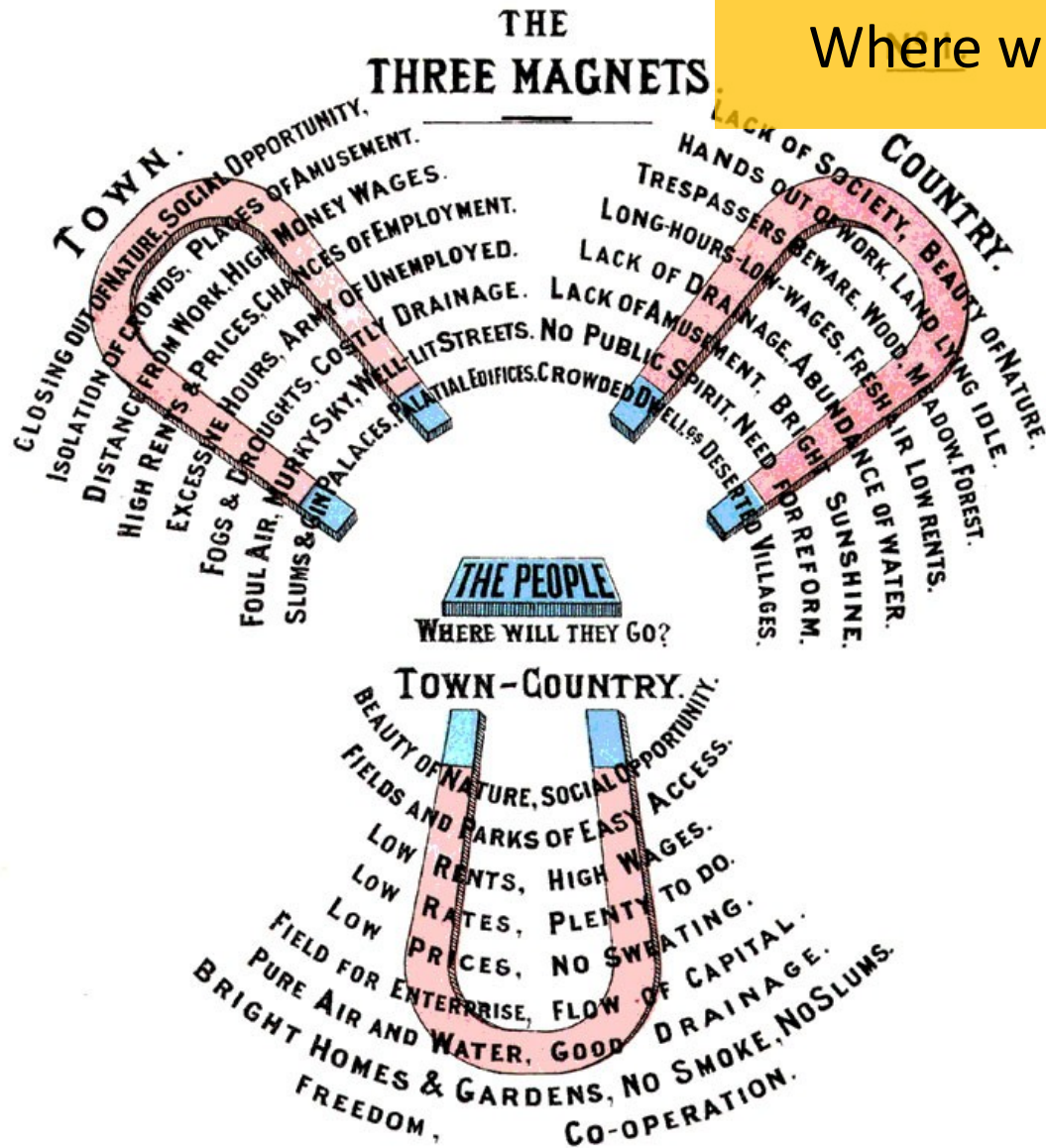
The garden city movement started according to ideas of Ebenezer Howard in 1898 in United Kingdom. This movement is related with city planning. This city planning has proportionate areas of residences, industry, agriculture and surrounded with green areas. With these parts, this city plan is self-contained.

Howard's garden city idea has 32.000 people, concentric pattern with open spaces, public parks and six radial boulevards.

In 1904, Raymond Unwin and Barry Parker won the competition of first garden city ltd.. They planned the Letchworth according to Howard's large green area design and they shared the idea of working class deserved better and more affordable housing. They designed symmetrical but architects changed the project organically.



Where will the people go? “Town, Country or Town Country”

