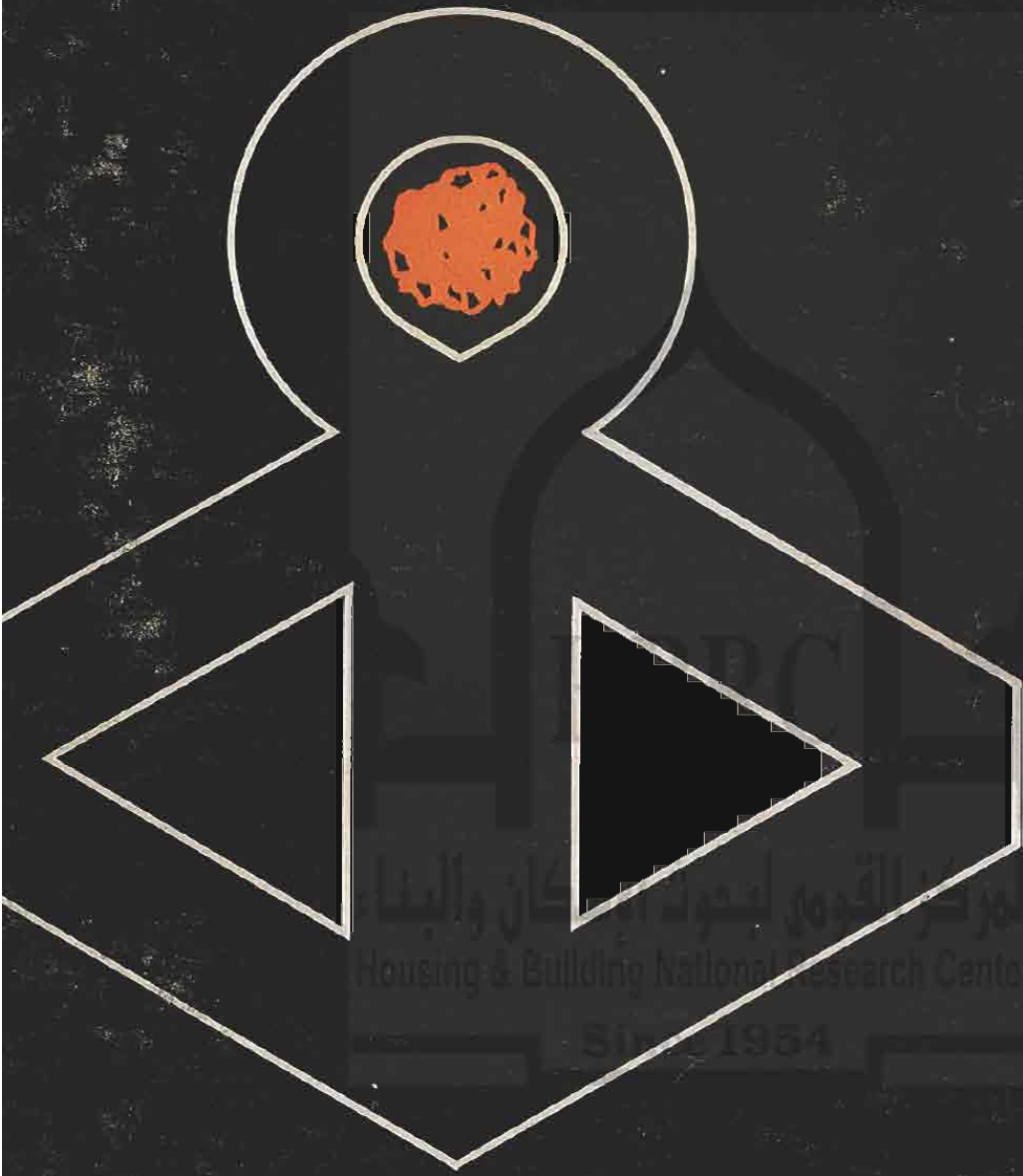


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مركز الأبحاث القومي للإسكان والبناء
Housing & Building National Research Center
Since 1954

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLBUILDING NEWS

International School Building News 5/1969/1 and 2

Special Edition:
International School Building Documentation
Summary and Comparison

