

Western Architecture

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Le Corbusier's political and social position has been an essential aspect of consideration in his career. In his work, he viewed architecture as a way of bringing social redemption. However, his social vision has been met with a lot of criticism from modern architects and stakeholders. The ideas behind his strategies were motivated by the pursuit to promote society. The purpose of doing what is essential than what is necessary has been condemned by many post-modernists today. This article is set to compare the strategies implemented at Levittown, P.A., and Le Corbusier's ideas outlined in his article "Mass-Production Houses." (Corbusier 8)

The idea that large tasks can be utilized by dividing them into smaller tasks was a critical factor in his designs. His passion for cellular Biology and organisms was one of the primary factors behind his motives. He wanted to connect Architecture and society by using them both to benefit the population of France. Corbusier imagined a world of living organisms and urbanization indicating his interests in both factors. Therefore, this brought the connection between his social aspects and politics. In his ideas, he designed architectural structures that aimed at minimizing the costs of construction. Using limiting resources in construction is the main objective for many architectural structures today.

The ideas used by Le Corbusier have had a major impact on the way constructions carried out today. Taylorism was one of the strategies used by Le Corbusier in his attempt to

promote a good living standard for the population of France. This idea became popular in France before the First World War. The perceptions of many technicians changed after the First World War. The war brought a lot of destruction in France, making the idea of minimizing costs in reconstruction to relevant to many people. As a result, the idea of Taylorism was viewed as the best option for the restoration of France after the massive destruction.

The term became popular among Engineers, architects, and workers who had not been aware of its existence. The strong sense of expressionism was the fascinating aspect behind his architectural work. Although the idea was not welcomed by many, the techniques satisfied his desires to minimize costs while maintaining the quality of constructions. The presence of innovation technology around highly inspired Le Corbusier. This made him push limits to achieve his goals on creating a cheaper housing for everyone (Corbusier 12).

The fact that he put his ideas into action after the end of the first World war proved that his ideas were more than theoretical. This is an interesting aspect since many people would never have imagined that they would be implemented. His argument on mass production was based on Taylorism and modern industrial innovations while maintaining a lower cost. The central objective of Le Corbusier was to create housing that would be affordable for most of the population. The replacement of the materials and usual methods of construction increased the pace with which the constructions were carried out during the reconstruction after the First World War. The study of Cistercian was his source of inspiration which encouraged deep thinking and contemplation.

Similarly, Levitt and sons helped construct mass buildings after the second world war. As a result of their good work, Levittown gained the popularity of the earliest modern suburb in America. Additionally, the suburbs were named after the architect who helped build it at the end

of the destructive World War Two. In comparison with Le Corbusier, Levitt became famous for providing cheap houses which seemed affordable to a large portion of the American population. This enabled the veterans who returned from the war to find settlements at a more reasonable price. Federal Housing Administration mortgage loans empowered the veterans and in turn, stimulated the growth of housing in the suburbs. On average, Levitt constructed nearly 12 houses per day. As a result, housing was made available at a faster rate which was an advantage to the veterans and their families. The speed made them construct a complete house in every minute leading to the construction of one of the largest suburbs in America after the First World War. (Gans 6).

This was similar to the idea of Le Corbusier of mass production houses. The achievements were brought about by the adoption of the assembly line system which enables Levitt and sons to construct massive homes in the suburbs of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. In spite of being cheap and affordable, the houses represented a luxurious life which was unimaginable at that time. The massive construction of houses was inspired by the increased demand for houses by the veterans who preferred to return home after the war. What used to be a potato plantation was now developed into a construction site. Also, the government stimulated the growth of the suburbs by offering loans to the working class who benefited without taking a single cent from their pockets.

The "artificial stimulation" sparked the growth of the suburbs by acting as an incentive to Levitt and sons company who responded by adopting a strategy that would see a massive construction of housing within a short period. The houses were so similar to the point that even the residents admitted to having entered the wrong home at times. Levitt considered building similar houses that matched in every aspect including the floors. However, their ideas differed

from those of Le Corbusier of France who utilized different cheaper materials in their construction. (McLeod 10).

Levitt and sons ignited the growth of the economy by establishing new houses in a land that had not been developed. Before the construction, many veterans were homeless and had turned cars into homes due to lack of houses in the suburbs. However, there was an issue of concern on the idea of mass production since many people stood to lose their jobs. This had a great impact on the economy of America as well. The company's strategies of building houses impacted revolution of the home building industry. Levitt made a significant effect on the landscape of America by laying down suburbs communities. The method was efficient and effective since it helped grant the veterans a place to live after the world war (Gans 14).

Reference

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