
The Bauhaus and its Sites (Germany) No 729bis

Official name as proposed by the State Party

The Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar, Dessau and Bernau

Location

Dessau-Roßlau, Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt
Bernau bei Berlin, Federal State of Brandenburg
Germany

Brief description

Following on from the *Former Art School* and the *Applied Art School* in Weimar, built by Henry van de Velde, the *Haus Am Horn* also in Weimar, the *Bauhaus Building* and the group of seven *Masters' Houses* in Dessau were all built under Walter Gropius, the first Bauhaus School director until 1928. The extension of the property to include the *Houses with Balcony Access* in Dessau and the *ADGB Trade Union School* in Bernau, built under Hannes Meyer, his successor until 1930, reflects the contribution of the Bauhaus building department to plain design, strict technology, functional philosophy and social reform. It is through these works that the Bauhaus had a major impact on shaping the architecture of the post-World War II period.

Category of property

In terms of categories of cultural property set out in Article I of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this is an extension of two *groups of buildings and monuments* to the five *groups of buildings and monuments* already inscribed.

1 Basic data

Included in the Tentative List

15 January 2015

International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund for preparing the Nomination

None

Date received by the World Heritage Centre

15 January 2016

Background

This is a proposed extension of the property "The Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar and Dessau" (Germany) which was inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria (ii), (iv) and (vi) at the 20th session of the World Heritage Committee (20 COM, 1996).

Consultations

ICOMOS consulted its International Scientific Committee on 20th Century Heritage and several independent experts.

Technical Evaluation Mission

An ICOMOS technical evaluation mission visited the property from 26 to 30 September 2016.

Additional information received by ICOMOS

A letter was sent by ICOMOS to the State Party on 21 October 2016 to request further information about the comparative analysis, the restoration programme for buildings, and the management.

The State Party replied on 18 November 2016, sending additional information, which has been taken into account in this evaluation.

An interim report including a request for additional information was sent by ICOMOS to the State Party on 19 December 2016 regarding the proposed statement of Outstanding Universal Value, the boundaries, and the interpretation of the property. On 23 February 2017, the State Party sent the requested additional information, which has also been taken into account in this evaluation.

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report

10 March 2017

2 The property

Description

The sites, which were nominated in Weimar and Dessau in 1996, cover 3.75 ha, while their buffer zone covers 19.39 ha. The two proposed extensions in Dessau and Bernau bei Berlin cover 4.41 ha, while their buffer zone covers 42.27 ha. Including these extensions, the total area of the nominated property covers 8.16 ha and the total area of the buffer zone covers 61.66 ha.

The inscribed property includes five groups of buildings and monuments. The *Former School of Art* (component 1) and the *Former School of Applied Art* (component 2), 1904-1911, both in Weimar, proved to be the first sites of a cultural development within Modernism. The second is an original achievement of Henry van de Velde (1863-1957), one of the most famous precursors of modernity in architecture.

The *House am Horn* (component 3), designed in 1923 by Georg Muehe (1895-1987), is the only architectural remnant of the School in Weimar. It embodies the typology of a modern one-family house where new technologies were tried out.

The *Bauhaus Building* (component 4), in Dessau, designed by Walter Gropius (1883-1969), the first Bauhaus director (1919-1928), is a central work of modern art in Europe, as it reflected the creative principles of functionalism and strove to develop the appropriate

primary forms for that purpose, using the materials of industry (reinforced concrete, glass, iron) and standard methods (skeleton construction, glass façade).

The seven *Masters' Houses* (component 5) - three pairs of semi-detached homes and the director's detached dwelling - were commissioned in 1925 by the city of Dessau to stand in a park. Both their architectural and social principles are of significance, since they managed to give individuality to identical ground plans, which had to respect typical forms due to financial reasons in the housing shortage following World War I.

Proposed extension

After the "white modernism" promoted by Gropius, Hannes Meyer (1889-1954), the second Bauhaus director (1928-1930), continued developing "classical modernism", adopted by Mies van der Rohe (1886-1969), in charge after Meyer (1930-1933). Meyer had a more radical policy, still trying to produce modernity with a human face, but pushing function at the same time as controlling cost. His intellectual influence and his willingness to base architecture on scientific principles were essential for the success of the Bauhaus ideas on social reform.

The five *Houses with Balcony Access* (component 6) were built in 1930 in the southwest of Dessau-Roßlau by the Bauhaus building department under Hannes Meyer. Each of them includes eighteen flats, measuring 47 m², which low-income residents have continuously occupied since their construction. Meyer and his students built three-storey brick blocks with flat roofs along two main streets running from east to west, Peterholzstraße (n° 40, 48 and 56) and Mittelbreite (n° 6 and 14). On their north-facing side, the plain cubic buildings had projecting staircase towers, lit by vertical format windows, and mesh balcony walkways, while large windows (with steel or wood frames) faced the gardens to the south. This distinctive structure, only punctuated by red brickwork and concrete ceiling slabs, retains today its full minimalist appearance. On the inside, the double return stairs made of grey artificial stone alongside brick walls and the banisters made of steel wire mesh and red-painted handrail enhance Meyer's severe economical design and the Bauhaus' meticulous attention to detail and exposed materials. A flat with original furnishings and fittings is open to visitors in the block at Peterholzstraße 40. Its plan demonstrates the philosophical goal of the Bauhaus to provide affordable social housing by optimising living space. To the rear of each house were a washhouse and a garden. Still at Peterholzstraße 40, the historic washhouse found on the southwest edge of the plot features the original façade, room layout, windows and doors. A catslide roof forms a lean-to over an entrance and drying area.

The *ADGB Trade Union School* (component 7) stands in a wooded area on the northwest of Bernau bei Berlin. It includes the long school and dormitory building, the separate row of teachers' residences, and a small transformer hut. This group of edifices with yellow brick

façades is organised in echelons, according to the lie of the landscape and to the strict rule of function: a different building per type of usage. The entrance, modified since then, is in a cubic head-end building (including a vestibule, foyer, auditorium, canteen and the offices area), from which a corridor with a glass façade leads to the five dormitory blocks and, from there, to the two-storey school complex.

