

The phenomenon of the relationship between architecture and nature in the Nordic countries – abstract.

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This doctoral dissertation is devoted to the phenomenon of the relationship between architecture and nature in the Nordic countries and is based on *dwelling in the world*, described by Martin Heidegger in “Building Dwelling Thinking” (1951). An equal sign between all the titular factors is key, because, according to the philosopher, **dwelling** is a basic way in which people **exist on earth** and can be directly expressed in **building**, which is possible thanks to a **well-thought-out** design process.

Determining the philosophical foundations of research allows for a direct connection with phenomenology – a 20th century philosophical trend whose aim is to capture the essence of phenomena and investigate their obviousness. Phenomenology allows research for the components of the concept of dwelling – *being-in-the-world, place, space, and genius loci*, and helps to notice the interconnections that exist between them. They are visible primarily in the culture of the Nordic countries and their inextricable connection with nature shaped by living on the event horizon – between the earth, and the sky.

The aim of this dissertation is to show various paths in shaping the relationship between architecture and nature in the Nordic countries, which indicate the presence of its phenomenon. The analytical part results directly from analyzes of the literature of the subject, which consists mainly of texts by architects from the studied countries, in situ research conducted by the author and phenomenological research on Nordic residential houses. Presenting the characteristics of selected objects is intended to isolate specific directions in creating architectural forms that architects use to establish relationships with nature.

Chapter 1 is devoted to introducing the unique nature of man’s relationship with his environment on the example of Knut Knutsen’s summer house in Portør. It also presents the issues and purpose of the research, justification, theses, historical background, research methods used in the dissertation, literature review and the scope and structure of the work.

Chapter 2 analyzes the concepts of being-in-the-world, place and space, genius loci and dwelling, which are the basis of both the phenomenology of architecture and landscape. It begins with a short introduction to the main postulates of the philosophical trend and ends with conclusions that allow for a statement, that dwelling in the world combines place, space, and genius loci into an inseparable whole and is the basic way of being-in-the-world and binds place (nature), human being and architecture with an inseparable bond.

Chapter 3 exhibits the role of nature in the culture of the Nordic countries on the example of analyzes of selected artistic works in the fields of painting, music, and literature. It begins with an analysis of the role of nature in Norse mythology and the Kalevala, the Finnish national epic, which are echoed in the subsequent parts of the chapter. The presented interweaving of phenomenological threads in the described issues emphasizes the importance of nature in the process of shaping society and points to its important role as a source of inspiration for the work of artists from Nordic countries.

Chapter 4 translates concepts derived from the phenomenology of architecture and landscape into considerations regarding landscape characteristics and architectural creativity in Norway, Finland, and Sweden. The phenomenological context of considerations is the basis for the architectural theories of Nordic architects who emphasized the role of nature in his creative process.

Chapter 5 presents analytical research devoted to buildings from the previously discussed countries selected in the delimitation process that allowed to specify six paths in form relating to the characteristics of the environment and to check whether there is one dominant feature in each country. The chapter uses original analytical sketches and tabular summaries organizing the thought process.

Chapter 6 presents a summary of the doctoral dissertation confirming the assumed theses and indicates possibilities for further research in the field of architectural phenomenology.