



Drawing by Thanong Poonteerakul

Figure 8.68 A bird's eye view of the Stadtvillen an der Rauchstrasse.

response to the massive, Pruitt-Igoe type housing schemes of the 1960s and 1970s in Germany (particularly in East Berlin).

Nine new buildings form the group with the tenth being the previously existing Norwegian Botschaft that encloses the southwestern corner (see Figure 8.68). Each building is slightly set back from the street with a lawn and avenue of trees on the street front. The 1-metre high and 4-metre wide slopes around each building site provide a platform for the apartment blocks and privacy for the ground floor apartments. The ratio of distance between buildings and building height is 1.3 to 1.5. The purpose was to balance the privacy and natural surveillance requirements of the residents. The buildings are situated around a rectangular internal garden of lawns, trees and a children's playground. A rectangular pathway

with a semi-circular end parallels the buildings and loops around this internal court. Pedestrian/vehicular roads cut across the court in a north-south direction.

The buildings of the complex are a variation of the historic building types – embassies and expensive villas – that had existed on the site before the war. Other than the building in the northwestern corner that matches the Norwegian Botschaft in massing and the 'headhouse' designed by Rob Krier all the other six buildings are variations on a specified building envelop in the form of a cube. They were designed by renowned architects: Henry Nielebock, Giorgio Grassi, Brenner/Tonon, Francy Valentiny/Hubaert Hermann, Hans Holein and by Rob Krier himself. The headhouse consists of two cubes linked by a curved component concave to the interior of the block. The main entrance to the