History and development

Together with the expansion of the Dessau-Törten Estate sketched by Gropius in 1926, the *Houses with Balcony Access* were the first construction project "collectively designed" by the Bauhaus building department. Meyer was called upon to set up this department in 1927 and he made it part of an inclusive educational system that combined scientific and artistic knowledge with productive work and fund raising. To this purpose, he created "vertical brigades" where inexperienced students worked together on training projects with senior fellows supervised by teachers. The idea was to create a social mix in a new residential area where "white collar workers [would live] in one-storey flat-roof buildings [and] blue collar workers in three-storey houses with balcony access". The five houses were completed in July 1930, following other variants of the same type. They pushed the type to its highest level of requirement, reaching a high living standard through optimised floor plans, minimised access areas, advanced technical facilities, wooden prototype furniture, a sober aesthetic and minimal design.

The houses survived World War II mostly intact, although shrapnel damaged the glass facade of the staircases, which were bricked in around 1951. In 1987, the Dessau-Törten Estate, originally designed by Gropius, was listed on the monuments register of the city of Dessau. In 1993, a new set of windows retained the original design and division of panes. In 1994, a "design statute" was drafted for the houses, which protects the appearance of their façades (base, eaves, exposed fabric). From 1996 to 1998, a comprehensive renovation was carried out, which restored the mesh railings to their original design and implemented modern adjustments, which respected the spirit of the Bauhaus. The original glazing was reinstated on the staircase of the house at Peterholzstraße 40.

Hannes Meyer was assisted by Hans Wittwer (1894-1952) when he built the teaching complex and dormitory of the *ADGB Trade Union School* in Bernau from 1928 to 1930, with the help of the Bauhaus building department. It was dedicated to the training and further education of trade unionists, due to act as workers' representatives on behalf of the Weimar Republic's new constitution. The competition entries won in 1927 by the Bauhaus required it to attempt to integrate several functional components such as classrooms, residences for teachers and students, and recreational facilities, in one cohesively structured building. Meyer and Wittwer respected the design canon of a strict geometric outline that this programme implied, but managed to propose an open arrangement of the components and a close connection with the landscape. They based their design on the newly

expressed model of progressive education in small groups: the structure of the complex is derived from the dimensions of the dormitories where students were grouped in twelve units of ten each. This figure determines the dimension of all other spaces and fittings, from the seminar rooms to the tables in the canteen.

In 1933, the Nazis confiscated the School. Briefly used by the Red Army as a hospital in 1945, it was returned in 1946 to the East German trade unions, which used it as a university-like institution after the architect Georg Waterstradt (1915-1990) extended it, from 1950 to 1954, erecting a new wing for offices, another teaching building linked to the old one, four dormitory blocks, and an institute unit. Apart from the entrance area that was radically reorganised inside and outside, this considerable rearrangement did not undermine the overall composition of the School.

The *ADGB Trade Union School* was listed in 1977, but was poorly protected as a heritage venue, and continued to be extended and used as an education facility until 1990. Its ownership was then transferred to the city of Bernau and, as per the leasehold agreement, to the Federal State of Brandenburg, which used it as a university of Applied Science for public management, from 1992 to 1998. In 2001, the leasehold for the school and dormitory buildings was transferred to the Berlin Chamber of Crafts, while the Federal State of Brandenburg retained the leasehold of the teachers' residences. The original layout and substance of the School was restored from 2002 to 2008 in line with heritage conservation principles. The main entrance was relocated to its original position. The interior of the foyer was also redesigned. The auditorium regained its original structure. The canteen regained its raw appearance of reinforced concrete frames and glass brick roof cut into sections. Northeast of the canteen, the small quadrant conservatory regained its red steel and glass structure. The internal walls of the dormitories were given back their original colours: blue, yellow, green and red. The staircase of the teaching area going up to the seminar rooms regained its spectacular trapeze-shaped windows. The seminar rooms on the upper floor were equipped with "butterfly ceilings" (i.e. sloping down towards the room's middle axis to prevent shadows) and ribbon windows. The gymnasium kept its reinforced concrete girders and supports, and its exposed yellow brickwork. Revived in this way, the School reveals the engineering and technical know-how of its builders, as do the four teachers' residences and two semi-detached bungalows, set at an angle to the main unit. The adjustment to the terrain (with a 6 metre drop), the clever use of windows creating a connection between outdoors and indoors, the strength of the materials, the exposed load bearing structures and the calculated proportions are typical of an art of building specific to the era of Meyer.

After an agreement with the State Office for the Preservation of Monuments, the Chamber has run the school as its Training and Innovation Centre since 2008.

3 Justification for inscription, integrity and authenticity

Comparative analysis

The State Party has built an extensive comparative analysis on the grounds of typology (housing and teaching facilities), chronology (early 20th century), geography (Europe) and themes (social and political background, modern design methods), which compares properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and the Tentative Lists as well as iconic edifices not represented on any of those lists. This method of reasoning underscores the social role of architecture and the importance of modern design as an integral and pivotal way of teaching about and rethinking the world. It reveals that no other listed item is comparable on account of typology, social goals, date of construction, design concept or teaching background. The only conceivable reference would be Frank Lloyd Wright's School of Architecture in Taliesin (Spring Green, Wisconsin, USA) and Taliesin West (Scottsdale, Arizona), which also pursued a productive education ("learning by doing"), but was not an official school and did not have either a similar social, mass-orientated objective.

The type of the *ADGB Trade Union School* is more difficult to define properly. It was a kind of boarding school, which pursued progressive education, improving living and learning conditions, developing the fields of hygiene, psychology, teaching research and sports. It embodied a vast ideal of social reform, which no longer welcomed the traditional classroom. From 1927 to 1935, Max Taut (1884-1967) realised a comparable, but much more formal, large-scale school complex in Berlin-Lichtenberg. In France, the Karl Marx Middle School in Villejuif, built by André Lurçat (1894-1970) in 1933, and the Open Air School in Suresnes, designed by Eugène Beaudouin (1898-1983) and Marcel Lods (1891-1978) in 1931-1935, both develop the purpose of education guided by good health, light, air and sun. But, the arrangement of pavilions and, again, the choice of "white modernism" differ from the *ADGB Trade Union School*. The analytical design, pedagogical concept, functional thinking and economic method that were developed in this complex reinforced the Bauhaus approach and made it a unique and inimitable type of school building.

