

Between an Idea and the Experiment: Dome Houses in Warsaw

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Abstract : The idea of prefabricated dwellings dates back to the earliest times; however, it was during the modern era that it became one of the main thoughts that stimulated the imagination of architects. The system of prefabrication invented by Ford had inspired them to try to create a system or prototype that could become the basis for the mass 'production' of houses. The attempts made by Le Corbusier, Buckminster Fuller or Charles and Ray Eames, among others, are well known in this regard. The economic attractiveness of replicable, mass-producible houses meant that experiments in this area were undertaken in both the West and the East. Among such attempts was the project of dome-shaped houses conceived by the architect and inventor Andrzej Iwanicki and realised between 1961 and 1966 in Warsaw's Okęcie district on Ustrzycka Street.

Keywords : dome houses, polish modernism, postwar modernism, modernist houses

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