

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACES

Hermann Schlimme	6
Horacio Torrent	8

INTRODUCTION

The Forgotten Proto-modernism of Davos	12
The Medicalisation of Architecture	12
A Story of Being Overlooked	14
Protagonists	15
Interpretation	15
On the Current Study	17

1 PREPARATION

Towards a Modern Sanatorium	24
The Quest for a Suitable Site	25
Quid Pro Quo: Land and Water for Infrastructure	27
The Road	31
Measuring the Site	32
Architecture without Architects?	35

2 CONCEPTION

The Architect and the Sanatorium: An Unconventional Relationship	38
Proceeding with Infrastructure	42
Other Architects	44
Pflegelhard & Haefeli's first Design: Thoughts on the Cartesian Sanatorium	45
Dr Turban's Ideal Sanatorium in England: A Blueprint	46
Adaptation to Davos	50
Designing Around the Human Being	50
The Loggia and the Dissolution of the Façade	53
Taming the Mountain: Topography and Architectural Form	55
The Incongruence of Form and Function	55
The Functional Diagram of the Building	58
Sacrificing Architecture for Sun: The Third Floor	58
The Allocation of Functions	59
A Congruence of Programme and Extent	60
Co-Designers: Reading and Interpreting the Plans	62
Increasing Complexity: Dr Heim	63
Distant Co-Designers	64
A Modular Design	67

A Final Design? Further Rationalisation	68
The Micro-Habitat and the New Proportions	70
Constructing an Idea	72
New Plans for a New Audience	73

3	CONSTRUCTION	
	Setting up the Construction Site	78
	On Minimising the Use of Reinforced Concrete in the Vertical Dimension	80
	The Return of the Co-Designers	86
	From the Window in the Wall towards the Wall as Window	88
	The Talking Façade	90
	The Protagonists of Reinforced Concrete	92
	The Networks of Power – Towards the First Standards	93
	Robert Maillart and the Queen Alexandra Sanatorium	95
	François Hennebique and His System	95
	A first Mission in Davos	96
	The Drawings of Robert Maillart	98
	From Hennebique to the Flat Slab	99
	Introducing the Cantilever	101
	Hiding a Bridge	102
	A Minimal Roof	103
	Towards Pure Horizontality	103
	Anticipating the Flat Slab	106
	The Construction Site in 1907	107
	Pflegghard & Haefeli's Arch: Trapped in a Transitional Stage	107
	Laying the Foundation Stone	108
	A Renewed Return of the Co-Designers	109
	From Plan to Palimpsest	111
	A Story of two Roofs	114
	Filling a Structure	116
	Finishing Touches: The Dining Room and the Entrance Hall	118
	New Specialists: Technical Building Services	120
	Sanitary Works	122
	Contracting Thurnherr	123
	The Troubled Reopening of the Construction Site	125
	Problems with the Ground: Retaining Walls	126
	The Kitchen and the Functionalisation of its Façade	130
	Appearing in Public	132
	Finishing the Ground Floor: Expose or Conceal?	133
	Towards Completion: The Final Tenders	138
	The Full Range of an Architect's Work	140
	Changing the Plan One Last Time	142
	The Road	146
	Getting Operational	147

4	EXTENSION	
	Towards Enlarging the Sanatorium	150
	A Confusing Initial Proposal	151
	On the Functionalisation of the Design	154
	A Further Segregation of Functions	155
	Approval of a Proposal	158
	Post-Approval Alterations	159
	A Different Approach to Reinforced Concrete	161
	A Journey of Loads – The Inverted Beam	161
	A Studied Use of Concrete – The Ceiling over the Chapel	162
	Solving Problems with Concrete: The New Corridor	162
	Three Ceilings – The Ground Floor	167
	Rationalisation of the Construction	168
	Towards a Monopoly by Baratelli	170
	The September Meeting: Baratelli's Megadeal	170
	Initiation of Construction	171
	Visually Organising the Construction Process	174
	The Industrialisation of the Architectural Detail	176
	On the Trail of Maillart: Friedrich Pulfer	179
	Plan and Administrative Framework	181
	Pulfer's Beam	182
	Pulfer's Slab	183
	The Victory of a Concept	184
	The Boundaries of Modernism	186
	Hurdles on the Way to Opening	187
	Fighting the Mountain	189
	Understanding Maillart's Beam	190
	Towards the Opening and the End	192
	Last Minute Alterations	193

5	RECEPTION	
	A Professional Amateur?	198
	A Modern Building or a Piece of History?	199
	<i>Befreites Wohnen</i>	200
	<i>Das Neue Frankfurt</i>	206
	<i>Space, Time and Architecture</i>	208

CONCLUSION

The Conception of Modern Spaces	214
The Construction of Modern Spaces	214
Reinforced Concrete	215
On Authorship: Teamwork and Co-Designers	216
The Role of the Engineer	217
To Be Continued	218
Changing Perceptions	220
Archetype or Prototype?	221

BIBLIOGRAPHY	225
--------------	-----

ARCHIVES	234
----------	-----

ILLUSTRATION CREDITS	235
----------------------	-----