The proposed extension reflects the concerns of the Bauhaus' second generation, which revolutionized the practice of architecture for decades, through context analysis, economic research, functional standards, progressive teaching and social objectives. It enables a complete and coherent view of the methodology and the built heritage left by the Bauhaus. Indeed, even if the architects connected with the Bauhaus have built various other works, under their own names, no other example is known to have been the product of the institution itself, so that with these two components the series is deemed to be closed.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis justifies consideration of this extension to the already inscribed property on the World Heritage List.

Justification of Outstanding Universal Value

The proposed extension is considered by the State Party to be of Outstanding Universal Value as a cultural property for the following reasons:

- The Bauhaus cannot be understood as a whole without addressing the work of its second director, Hannes Meyer, who founded and led its building department.
- Since he promoted an idea of architecture based on function, cost and scientific analysis, Meyer was radically innovative.
- The extended property reveals the way a rational and austere modernism emerged in the 1930s, foreshadowing post-war reconstruction.
- The *Houses with Balcony Access* in Dessau exhibit the students' eminent contribution to the interwar social housing movement.
- The *ADGB Trade Union School* in Bernau shows the way the Bauhaus designed complex programmes and managed to integrate them in the surrounding landscape harmoniously.

ICOMOS considers that this justification is appropriate because the proposed extension reveals the way the Bauhaus acted as a co-operative learning institution and completed real building projects, which integrated the latest developments in psychology, sociology, economics, engineering and design all at once. It enables a panoramic overview of the Bauhaus during the full duration of its activity.

Integrity and authenticity

Integrity

The *Houses with Balcony Access* in Dessau were placed in an urban development, which is still visible today. Their spatial and formal attributes are intact. From the outside, this rational construction is undamaged. From the inside, the functional scheme remains clear. Since they have been continuously inhabited by low-income residents and managed by a co-operative institution, these houses prove that the Bauhaus' social ideals were fulfilled in their own time and remain alive today.

In spite of the 1950's extensions, the original layout of the *ADGB Trade Union School*, with its classrooms, residences, recreational and sports facilities, was overall preserved through time. It is a community institution based on independence, self-reliance and autonomy, something that the architects expressed via individual buildings organically linked, with few hierarchical structures.

ICOMOS considers that the general level of integrity is satisfactory. It proves to be as good as the original series. The physical fabric of the proposed extension is in good

condition. Important restorations and sometimes genuine restructuring has taken place, in particular in the entrance lobby of the *ADGB Trade Union School*, which was severely modified during the communist era and had to receive a deliberately new treatment, in relation to its current function, during the 2002-2008 campaign of restoration (extended in 2010 to the teachers' residences). This work was completed in a way that ensures a comprehensive representation of the original features and processes, which convey the property's significance. The landscaping is being restored as closely as possible to Meyer's wishes. Four of the *Houses with Balcony Access* lost the glass façades of their "avant-corps" staircases in the 1950's. One of them has been fully restored since, whilst the wire mesh parapets of the walkways have also been reinstated in their full integrity in the five blocks.

Authenticity

The State Party specifies that the proposed extension "largely preserves its original state in terms of form, design, materials and substance". Therefore, the two components provide an "impressive testimony" of the architectural legacy of the Bauhaus building department.

Although they do not totally respect the original layout, adaptations to the *Houses with Balcony Access* to meet modern comfort requirements were done with care. After a comprehensive campaign of restoration, the buildings still firmly display Meyer's motto (fulfil "the need of the people, instead of the need for luxury"). At Peterholzstraße 40, a model flat is maintained in its original condition as a museum piece.

The *ADGB Trade Union School* in Bernau is also exemplary for its preserved layout, façades and details. Apart from Waterstradt's aisle adjacent to the foyer, the comprehensive removal of later annexes gave back the complex its full significance and appearance, although not retaining all the strata of its history. The renovation benefited from the remarkable standard of the Bauhaus construction. The entrance location was restored and the rearrangements of the head-end building that took place under the communist regime were removed.

ICOMOS considers that the authenticity of architectural forms, structural elements and materials is undeniable. The usage of the places in respect of the Bauhaus achievements and ideals gives them a specific quality. Restoration programs have proven to be of the highest quality.

ICOMOS considers that the conditions of integrity and authenticity for the whole series and for the individual components have been justified.

Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The extension is nominated on the basis of cultural criteria (ii), (iv) and (vi). The same criteria are justified for the proposed extension as for the existing World Heritage property.

Criterion (ii): *exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that, following Walter Gropius's directorship, the *Houses with Balcony Access* and the *ADGB Trade Union School*, realised under Hannes Meyer, still contribute to the avant-garde modernism, but from a slightly different perspective based on function, austere design, and economical and scientific analysis.

ICOMOS considers that, from Henry van de Velde to Mies van der Rohe, the successive contributions of the Weimar and Dessau Bauhaus artists and architects to 20th century modernism are all bundled together as one. Among them, the Swiss architect Hannes Meyer organised the school and expressed strong principles for the design of buildings. He also closely associated the students and his fellow architects to this design in the Bauhaus building department, which he created and led for three years. The proposed extension reflects the transition between Gropius' heroic "white modernism" and a more utilitarian architecture, which may look stern at first glance, but was concerned to resolve the matter of social housing and public facilities.

ICOMOS considers that the proposed extension has been demonstrated to reinforce this criterion.

Criterion (iv): *be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that "the Bauhaus itself and the other buildings designed by the masters of the Bauhaus are fundamental representatives of Classical Modernism and as such are essential components of the image of their period of the 20th century". The *Houses with Balcony Access* are an example of rational and collective architecture, which prevailed during the pioneer phase of social housing construction in the European inter-war period. The *ADGB Trade Union School* is an example of progressive education in connection with workers organisations. Both embody the new image of humanity and the effort to improve the living conditions of the poor, which emerged after World War I.

ICOMOS considers that both works early on and decisively took part in the birth of a new aesthetic, architecture and worldview, as did the previously nominated buildings of the Bauhaus. Their designers did not simply work on pure and asymmetrical geometry; they thoroughly adapted old typologies (block of flats, school) to the needs of the society of their time. Providing low-income families with good housing and the progressive education movement with an ambitious complex, they proved that a building does not have to be moulded into a given form, but that the architect has to comply with the

requirements of users. They invented a "new design of life processes", thanks to personal methodology, topical research and systematic implementation of new materials. The two buildings are landmarks for understanding the technical, social and aesthetic evolution of modern architecture in the 1930s.