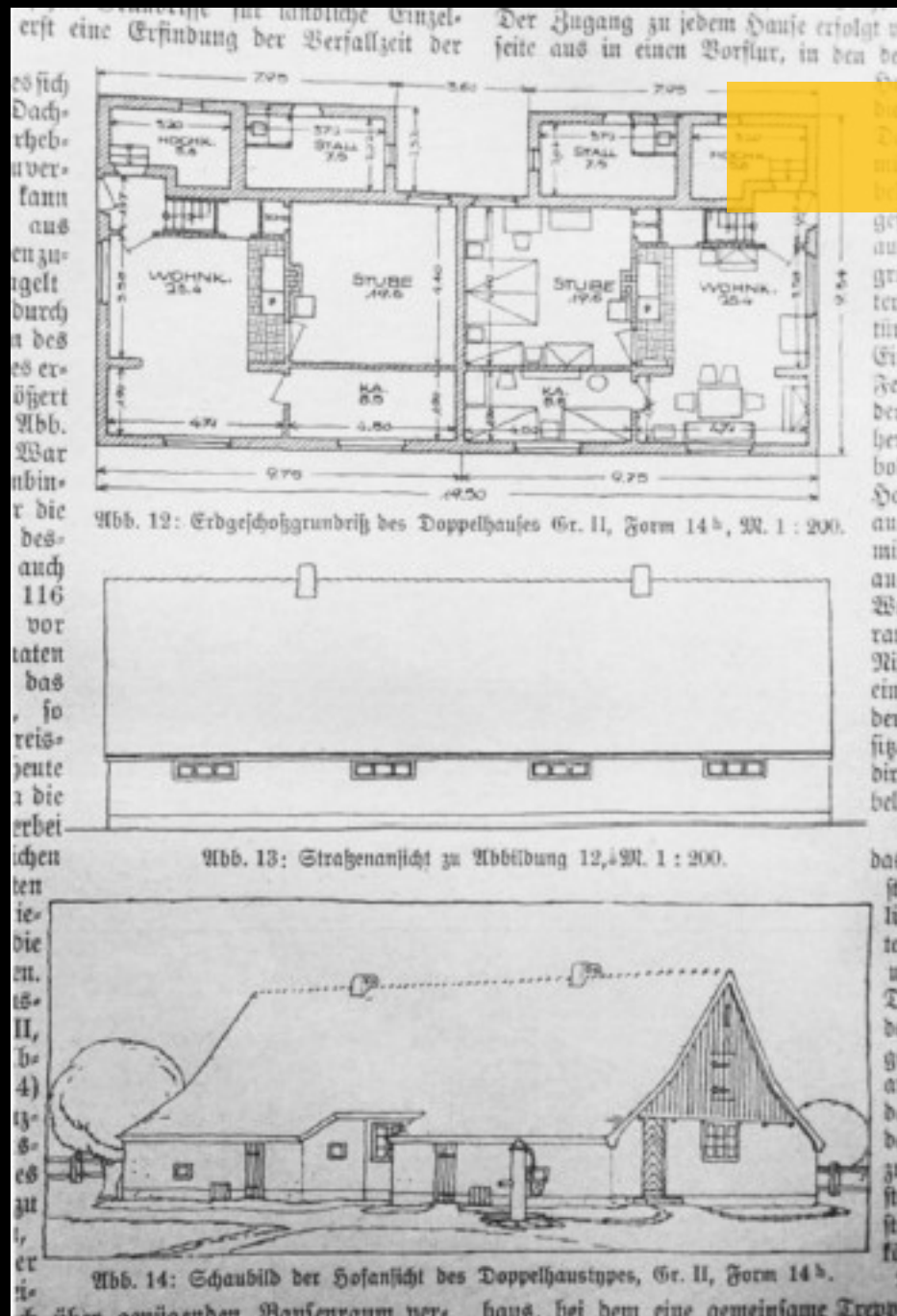


Town: It created for job opportunities and high wages, social level and fun for community, lighted streets. Dirty air and unhealthy life.

Country: offered natural beauty, fresh air, healthy life, low rents but had low wages.

Town-Country: Combination of both of them. Healthy life but high life standard.

SILESIAN HOUSE DEPARTMENT, BRESLAU



Ernst May was successful for managing the Silesian building department. He used a new style which includes classical and modern (Anti-Modern Modernism). He prepared for a competition. He won the competition with a decentralized planning concept. He used the garden city movement for his competition. After the win, he was hired by Mayor Ludwig Landmann for the city architect and planner of Frankfurt. The government gave him power for zoning, financing and hiring. He had power during 1925-1930 in Frankfurt and he used all the facilities for example copious fundings and labor pool. He used standardization and prefabrication concepts in the modern buildings.



FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR

Ernst may worked with Frederick Winslow Taylor about housing problem. They created maximum efficiency in the small spaces. They designed spaces carefully while using elements. Frankfurt kitchen is the most important example of showing efficient usage of space. Margarete Lihotzky designed kitchen for only woman. People can use cupboard as an ironing board. Taylor is the pioner of the industrial engineering.

FRANKFURT KITCHEN

Kitchen design developments started with the new settlement programs. Frankfurt Kitchen is the most important kitchen plan. There were some principle while designing this kitchen; less wasting time for cooking, saving time for all the house Works, minimize the human labor, order and decrease the cost in the kitchen. Also, this kitchen famous with material, texture and colour. They used yellow, blue and green while designing. They focused function and hygiene while choosing material.



I was part of a group that stood up for certain principles and architectural ideas, and fought for them uncompromisingly.
—Grete Lihotzky



Margarete Schütte-Lihotzky

Margarete Schütte-Lihotzky was the designer of the Frankfurt Kitchen and the first female Austrian architect. She was the first female student of the University of Applied Arts Vienna. She said 2 sentences in her 100 years celebration and these sentences show the role of the woman in the 1920's.

"in 1916 no one would have conceived of a woman being commissioned to build a house not even myself"

"You'll be surprised that, before I conceived the Frankfurt Kitchen in 1926, I never cooked myself. At home in Vienna my mother cooked, in Frankfurt I went to the Wirthaus [restaurant/pub]. I designed the kitchen as an architect, not as a housewife "

