

APPENDIX 1

SITE NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS – JOŽE PLEČNIK'S HOUSE 4-6 KARUNOVA STREET, TRNOVO, LJUBLJANA

For: Mr Bernard Davies

bdlg02948@blueyonder.co.uk

Date : 25th September 2001

Subject: VISIT TO LJUBLJANA

Dear Mr Davies,

I got your message. From two or three sentences I realised that you should be very well informed about the architectural and town planning situation in Central Europe. Of course the presentation of Plečnik's Ljubljana in AA-School in London two years ago by Mel Gooding and his book on Plečnik's National and University library is probably just the beginning of the great and very necessary discussion which should be opened as soon as possible. It is very hard to take position who was more successful: western modernists or Plečnik, Loos, and people of their kind. Plečnik and his Ljubljana town planning was discovered in a certain moment when the rigid modern patterns of designing the city were not sufficient any more. Of course this is worth to be discussed.

Please, do define your visit to Ljubljana in October and I shall find some time to talk to you.

Warmest wishes.

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Krečič

21/10/01

— T. 24/10/01 ? IVAN MESTROVIC
FEDERICO ZUCCARI who he?

KEY ISSUES

SLOVENSKA MODERNA

ZALE FUNERARY COMPLEX Where? How far
from centre

BARJE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL Where? How far
from centre. Trad forms from Slovene sources
mixed with concrete columns & modern techniques

SPECIAL MEANING for SLOVENE in J.P.'s WORK!

Catalogue J.P. Architectural Museum Ljubljana / Pompidou

Centre Paris 1986

Anast CERNIGOJ

WEIMAR

Bauhaus

LJUBLJANA

to form SLOVENE MODERNIST MOVEMENT (ALSO) →

VLADIMIR SUBIC Arch. Dept German Tech School Prague

first SLOVENE SKY SCRAPER 1933 NEBOTICNIK

tripartite division a' la Louis SULLIVAN

Fundamentalist / Rationalist mixed with classical & deco.

Many students → VIENNA study under
Peter Behrens until Professor VURNIK app't. &
adopted functionalist principles after visiting L'Exh.
Arts Décoratif in Paris 1925 → used functionalism
as replacement for nationalistic trends, realized
these would not meet needs of population
concerned with Housing problems "it." How To
SECURE THE MEANS AVAILABLE TODAY CONSTRUCTION-WISE,
TO COMPLETELY OUTFIT A DWELLING WHICH EVERY
DILIGENT WORKER COULD AFFORD, THAT IS TO REPAY THE
INVESTED CAPITAL & INTEREST". (*) Vurnik pursued

these ideals WORKERS HOUSING SETTLEMENT MARIBOR
1927 (One of the first, parallel Dwellings with KAREL
TEIGE, BABA & WEISENHOF) exh. Berlin 1931!

Also of importance are FRANC TOMAZIC (Vurnik's
assistant until 1931) rejecting JP's integration of