ICOMOS considers that the proposed extension has been demonstrated to reinforce this criterion.

Criterion (vi): *be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that "the Bauhaus architectural School was the foundation of the Modern Movement, which was to revolutionize artistic and architectural thinking and practice in the 20th century". The *Houses with Balcony Access* and the *ADGB Trade Union School* translate the ideals of the Bauhaus, which aimed at changing both the individual and society, and finally sought to improve social conditions. They imply an irreversible break with tradition. Convinced that this break was a necessity, Hannes Meyer proclaimed the unity of theory and practice in training and the primacy of science in the design process. From this specific methodology a distinct aesthetic was to emerge.

ICOMOS considers that the Modern Movement was a compact movement during which a great number of schools of thought cohabited and even competed. The same applies to the Bauhaus, whose diversity and creativity was spectacular. The *Houses with Balcony Access* and the *ADGB Trade Union School* show one of these art families at work. They both indicate the way architecture absorbs the outside world and the way it modifies it in return. Combining scientific and artistic knowledge with practical and productive work, associating students' and teachers' input, the Bauhaus foreshadowed the world after 1945.

ICOMOS considers that the proposed extension has been demonstrated to reinforce this criterion.

ICOMOS considers that the serial approach has been justified.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the condition of integrity for the whole series and for the individual components has been justified; that the condition of authenticity for the whole series and for the individual components has been justified; and that the proposed extension to the serial property has been demonstrated to reinforce criteria (ii), (iv) and (vi).

Description of the attributes

The extended property includes a set of five *Houses with Balcony Access* in Dessau and the complex of the *ADGB Trade Union School* in Bernau, built by the Bauhaus building department between 1928 and 1930. The

Houses with Balcony Access belong to a residential area which largely kept its geometric shape and layout, set out in the 1920s. Their simple cubic structures are made of red brickwork and exposed concrete beams and lintels, while the arrangement of the windows, balcony walkways and “avant-corps” staircases express strict minimalism and functional planning. The house at Peterholzstraße 40 contains a flat retaining a significant part of its original built-in furniture and fittings, designed in the Bauhaus workshops. The slightly inclined monopitch roof covering both the block and the staircase, the exposed materials, colours and surface structures, redefined the typology of social housing, as conceived by the Modern Movement in the 1930's.

The yellow brick façades of the *ADGB Trade Union School* with concrete load-bearing structures remain fixed in the sloping grounds of their surrounding landscape, as they were at the time of the Bauhaus. The School has a cubic entrance, redeveloped in the 1950's, made up of a vestibule, foyer, auditorium, canteen with adjoining kitchen and conservatory, and offices. From there a glazed corridor leads to five dormitory blocks, a single-storey flat-roofed library, a gymnasium, and a two-storey complex of classrooms. A glazed staircase with steel-frame pivot windows gives access to the seminar area with “butterfly” ceilings on the first floor of this complex. At an angle to it, four teachers' residences and two semi-detached bungalows with yellow brickwork and concrete girders are raised on stilts at the rear, due to the slope of the terrain. A small transformer hut is set next to the residences. Dedicated to progressive education for workers' representatives, the School embodies the fully rationalised project, rigorous construction, functional logic and skilled craftsmanship, which characterized the Bauhaus architecture.

4 Factors affecting the property

The *Houses with Balcony Access* are managed by the Housing Co-operative of Dessau in connection with the Land heritage authorities and the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation. In the process of carrying out maintenance, the Co-operative wishes to reduce energy losses but rules out external insulation. In this area of multi- and single-family dwellings, nothing has changed much since the Bauhaus planned the Houses and no change is going to affect their residential use, based on long-term letting.

The *ADGB Trade Union School* presently houses the Training and Innovation Centre of the Berlin Chamber of Crafts, specializing in apprenticeship training and adult education. This usage ensures stable running and conservation. Similarly, the Federal State of Brandenburg lets the teachers' residences. However, steady development near the property has been a challenge since the 1950's, when communal uses, such as an auditorium, were admitted to the northwest of the site. In 2013, a Master Plan for the outdoor facilities was drafted on behalf of the “Baudenkmal Bundesschule Bernau” foundation, in co-operation with the city of Bernau and the

heritage conservation authorities. The purpose was to re-establish the original open space plan as an area of natural beauty for sports and leisure, whilst still satisfying the new usage requirements.

The Bauhaus Dessau Foundation does guided tours of the Dessau-Törten estate that include a visit to the *House with Balcony Access* in Peterholzstraße 40. These tours are respectful of the residents and allow only small groups to enter the museum flat. No conflict has been noted so far. The number of visitors to the estate is expected to grow, but this will not affect any of the five houses.

At present, visitors can only access the outside premises of the *ADGB Trade Union School*, although some guided tours of the interior are on offer, on behalf of the “Baudenkmal Bundesschule Bernau” foundation. When the boarding students of the Chamber of Crafts stay on site during their training courses, full opening is not possible. Consequently, there is a limit to an increase in the number of visitors. ICOMOS agrees that, considering that the current usage is a guarantee for the future of the site, it is necessary to put up with fewer occasional visits. A permanent exhibition is installed in one of the teachers' houses. In 2013, the landscape-planning concept envisaged a visitor centre and a parking space in the location of the vacant refectory building.

There are no environmental pressures threatening the proposed extension.

No natural disasters are to be expected in the Dessau-Törten estate. No risk of flooding or fire is known in this area of large avenues and easy-access streets. The same applies to the Bernau region. There is a very low seismic risk in Weimar (level 1), and no risk at all in Dessau or Berlin (below 1).

No effect of climate change is likely to threaten the proposed extension.

ICOMOS considers that there is no real threat to the proposed extension. The protection of the *ADGB Trade Union School* surroundings will have to be controlled in accordance with the “Statutes for the Protection of the Monumental Area ‘Bauhaus Bernau’”.

5 Protection, conservation and management

Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

The nominated extension and its buffer zone are as follows:

Houses with Balcony Access (component 6):
Total of the nominated component: 0.97 ha.
Buffer zone: 25.03 ha;

ADGB Trade Union School (component 7):
Total of the nominated component: 3.44 ha.
Buffer zone: 17.24 ha.