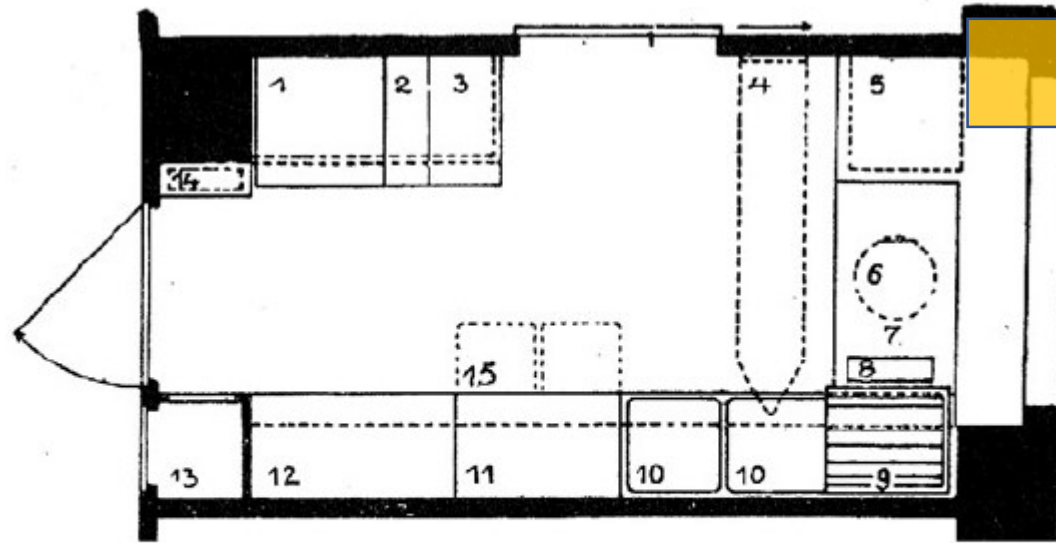
Frankfurt kitchen plan applied in Römerstadt Houses in 1926. In the promotional video, they showed how a housewife uses the furniture and elements in the kitchen easily.

<https://vimeo.com/67820175>

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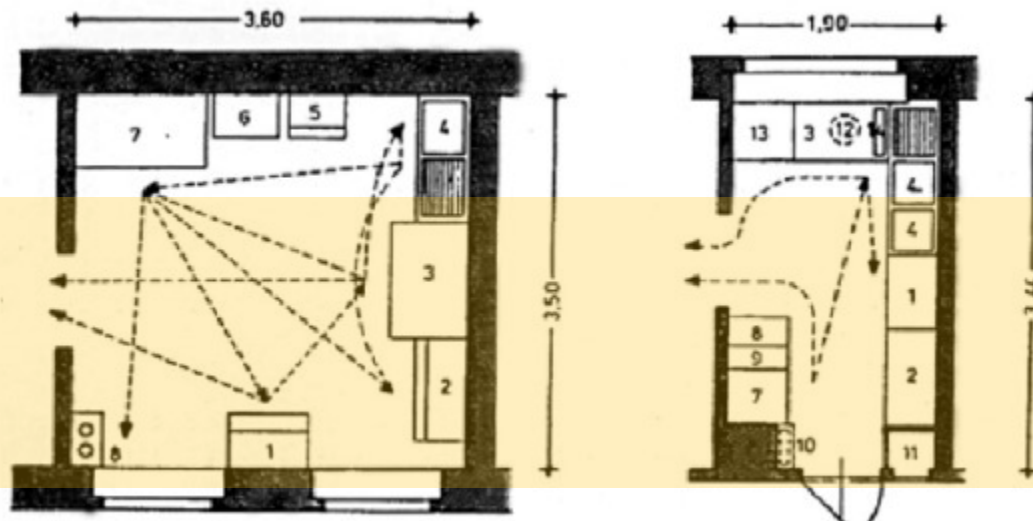
All the units have relations to each other and all of them are part of the space organization.

PLAN OF THE KITCHEN



- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. GAS STOVE | 6. SWIVEL STOOL | 11. ALUMINUM STORAGE BINS |
| 2. COUNTERTOP | 7. WORK SURFACE | 12. CUPBOARD FOR POTS AND PANS |
| 3. COOK BOX | 8. GARBAGE DRAWER | 13. BROOM CLOSET |
| 4. FOLD-DOWN IRONING BOARD | 9. DRAINING BOARD | 14. HEATER |
| 5. FOOD CUPBOARD | 10. SINK | 15. PULL-OUT BOARD |