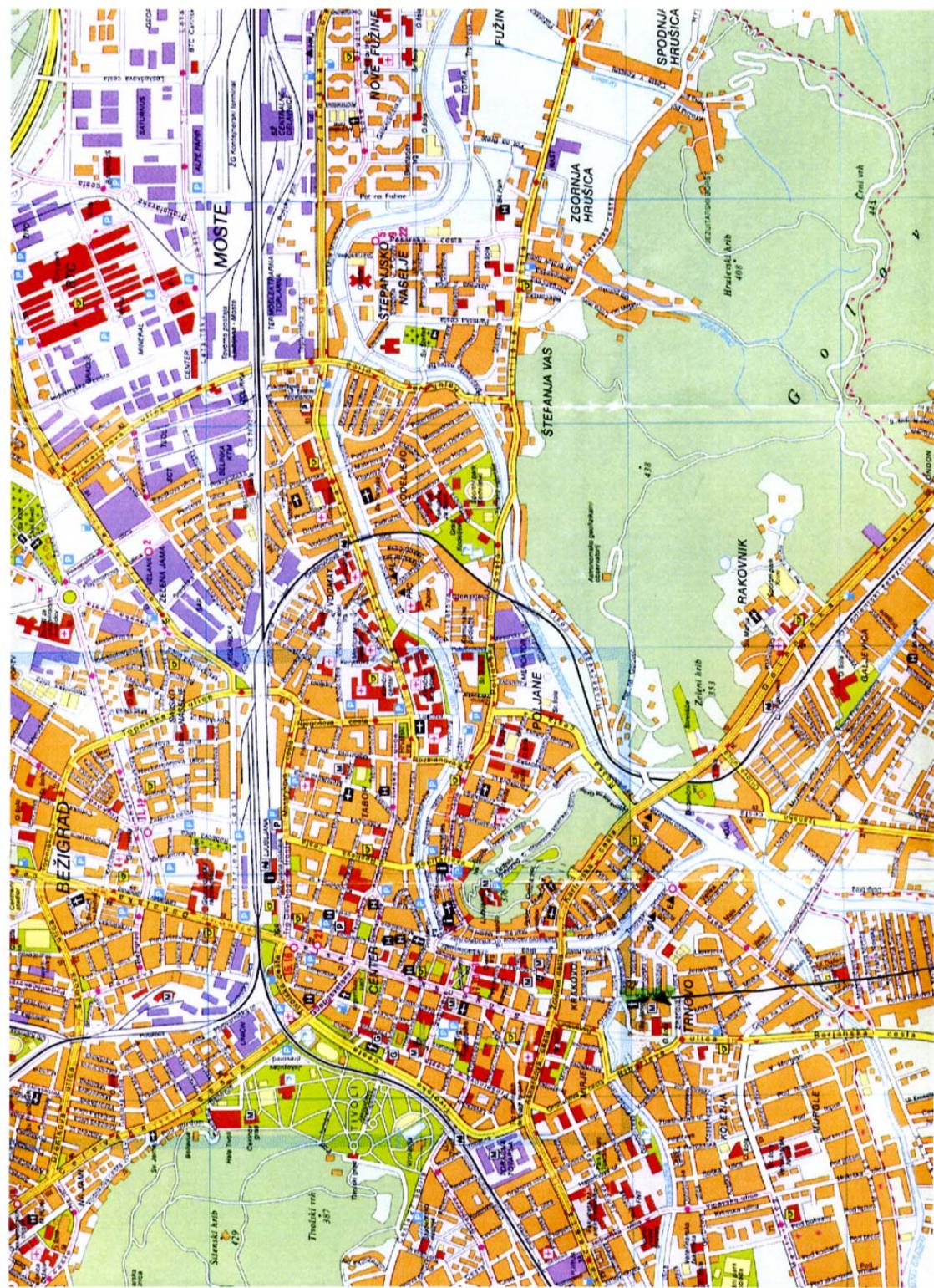
classical & nationalist forms, in favour of an
NEW MODERN ARCH. FOR A DEVELOPING MODERN

COUNTRY eg. VILLA OBLAK LJUBLJANA 1931-33
RAKOVNIK place

Used reinforced concrete construction (Auguste PERRET)

COMBINED Glass strip walling & concrete arch to
produce max sunlight & heat, dining room over
greenhouse connecting int. & ext. spaces.

FERI HORVAT)
The other imp. arch. FERI NOVAK } (I know
nothing of him !!) who worked primarily in
MURSKA SOBOTA? Where is this !! Studied in
Vienna at Technical University at Peter Behrens
studio → Le CORBUSIER's atelier in 1938 (FOR
A FEW MONTHS ONLY !!) SERBEC FAMILY VILLA in
MURSKA SOBOTA where he strictly followed LC's
five principles: pilotis, roof garden, flexible ground plan, ribbon windows
& flexible facade. Never completed due to WWII & later
political changes.



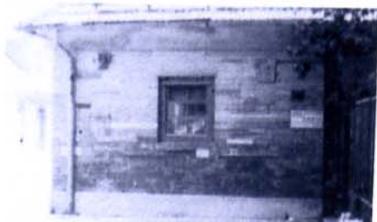
② Gledališki zavod
Slovenije d.d. 2003

Plečnik's House relative to other works.