The *Houses with Balcony Access* contain a total of ninety two- to three-room flats, currently housing one hundred and three residents. In the *ADGB Trade Union School*, the teachers' residences currently house fifteen inhabitants.

In the case of the *Houses with Balcony Access*, the boundaries of the buffer zone were initially too narrow because they were confined to the buildings facing their fronts on either side of the street and to the adjacent plots on the rear façade. The plot of land on which each of the houses was built is included and well-delineated either by the street or by other buildings. The buffer zone, at ICOMOS's request, has been extended to include the area of the urban plan drawn by the Bauhaus building department, in which multi-storey and low-rise buildings were intended to co-exist, with the streets that served them. To the north, the buffer zone is connected to Walter Gropius' previous housing development. To the west, it stops along the terraced buildings that were planned and built by Richard Paulick, who was Gropius' assistant. The other limits are adjusted to the streets and plots of Hannes Meyer's comprehensive plan.

In the case of the *ADGB Trade Union School*, the boundaries of the nominated extension were originally confined only to the perimeter of the buildings inherited from the Bauhaus period and to the entrance element. In addition to the school complex, the teachers' residences and the transformer hut, the outdoor elements of the *ADGB Trade Union School* now includes, at ICOMOS's request, the driveway roundabout in front of the main building, the historic forest edge, the land levelled by the Bauhaus and the water pond surrounded by trees to the rear, and the free spaces around the built structures to the east and north. The buffer zone includes the 1950s extensions and, more globally, all the buildings belonging to the Hannes-Meyer Campus. The Fritz-Heckert-Straße that leads to its main entrance is also included, which ensures a protected view from a short distance (around 0.5 km).

ICOMOS considers that the boundaries of the proposed serial extension and its buffer zone are adequate.

Ownership

The "Housing Cooperative Dessau eG" owns the *Houses with Balcony Access*. This is a mutual association providing its members with residential accommodation, *i.e.* renting out to tenants who have been accepted as members and pay a mandatory stake.

The landowner of the *ADGB Trade Union School* is the city of Bernau, which has to approve any substantial change to the edifices. The Federal State of Brandenburg represented by its Agency for Properties and Construction owns the historical buildings (school, teachers' residences, transformer hut). The subsidiary building right

holder (or leaseholder) of the School building is the Berlin Chamber of Crafts.

Protection

After the fall of the German Democratic Republic, the *Houses with Balcony Access* were designated in 1994 as an architectural monument according to the Monuments Protection Act of Saxony-Anhalt (article 18, October 1991, amended by the Third Investment Relief Act, December 2005). In September 1994, the "Conservation and Design Statutes of the city of Dessau for the preservation of the city's singular urban planning and for the protection of the appearance of the estate and houses of the Bauhaus housing estate in Dessau-Törten, including the *Houses with Balcony Access* in Peterholzstraße and Mittelbreite and the L. Fischer houses in Großring" entered into force. These Statutes regulate structure monitoring and maintenance of the proposed extension. In 2015, they were integrated in the Federal Building Code and in the Building Law of Saxony-Anhalt. The buffer zone benefits from environmental protection within the Monuments Protection Act of Saxony-Anhalt, cited above.

Similarly, the *ADGB Trade Union School* was listed in 1991 as an architectural monument on the register of monuments of the State of Brandenburg, on behalf of the Monuments Protection Act (July 1991, last revised in May 2004). The buffer zone is also covered as a monumental area by the same law. The Statutes for the Protection of the monumental Area "Bauhaus Monument: ADGB Trade Union School Bernau" were established in November 2014. They protect the urban planning context whose outer limits coincide with the property's buffer zone, determine targets for the protection of the different parts of the School, and organize an integrative maintenance. Laws at national, regional and municipal levels regulate the protection of the proposed extension.

At national level, the Federal Building Code, the Federal Regional Planning Act and the Federal Land Use ordinance combine to give the Federal Republic of Germany its main framework for urban development and building projects. Within this framework, monuments protection is organised by the laws of the Federated States, Monuments Protection Act of Saxony-Anhalt (October 1991) and Monuments Protection Act of Brandenburg (July 1991), which incorporate the latest provisions on conservation. Both States have services to implement these provisions: State Office for Heritage Management and Archaeology (in charge of the rules), Superior Monument Protection Authority (in charge of the technical supervision), on behalf of the minister of Education and Cultural Affairs, in Saxony-Anhalt; State Office for the Preservation of Monuments and the Archaeological Museums, in Brandenburg, on behalf of the minister of Science, Research and Cultural Affairs. Finally, the Bauhaus City Master Plan (Dessau) and the Monumental Area Statutes (Bernau) have drafted local regulations in both cases, applicable to the boundaries and buffer zones of the proposed extension.

ICOMOS considers that the legal protection in place for the proposed serial extension and the buffer zones are appropriate.

Conservation

The Bauhaus Dessau Foundation has access to the archives left by the Bauhaus institution and masters. Several inventories of the *Houses with Balcony Access* have been made since 1989 (by the Weimar School of Architecture), especially in relation to the procedures of renovation. The last record dates back to September 2015. The Brandenburg State Office made a complete assessment of the *ADGB Trade Union School* in May 2007. In November 1998 Winfried Brenne Architekten made a review of the building history, followed by a conservation survey and catalogue of measures in November 2006. The nomination dossier provides substantial evidence of these resources, knowledge and work.

In addition, several research and operational instruments are available. In Dessau, the Bauhaus City Master Plan came into force in June 2012. The objectives consist of realising a Bauhaus Museum as an exhibition centre for the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation's collection (to be opened in 2019). In Bernau, a preparatory land-use plan was drawn up in November 2007, applied in September 2008 and updated since. In this plan, the grounds of the former *ADGB Trade Union School* are classified as institutional building land with educational use.

ICOMOS considers that, both in Dessau and Bernau, the knowledge of the property's components is good and the operational tools well documented.

The State Party considers that the state of conservation of the property is good. The volumes of the *Houses with Balcony Access* are unchanged, the façades retain their original appearance, and the supporting structures (hollow-core slabs, in-fill brickwork) are intact. The extensive glazing of the staircases was blown out by accident just after World War II and has so far been reconstructed on just one of the five houses. In 1993, all the windows were replaced with thicker frames and double glazing for better insulation, meaning that there is some difference in width and colour to the original frames. In 1994, the roof membranes were renewed on all the buildings. The five houses were comprehensively renovated from 1996 to 1998, after a detailed analysis of their existing condition and research in the Bauhaus archives.