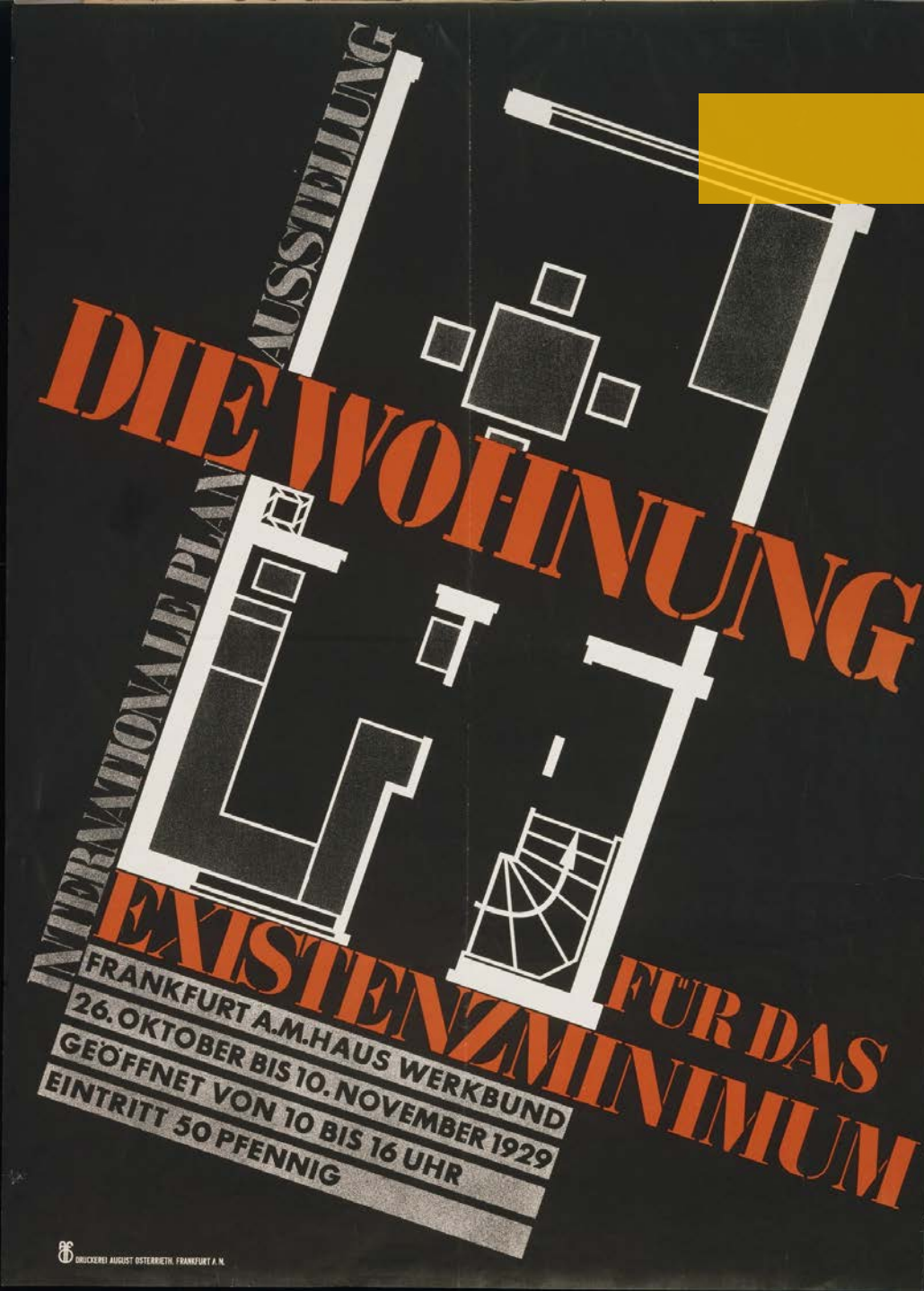
1,2 and 3 parts used for the gas stove, board and cooking unit. Owens started to used in kitchen with this design. 4 part used for collapsible ironing table. 6 part used for chair and it located near the cutting board and ironing table. 5,7 and 8 parts used for modular working board, food cupboard and cutting board. In the part 8, little gap used for garbage. 9 and 10 parts used for washing and it located near the cutting board also, has a part for the draying. Other parts used for furniture; storage, modular table and aliminum spice and legumes containier. This is the first example of usage of electirical household appliance;electric owen, toaster and hand blender.



Comparison between classical kitchen and Frankfurt kitchen according to steps

CIAM

In 1927, Ernst May did not invited to Weissonhof exhibition about housing issues. He created low rise town houses with gardens and communal green spaces. Frankfurt was the chosen place for the Congress International d'Architecture Moderne or CIAM with the suggestion of Ernst May, in 1929. In the congress, there were 28 delegates including Gerrit Rietveld, Mart Stam, Hannes Meyer, Hugo Haring, Hendrik Petrus Berlage and El Lissitzky. After designing houses according to those ideas, he proposed a model of housing to CIAM in 1929 at the second conference in Frankfurt. He created good quality housing with the industry. When he was designing or creating goods, he thought about mass consumption. Frankfurt CIAM congress's topic was housing with low-cost (Existenzminimum). Delegates visited Ernst May's projects and they also showed their designs with drawings, elevations and sections with the same scale according to CIAM standards to compare each other.



DAS NEUE FRANKFURT

Ernst May founded a magazine for the Frankfurt of the Main. He wanted to inform people about the project and ideas. This magazine shared its name with the city project. Sharing ideas, answering questions of project and educating people were important for Ernst May. It published from 1926 to 1933. Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer wrote regularly for this magazine.



FRANKFURT'S STRUCTURE AFTER WORLD WAR



After the World War, government create new city planing for Frankfurt. Problem solving techniques and new design approaches for the city planing is the pioner of the modern architecture.

After the World war, Germany has lots of problems. Frankfurt's population was increased and citizens have problem to find houses. They did not satisfy their basic needs. Germany has economic crysis and they did not built new homes. For that reasons, government make a law for reviving the construction sector. Hauszinssteuer law support the local municipalities. As a result of this, Ernst May become a direttore of city planning of Frankfurt.

