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SCANDINAVIA CHAPTER

The following are notes taken by Peter Kellow during the presentation

It is mainly Norway that is represented by this chapter

Norway has a good economy and is building more than ever and it is importing Modernism

Traditionalism is found only in small and local groups

The centre of Oslo is being developed and it is all Modernist and “truly horrible”. It is large scale and hostile from ground level

Råkvåg fishing village is an example of a non-urban tradition

Hasselvik is another fishing village. People are leaving such places

Inland towns created by the railway are thriving but are being invaded by new shopping centres and sprawl. The styles used are confusing

Voting in public surveys shows a preference for traditional wooden construction and that high density is acceptable in the right style

Rakkestad is a new “traditional” style town built on a small scale, but there is very little of this in Norway

Norway has a fine tradition of traditional wooden hotels built in the 1860s that are very successful such as Fleischer’s Hotel, Voss, and the Union Hotel, Øye. The former was extended with a Modernist extension whilst the latter now has had a traditional extension approved. The “heritage expert” objected to this on the grounds that you will not be able to tell the difference between the new and the old

A lack of democracy like this where the people are denied their preferences would not be supported in any other field

But Modernism is seen as the new revolution. Traditionalism is seen as a copy of the past.