In a similar way, the *ADGB Trade Union School* has never been vacant and has always been used for educational purposes, despite significant variations over time. A conservation Master Plan was drafted in 1998. It relied both on a detailed analysis of the condition, structure and materials of the complex, and on the Bauhaus' original plans. It identified the areas worthy of refurbishment and the damaged areas to be returned to their original state, and it suggested solutions for the more recent changes.

The plan was carried out from 2001 to 2008 in the school and up to 2010 in the teachers' residences.

ICOMOS acknowledges the maintenance effort that helped keep the *Houses with Balcony Access* in a good state of conservation. The outward form of the blocks is fine, while the apartments have resisted significant alterations. The active conservation measures fit into the global approach decided in 1996 and the maintenance appears to be regular and carried out by technical experts. Similarly, as far as it's been possible since the heavy modifications of the 1950's, the *ADGB Trade Union School* is in a good state of conservation, based on thorough research.

There is on-going maintenance of the five *Houses with Balcony Access*. Any decision is preceded by expert analysis and the Superior Monument Protection Authority of Saxony-Anhalt supervises the planned measures. The *ADGB Trade Union School* benefits also from on-going maintenance, led by the Brandenburg State Agency for Properties and Construction and by the Berlin Chamber of Crafts.

ICOMOS considers that the conservation measures of the proposed serial extension are effectively planned and organised. ICOMOS suggests that the glazing of the staircases on four of the *Houses with Balcony Access* be restored, when the opportunity arises, and that special attention continues to be paid to the *ADGB Trade Union School's* surrounding landscape.

Management

Management structures and processes, including traditional management processes

The locations of the original and extended property are spread across three of Germany's Federated States and managed by five owners, while being coordinated on the basis of heritage values by the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation. The management system was set up in 1996, when the first five sites were designated.

This system, which will also be used for the extended property's benefit, relies first on dependable use, either identical (housing in Dessau) or adaptable (training centre in Bernau). It relies secondly on a robust network, which gathers together owners, users or tenants, institutions and heritage authorities. This network is coordinated and chaired by the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, which is responsible for site management, cross-cutting issues, communication, protection policy and research (in connection with the Universities in Berlin, Potsdam, Frankfurt and Cottbus). As a last resort, in the event of a conflict, the city of Dessau and the administrative district of Barnim would decide about permits under the urban planning legislation, while monument authorities of the Federated States would enforce protection laws. The combined effect of Federal laws and regional town planning guarantees the protection of the property's surroundings. Supervised by the Bauhaus Dessau

Foundation, a Steering Group with representatives of the authorities (ministries responsible for the protection and maintenance of monuments and heritage offices of the participating Federated States) and owners is in charge of the communication and coordinates all activities in relation to research and presentation of the property and of the proposed extension.

Under the Monuments Protection Act of Saxony-Anhalt, the “Housing Cooperative Dessau” is responsible for the maintenance of the *Houses with Balcony Access*. The city and the State provide the appropriate personnel for any backup operation.

Under the Monuments Protection Act of Brandenburg, the State of Brandenburg is responsible for the maintenance of the *ADGB Trade Union School*. In 2005, during the restoration campaign completed in 2010, the tenant (Berlin Chamber of Crafts) drafted a maintenance plan for the next ten years, while both partners shared the funding. In July 2015, the Federal Ministry for the Environment granted 1.2 million Euros, and the city of Bernau 600,000 Euros, for the development of the School.

Policy framework: management plans and arrangements, including visitor management and presentation

A long-term plan for the *Houses with Balcony Access* exists within the general heritage conservation plan of Saxony-Anhalt. Specific investment, renovation and building maintenance are planned on this basis, using the extensive documentation and records produced over the course of the 1998 renovation campaign. Guided tours, exhibitions, and press releases are regularly organised by the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, according to its own 2012 master plan, which aims to promote the World Heritage sites to the general public.

In 2005, the city of Bernau, Federated State of Brandenburg, Berlin Chamber of Crafts and Bauhaus Dessau Foundation drew up a maintenance plan for the *ADGB Trade Union School*. Since 2014 the “Statutes for the protection of the Bauhaus Monumental Area” safeguard the integrity of the grounds within the buffer zone. Pursuant to the Statutes, a master plan for the outdoor area was drawn up in 2014, aimed at reviving the original natural landscape of the complex. The “Baudenkmal Bundesschule Bernau” foundation organises guided tours (on five dates per year and on the basis of individual agreements) and promotes special events such as the Heritage Open Days.

ICOMOS notes the efforts made by the State Party to elaborate on the presentation of the Bauhaus and its sites as a whole to the general public, and particularly to provide more material written in English.

Involvement of the local communities

The local “Housing Cooperative Dessau eG” encourages broad-minded attitudes among the residents of the *Houses with Balcony Access*, in relation to the specifics

of heritage conservation. Their co-operation is a cornerstone of the management policy.

The “Baudenkmal Bundesschule Bernau” association is highly committed to safeguarding and promoting the *ADGB Trade Union School*. It was founded in 1990 and, from that year onwards, its members dedicated themselves to rescuing the complex. In 2011, a foundation was set up on behalf of the association to help promote and restore the School. Its members include representatives of the city of Bernau, the Berlin Chamber of Crafts, the administrative district of Barnim, and its sponsor, the bank Sparkasse Barnim. The foundation has set up a website, placed panels outside various buildings, published brochures and made a documentary film.

ICOMOS considers that the management system has proven itself, allowing long-term preservation of the *Houses with Balcony Access* and careful restoration of the *ADGB Trade Union School*. ICOMOS considers that the cross-cutting management system, co-ordinated by the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, is adequate. The owners, leaseholders and users are directly involved in the maintenance and upkeep of the property. The local community takes an active part in this effort. Expertise is abundant from all public and private partners in all fields.

ICOMOS considers that the management system is adequate.

6 Monitoring

Since the Bauhaus and its sites were first listed on the World Heritage List (1996), monitoring has been carried out several times by the Federated States of Thuringia (Weimar) and Saxony-Anhalt (Dessau).