Page from Oxford Poly Cat. (P.K.)



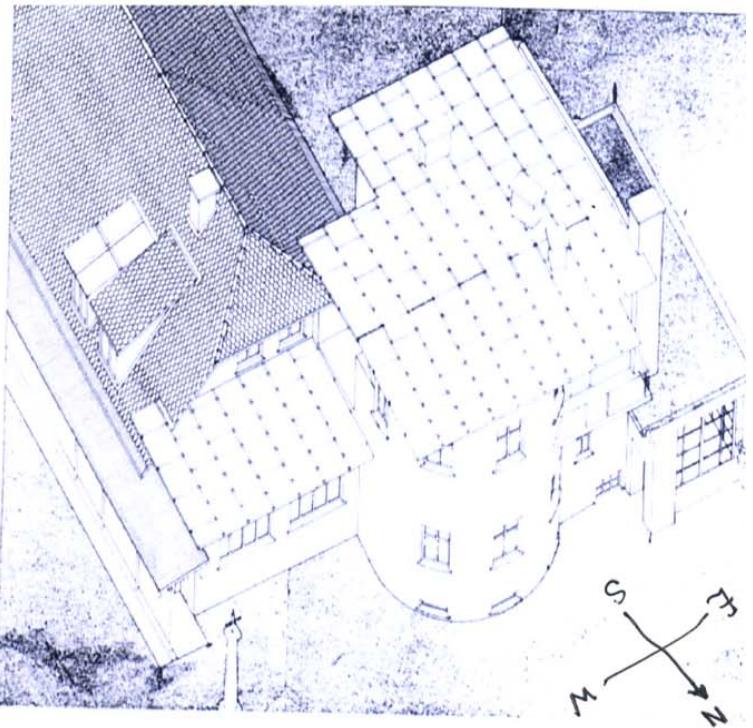
Trnovo today: Plečnik's house on the right



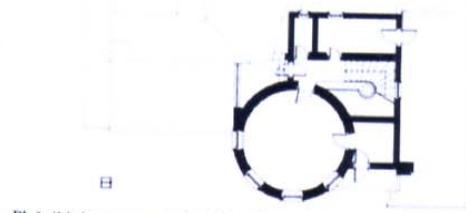
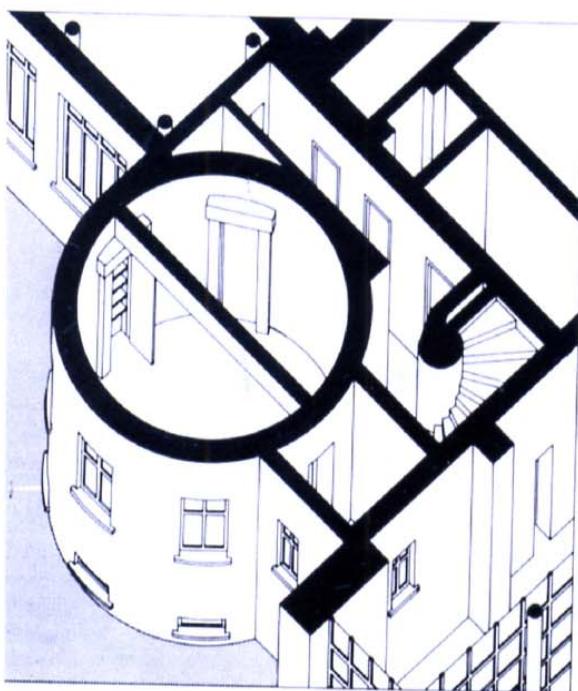
Plečnik's house: entrance area (1924)



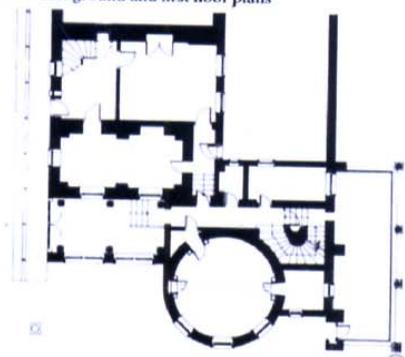
Plečnik's house: east elevation



Plečnik's house: bedroom (axonometric of spatial structure)



Plečnik's house: ground and first floor plans





24/10/01

Pleinik The House, 1921 - 29

Kamnova Street 4-6, Trnovo Suburb, S ↔ N

Two storey extension, column left over from Shoe
Makem Bridge, conservatory extension blends into
original house. Most unusual arrangement, extension
after extension.