WOHNKULTUR

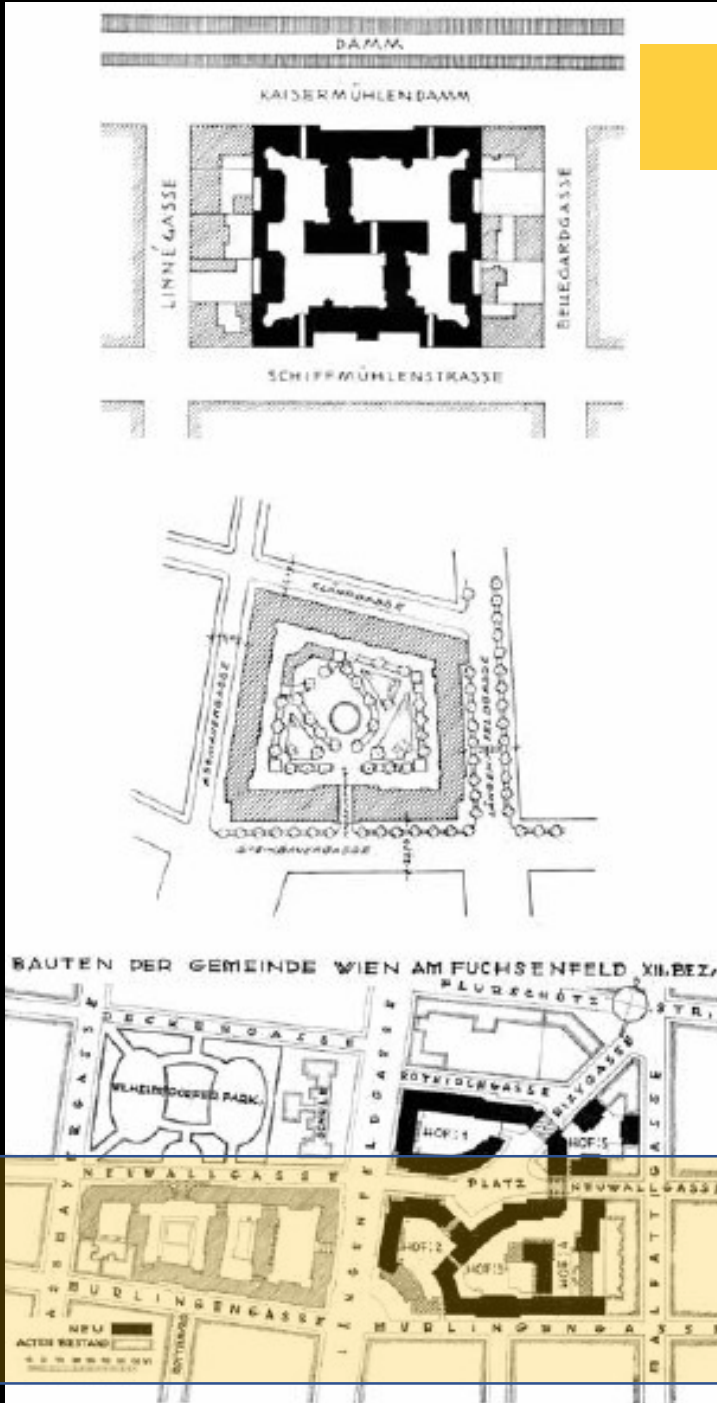
In the 1920's and beginning of 1930's city planning of Europe was focused on the creating social neighbourhood. Ernst May wanted to create social community and he gave the name of this Project «wohnkultur».

«Three central ideals were incorporated in these social neighbourhoods:

- 1.Social and Political Ideals, emphasizing the rights of the working-man to a roof over his head, "New dwelling" even if this required society to build housing for the low income groups
- 2.Reform and Liberal Ideals, phrased as the emergence of the "New man", the "New culture" and the "New lifestyle" (Neuer Mensch, Neue Kultur, Neues Wohnen), in a "New society"
- 3.Architectural Planning Ideals, such as "Neo-realism" or "Neo-functionalism" ("Neue Sachlichkeit"), creating a "New»

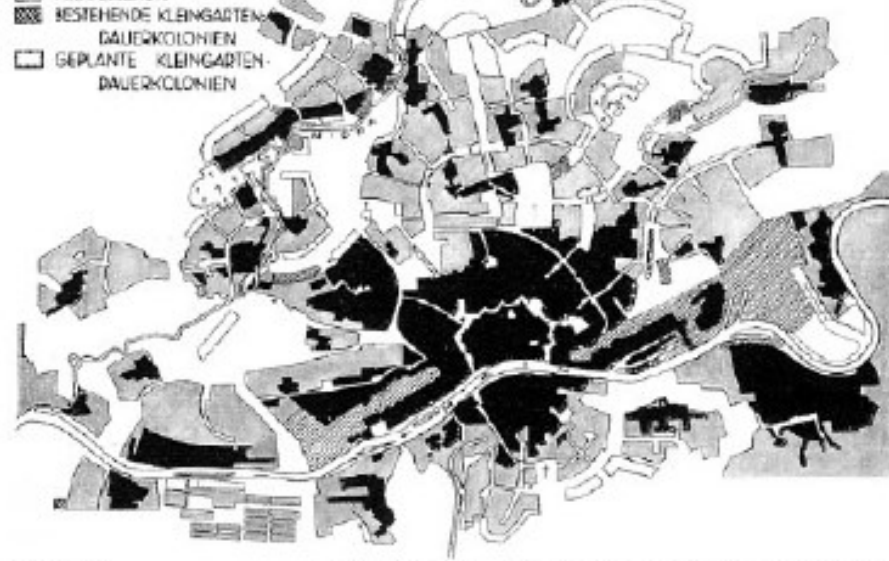
(HOUSING PLANNING IN THE INTER-WAR YEARS. THE HAIFA-BAY AND THE FRANKFURT"WOHNKULTUR".by IRIS GRAICER)

«New people create new buildings, but new buildings also create new people»
Fritz Wichert



FLÄCHENVERTEILUNGSPLAN FRANKFURT A-MAIN

■ BESTEHENDE BEBAUUNG
 ■ GEPLANTE
 ■ INDUSTRIEGEBIETE
 ■ FREIPLÄTZE



CONCEPT

- “(1) To build as much housing as possible within the funding limitations of the Hauszinssteuer.
- (2) To build this housing to fit the needs of the people of Frankfurt tations of the Hauszinssteuer in such a way that the maximum utilization of all housing was attained
- (3) To select sites that were the least expensive and that, in the short run, would not cause an increase in the demand for existing housing
- (4) To develop plans for housing that were designed as functionally as possible and that were for the minimum existence
- (5) To create housing that was as inexpensive as possible, but that would reflect the values of the new society while not destroying community icons.
- (6) To develop housing that would be healthy and sanitary
- (7) To develop settlements that were as completely independent as possible, providing for places of living, learning, working, and recreation “ (City Planning in Frankfurt, Germany, 1925-1932, A Study in Practical Utopianism, by JOHN ROBERT MULLIN, Michigan State University)

«Despite high land costs, the housing policy in Frankfurt, by promoting the construction of low-rise houses, has realized a garden for each house. [...] We have created resting places within the Siedlungen. [...] Part of the inhabitants can cure the private gardens, the others have the possibility to rest in the solarium, or use parks and playgrounds that are part of the community settlements»

ERNST MAY

Why they need this Project?