The “Housing Cooperative Dessau” undertakes regular inspection of the *Houses with Balcony Access*, paying special attention to cubature, structure, material and façade surfaces. Cracks to the reinforced concrete sections of the access balconies were, for instance, detected and repaired.

The Federated State of Brandenburg and the Berlin Chamber of Crafts undertake regular inspection of the *ADGB Trade Union School*, paying special attention to the fabric of Meyer’s historic building, particularly the façades, roofs, design of interior spaces and fittings. They detected and fixed localised damp spots in the cellar and cracks in the floor slab of the foyer.

ICOMOS considers that the monitoring of buildings, open spaces and work in the proposed extension are fully documented, adequate and regularly carried out *in situ* by competent inspectors. Nevertheless, ICOMOS considers that the indicators could be slightly more detailed. Such indicators as “staff resources” or “events” are a bit vague and do not provide real information about the monitoring policy, even if the proposed extension is not to be widely opened to tourism due to its current use.

ICOMOS considers that the monitoring measures for the property are adequate in regards to building maintenance and landscape survey. ICOMOS recommends that the monitoring indicators be more looked into and detailed.

7 Conclusions

ICOMOS considers that the *Houses with Balcony Access* in Dessau and the *ADGB Trade Union School* in Bernau complement the serial property of the “Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar and Dessau”, which honoured the contribution of the Weimar *Art Schools* to the birth of the Modern Movement, and highlighted the *Bauhaus Building* in Dessau as a star of “white modernism”, under the leadership of Walter Gropius. The extension celebrates the work realised by the Bauhaus building department in the 1930s. It epitomizes collective and pedagogic work in architecture, and reflects a method based on science, function, economy and social dedication. Carefully designed, austere but dynamic and organic, Hannes Meyer’s buildings openly display structure and material. They help the understanding of the long-lasting influence of the Bauhaus on 20th century world architecture.

8 Recommendations

Recommendations with respect to inscription

ICOMOS recommends that the proposed extension of the Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar and Dessau, to include the Houses with Balcony Access in Dessau and the ADGB Trade Union School in Bernau and to become The Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar, Dessau and Bernau Germany, be approved on the basis of **criteria (ii), (iv) and (vi)**.

Recommended Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

Between 1919 and 1933, the Bauhaus School, based first in Weimar and then in Dessau, revolutionized architectural and aesthetic concepts and practices. The buildings created and decorated by the School’s professors (Henry van de Velde, Walter Gropius, Hannes Meyer, Laszlo Moholy-Nagy and Wassily Kandinsky) launched the Modern Movement, which shaped much of the architecture of the 20th century and beyond. Component parts of the property are the *Former Art School*, the *Applied Art School* and the *Haus am Horn* in Weimar, the *Bauhaus Building*, the group of seven *Masters’ Houses* and the *Houses with Balcony Access* in Dessau, and the *ADGB Trade Union School* in Bernau. The Bauhaus represents the desire to develop a modern architecture using the new materials of the time (reinforced concrete, glass, steel) and construction methods (skeleton construction, glass facades). Based on the principle of function, the form of the buildings rejects the traditional, historical symbols of representation. In a

severely abstract process, the architectural forms – both the subdivided building structure and the individual structural elements – are reduced to their primary, basic forms; they derive their expression, characteristic of Modernist architecture, from a composition of interconnecting cubes in suggestive spatial transparency.

The Bauhaus was a centre for new ideas and consequently attracted progressive architects and artists. The Bauhaus School has become the symbol of modern architecture, both for its educational theory and its buildings, throughout the world, and is inseparable from the name of Walter Gropius. Hannes Meyer, his successor as director of the Bauhaus, realized the idea of collective work on a building project within the framework of training in the Bauhaus’s building department. These buildings stand for an architectural quality that derives from the scientifically-based design methodology and the functional-economic design with social objectives. The Bauhaus itself and the other buildings designed by the masters of the Bauhaus are fundamental representatives of Classical Modernism and as such are essential components, which represent the 20th century. Their consistent artistic grandeur is a reminder of the still-uncompleted project for “modernity with a human face”, which sought to use the technical and intellectual resources at its disposal not in a destructive way but to create a living environment worthy of human aspirations.

For this reason, they are important monuments not only for art and culture, but also for the historic ideas of the 20th century. Even though the Bauhaus philosophy of social reform turned out to be little more than wishful thinking, its utopian ideal became reality through the form of its architecture. Its direct accessibility still has the power to fascinate and belongs to the people of all nations as their cultural heritage.

Criterion (ii): The Bauhaus buildings in Weimar, Dessau and Bernau are central works of European modern art, embodying an avant-garde conception directed towards a radical renewal of architecture and design in a unique and widely influential way. They testify to the cultural blossoming of Modernism, which began here, and has had an effect worldwide.

Criterion (iv): The Bauhaus itself and the other buildings designed by the masters of the Bauhaus are fundamental representatives of Classical Modernism and as such are essential components which represent the 20th century. The *Houses with Balcony Access* in Dessau and the *ADGB Trade Union School* are unique products of the Bauhaus’s goal of unity of practice and teaching.

Criterion (vi): The Bauhaus architectural school was the foundation of the Modern Movement which was to revolutionise artistic and architectural thinking and practice in the 20th century.

Integrity

The Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar, Dessau and Bernau includes all elements necessary to express the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, reflecting the development of Modernism, which was to have worldwide influence in the visual arts, applied art, architecture, and urban planning. The seven component parts are of adequate size to ensure protection of the features and processes which convey the significance of the property.

Authenticity

Although the three buildings in Weimar have undergone several alterations and partial reconstructions, their authenticity is attested (apart from the reconstructed murals in the two Schools). Similarly, despite the level of reconstruction, the *Bauhaus Building* in Dessau preserves its original appearance and atmosphere, largely thanks to the major restoration work carried out in 1976. As for the *Masters' Houses*, the restoration work carried out was based on thorough research and may be judged to meet the test of authenticity. The *Houses with Balcony Access* and the *ADGB Trade Union School* largely preserve their original state in terms of form, design, material and substance and thereby provide authentic evidence of the sole architectural legacies of the Bauhaus building department.

