

A Time Journey through Solar Architecture – 1900 into the Future

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ABSTRACT: Many roads lead to Rome. Some, however, lead to other destinations or dead-ends. From those routes which do lead to Rome, some are more direct, others round-about. In order to chose the most direct route, it can be helpful to reflect on the route already taken, it may offer clues to the route ahead. This is the goal of our time journey through the history of solar architecture. The journey starts at the beginning of the 19th century and ends with a forecast of the future. It is divided into epochs defined by technological and political developments which had a profound impact on design. The route starts in the USA, hits a dead end and proceeds further in Europe with stops in Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Along the way we observe how residential architecture evolves and is cognisant or ignorant of energy as a key design element.

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