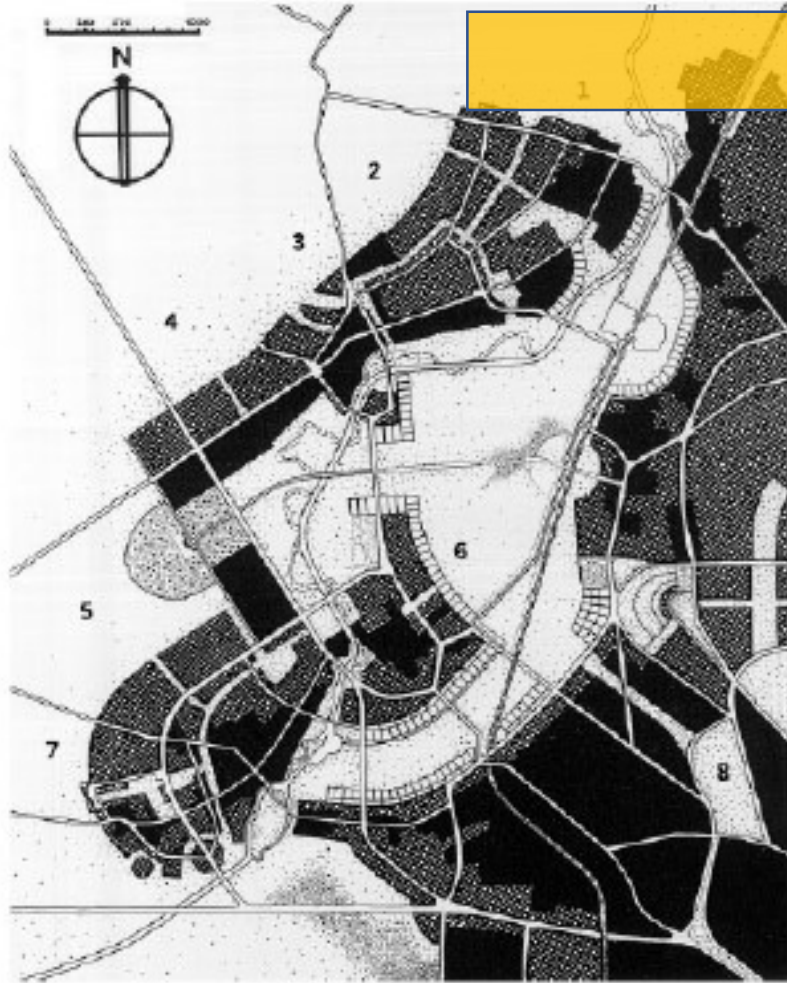


Figure 36

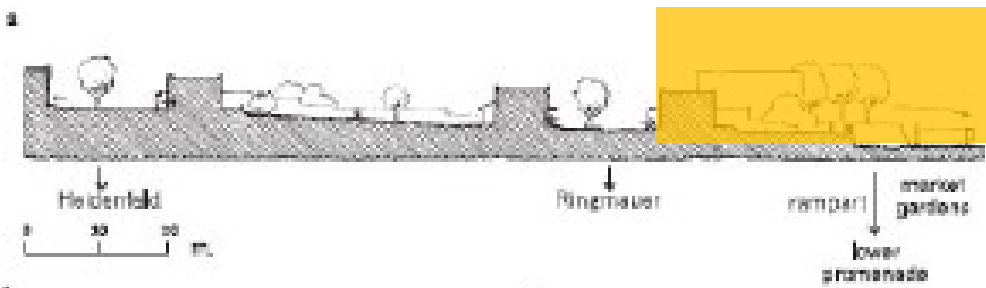
Development plan for the Nidda Valley (*Das neue Frankfurt*, n. 2/3, 1930).

In black: old built-up areas and executed *Siedlungen* hatched the planned interventions.

1. Hedderheim (village).
2. Römerstadt (*siedlung*).
3. Alt Praunheim (village).
4. Praunheim (*siedlung*).
5. Westhausen (*siedlung*).
6. Hausen (*siedlung*).
7. Rödelheim (village and *siedlung*).
8. Botanical Garden.