Management and protection requirements

The two former *Art Schools*, the *Applied Art School* and the *Haus am Horn* in Weimar are protected by listing in the Register of Historical Monuments of the Free State of Thuringia as unique historical monuments under the provisions of the Thuringian Protection of Historic Monuments Act of 7 January 1992. The Bauhaus, the *Masters' Houses* and the *Houses with Balcony Access* are listed in the equivalent Register of the State of Saxony-Anhalt (Protection of Historical Monuments Act of 21 October 1991). The *ADGB Trade Union School* is registered on the monuments list of the Federal State of Brandenburg and is therefore protected by its law for the protection and conservation of historical monuments of 22 July 1991. The *Bauhaus Building* and the *Masters' Houses* are used by the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, a public foundation. In Weimar, Dessau and Bernau the status of registered historic monuments guarantees that the requirements for monument protection will be taken into account in any regional development plans. There is also a buffer zone, reflecting a monument zone, for the protection of the World Heritage property.

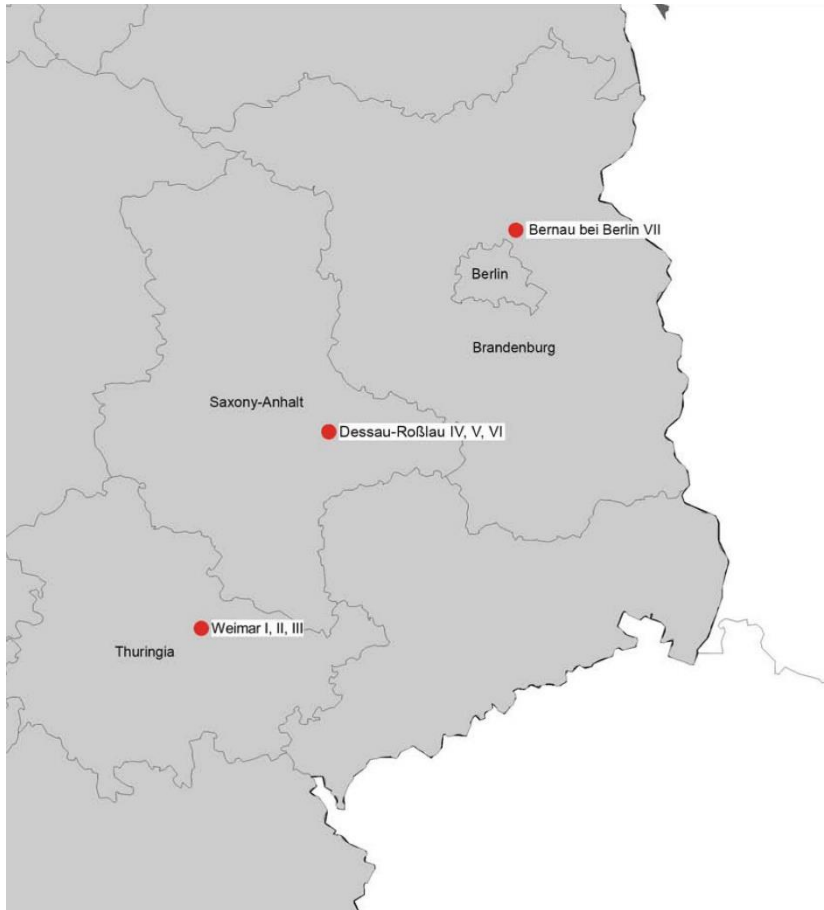
Overall responsibility for protection of the Weimar monuments is with the State Chancellery of the Free State of Thuringia, for those in Dessau with the Ministry of Culture of the State of Saxony-Anhalt, and in Bernau with the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of the State of Brandenburg, in all cases operating through their respective State Offices for the Preservation of Historical Monuments.

Direct management is assigned to the appropriate State and municipal authorities, operating under their respective protection regulations. In Dessau, the site of the *Bauhaus* itself and the *Masters' Houses* are managed by the Foundation Bauhaus Dessau (Stiftung Bauhaus Dessau). The respective monument protection acts of the Federal States ensure the conservation and maintenance of the objects and clarify areas and means of action. The largely identical aims, regulations and principles of these acts establish a uniform legislative basis for the management of the components at the different sites. A steering group with representatives of the owners and the authorities involved acts as a communication platform and coordinates overarching activities concerning compliance with the World Heritage Convention or the research into and the presentation of World Heritage.

Additional recommendations

ICOMOS recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

- a) Considering the restoration of the glazing of the staircases on four of the *Houses with Balcony Access*,
- b) Giving special attention to the *ADGB Trade Union School's* surrounding landscape,
- c) Detailing the monitoring indicators;



Map showing the location of the nominated properties



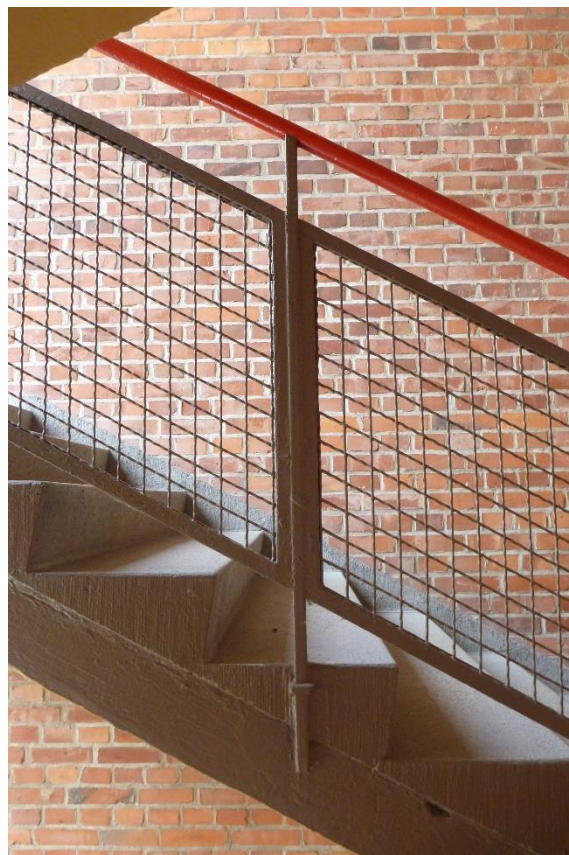
Overall view of the ADGB Trade Union School



Canteen – ADGB Trade Union School



Houses with Balcony Access



Detail of interior staircase