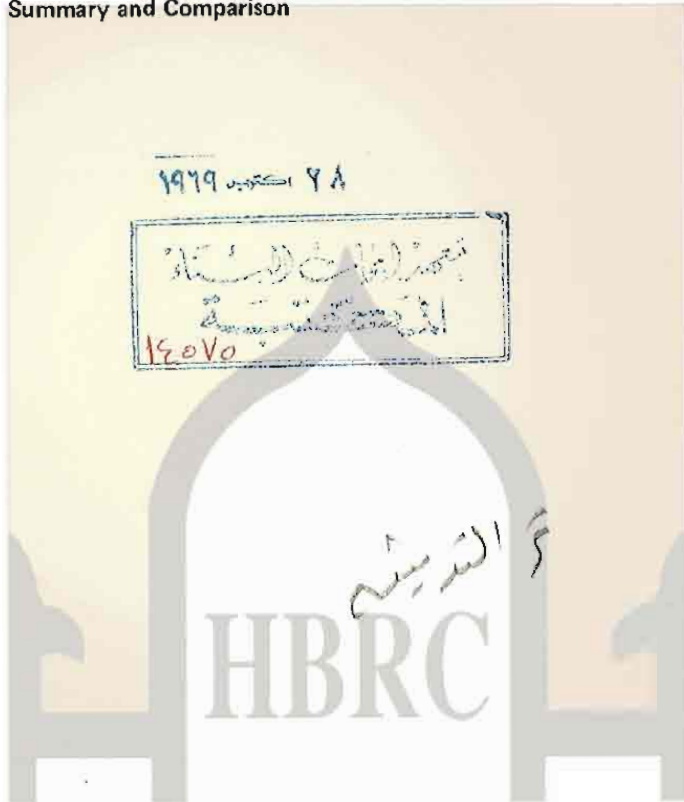


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Preface by the Editors

In the years between 1962 and 1968, the Information Centre for School Building and Bouwcentrum compiled a documentation of buildings for primary education in the following countries:

England and Wales, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Hamburg, Nordrhein-Westfalen and Belgium.

This serial publication in the English language has been printed in a limited edition and made available to school-building experts in many countries. A shortened version of these booklets is now available in the present "Summary and Comparison".

Certain observations must be made for a better understanding:

1. For practical reasons, this summary has been inserted in the periodical *International School Building News*, which has been published and distributed by Information Centre for Schoolbuilding and Bouwcentrum since 1965.
2. The contents of this summarising publication are determined almost entirely by the data included in the booklets issued earlier. Before publication, its text was submitted to those authorities in the countries concerned who assisted in the compilation of the publication.
3. The documentation was considered to be out of date on certain points. With the aid of the comments received we therefore introduced amendments in several places.
4. We emphasise the fact that this publication too, is a record of extant buildings and procedures. Although attention could be paid in some instances to future developments, they do not constitute the main interest. We refer to publications in various countries and to the reports of the conferences held in Austria in 1968 and the Netherlands in 1969, which appeared under the auspices of the Council of Europe. *International School Building News* gives up certain of its numbers to these important conferences.

The Editors were of the opinion that they had best refrain from giving their comments, since the readers of *International Schoolbuilding News*, who in general are specialists in the fields concerned, are well able to draw their own conclusions.

We underline, perhaps unnecessarily, that the comparison of buildings and procedures in different countries is a doubtful matter because both building traditions and methods are different for each country while even groups of countries showing a strong likeness to each other have differences in this respect.

This therefore should be kept in mind with regard to tables 3, 4, 5 and 6 in Chapter V.

In table 5, the surfaces of the documented schools are compared, namely the surfaces of the educational rooms and the total surface of the school.

In all probability the surface area per pupil in school provides a more reliable indication than the total surface of a school per pupil.

In the latter figure indeed some countries include also such rooms as dining rooms and kitchens.

The great range of the sizes of the educational rooms in the different countries is remarkable, it varies from 2 sq m per pupil in the Netherlands to more than 4 sq m per pupil in Hamburg.

The percentage division used in the table between surfaces of educational rooms and those of adjoining rooms also requires careful interpretation. These figures provide a certain hold in the evaluation of the efficiency of a design, but they do not constitute a criterion for the assessment of educational value. The absolute figures given in table V, on the other hand, do.

The percentage proportion between educational surface and adjoining spaces in England and Wales and in the Netherlands contrasts favourably with that of the other countries.

Chapter 4 mentions under d. Development Work certain recent developments that are being realised in the United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands, Nordrhein-Westfalen and Belgium.

For a complete picture we refer to the original series, the separate volumes of which are obtainable from Bouwcentrum:

Primary schools in England and Wales, the Netherlands
Price Dfl 7.50

Primary schools in Denmark
Price Dfl 5.00