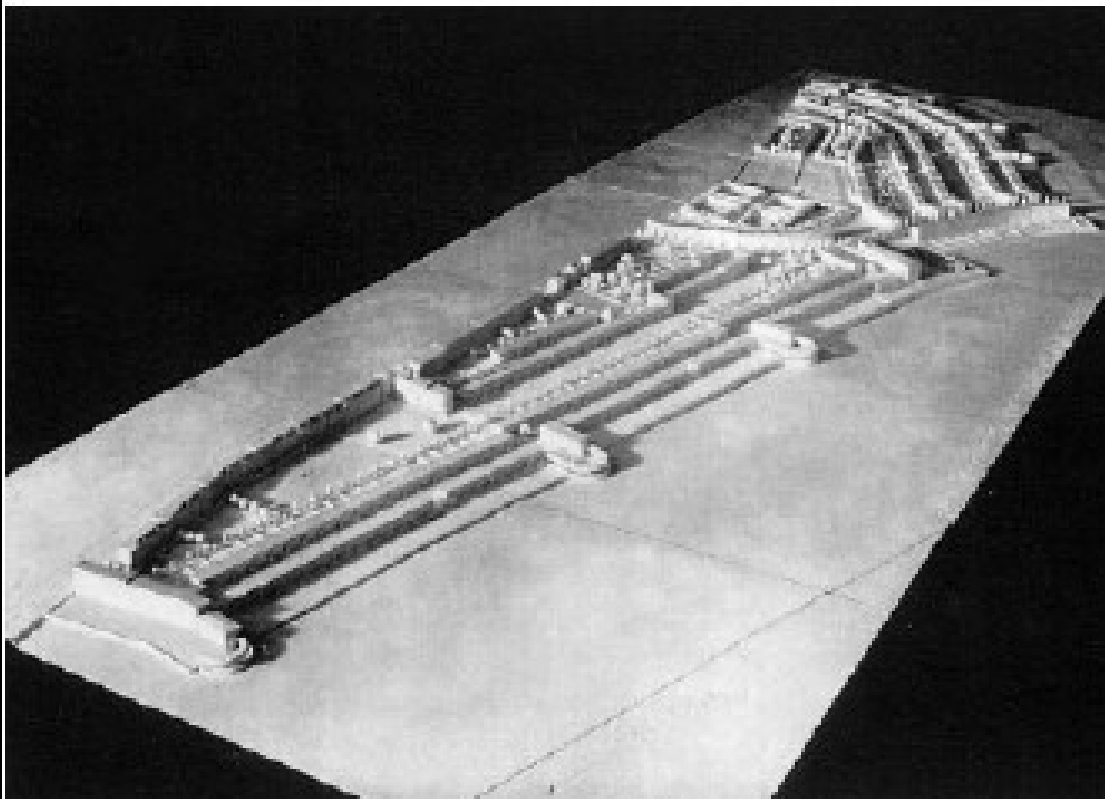
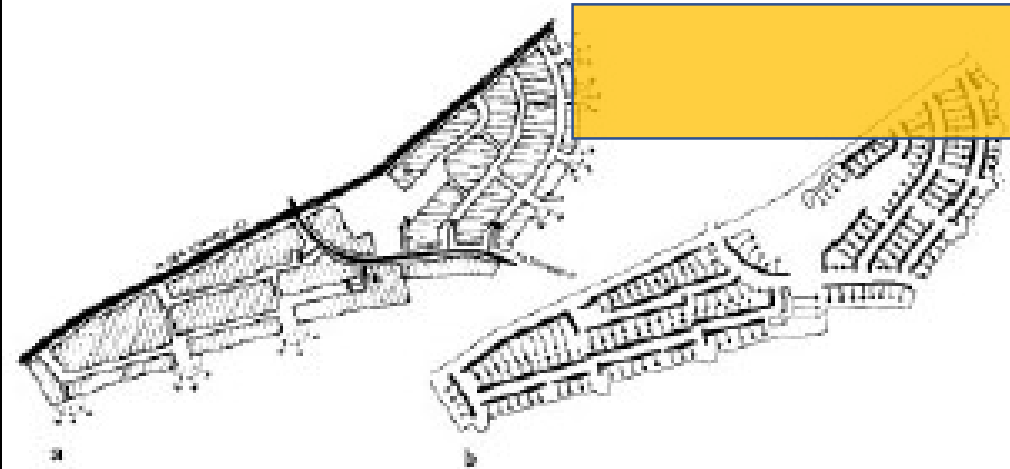
Basic reason of the Project is the residential housing needs in the Frankfurt. Project focused on the small families and their needs. While designers creating something, they have to be careful because of the economic reasons. They choose cheap areas because of the limitation of the budget. They created new concept while creating this Project. People lived dirty places and new Project will be clean and healthy. Also, they created social places for the community. They thought about education, living, working and recreation. Basic needs are focal points of the design. They finished the Project less than one year.

RÖMERSTADT



Römerstadt is the new settlement of the Frankfurt of the main. This settlement is the most known place. It settled on the north side of the Rhine. It has large area of two kilometers. It settled on the slope. Buildings have harmony with the slope. Curvilinear shape of the buildings creates curvilinear pattern. Houses are parallel to narrow streets. Houses designed modern by Ernst May and have harmony with the nature. In the settlement, two-storey narrow houses were preponderant. Sharp borders create strong relations for community.

RÖMERSTADT



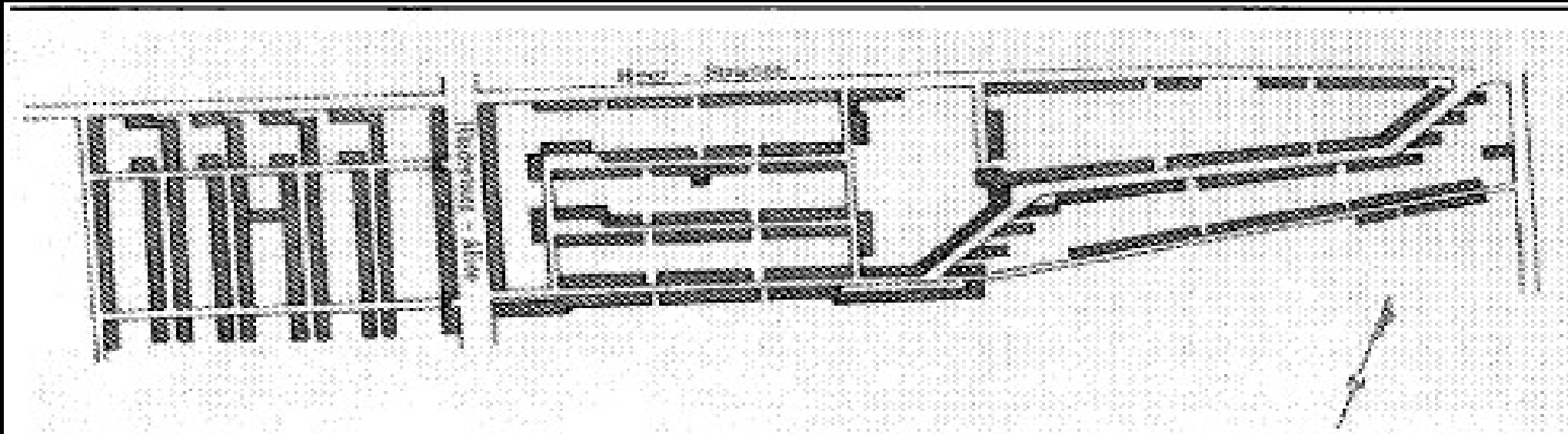
This settlement is a solution for nature and modern house harmony. Houses designed with electricity, cable radio and modern kitchen. Houses have same elements, flat roof, bare facing and multi colored walls. All the houses have a living room, a kitchen, a toilet and a bath. This kind of settlement is the new form of modern living in Europe. Ernst approach new things for the building. Frankfurt kitchen is the most important and new thing for house design. Streets create a natural border between neighbours.