More classical
architectural detail
N.S. Conservatory



Another short ^{24/10/01} view
column & vase.

Picnik The Conservatory

Viewed East To West, left over column with vase, across Roman paved courtyard To parish Church of Thore. From Sekški Finžgar Parish Priest, Great Friend. (P.K.)

Indicator of fitt.

Farrowlike arrangement
Column That supports,
or does it? Is it a
column? No it's
re-used Roman
sewer pipes from
Emona. (P.K.)

Point &
angles
almost
point.



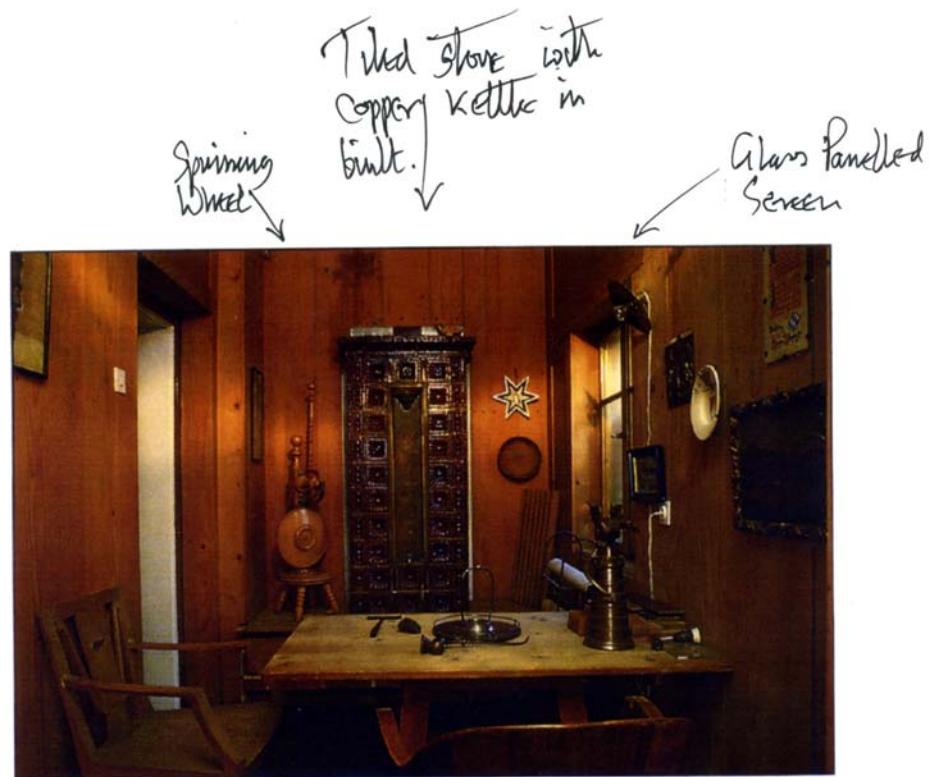
Marble
Brick
Terracotta

Funerary Wreath

27/10/01

Pleinik, Entrance Hall

Wow! What a space, an architectural
reclaimer with a fine eye.



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Plečnik, Small Reception Room

Tiny space same colour range, reminds of apothecaries shop, a touch of the alchemist as well. Textures in different woods throughout.



24/10/01

Picnik, The Studio

like all the other main rooms - burnt
umber, yellow ochre, burnt sienna. Work
tables, plain chest, drawing instruments.

ANOTHER, like living in a Zurbarán, same
religiousity

PLEČNIK

THE COMPLETE WORKS

PETER KREČIĆ

To a very good fellow
Bernard Davies with
compliments

24th Oct 2007

Petri (green)

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