Le Corbusier and the Maisons Jaoul

By Caroline Maniaque Benton

PRINCETON ARCHITECTURAL PRESS, United States, 2009. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 256 x 192 mm. Language: French, English. Brand New Book. In 1955, just as the world was pigeonholing him as the high priest of modernism, Le Corbusier shocked the architecture world with weekend houses. Built of brick, concrete, stone, and timber, the Maisons Jaoul are the antithesis of everything commonly referred to as Corbusian. Their surprising scale gives them a magnificent sculptural presence and the uncharacteristically raw materiality of their exteriors—soozing mortar, rough brick—gives them a deliberately crude, almost craftlike, appearance.

Le Corbusier himself never explained this radical change in direction, leaving this design a mystery for future generations to decipher. Le Corbusier and the Maisons Jaoul is the first book-length, detailed examination of these lesser-known, yet architecturally significant houses. Built for Andrè Jaoul and his son and their wives, the Maisons Jaoul encompassed four years of intense design activity. Using previously unpublished sources, author Caroline Maniaque Benton thoroughly captures Le Corbusier’s extraordinary journey of discovery. Valuable insights are gleaned from conversations between clients, draughtsmen, and craftsmen; firsthand documents; and letters in Le Corbusier’s own hand. The Maisons Jaoul emerge as both a fundamental reconsideration of domestic living and a radical reassessment...

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This publication is great. It really is packed with knowledge and wisdom. Your daily life period will probably be transform when you complete reading this article book.

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Letter from Le Corbusier to André Jaoul, May 1953. Extract from Claviers de couleurs, Basel, Salubra, 1953. The two Salubra albums (1931 and 1959) assemble wallpaper samples designed by Le Corbusier and offer the possibility of choosing color combinations with the help of special eyeglasses and a "keyboard of colors." Living room in House A, 1986. By the late 1920s, Le Corbusier had understood that "color modifies space, classifies objects, simulates physiological reactions and has a strong effect on our sensibilities." Extracts from "La première résidence créée par Le Corbusier depuis Maisons Jaoul" are a celebrated pair of houses in the upmarket Paris suburb of Neuilly-sur-Seine, designed by Le Corbusier and built in 1954-56. They are among his most important post-war buildings and feature a rugged aesthetic of unpainted cast concrete "béton brut" and roughly detailed brickwork. Text from Wikipedia. Cemal Emden. Add to collection. Cemal Emden. Add to collection. Maisons Jaoul, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France, 1951. This was one of the most difficult postwar problems which Le Corbusier has had to solve. The rulings concerning the ground were contradictory, the programme was complicated, and the budget was unavoidably limited by the outrageous cost of private building. Le Corbusier decided to use the commonest and crudest materials—bricks, tiles, and vaults formed with tiles as permanent shuttering (Catalan vaults), the roofs covered with grass. The Modulor was used to determine the principal dimensions, spans of 7 ft 6 in. and 12 ft and a height to the soffit.