PRAUNHEIM



Praunheim was settled near the Römerstadt. This settlement includes two parts and it has one and a half kilometer long between Römerstadt and Westhausen. In the project, prefabrication used successfully. With dimensions of 3 by 1.1 by 2 meters planners helped to finishing build in two days. The settlement were mainly two story row houses and buildings were red, gold and blue.

In the Praunheim 2, they used different design ideas. Zilenbau or superblock concept mainly used in Praunheim 2 according to German privacy, air conditions, sun and green spaces. Main streets settled parallel to the structures.

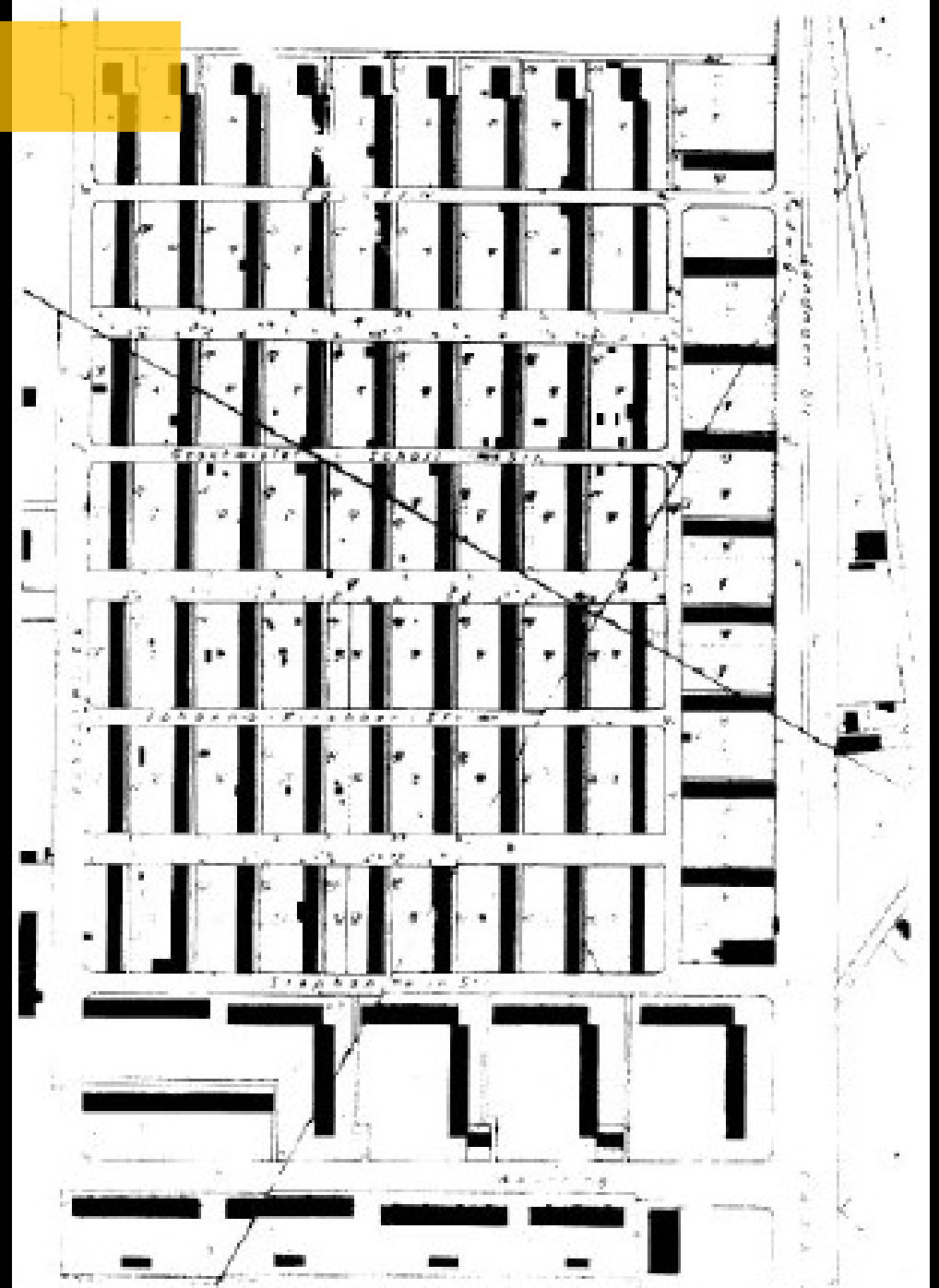


WESTHAUSEN

Westhausen is located parallel to one of the main Street of Frankfurt(Ludwig There were borders (West cemetery and garden complex) between Westhausen and Praunheim. Westhausen included 1100 dwellings and all of them designed according to zilenbau concept. This settlement's row units used sun light effectivley. Zilenbau concept creates open ended courtyard, for this, movement of air was succesful in the settlement. They created Vista conditions with the balconies.

<https://vimeo.com/67820286>

<https://vimeo.com/67820286>



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