Domestic Annexes: Genesis and Development

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Abstract: Annexes are architectural spaces that developed within contemporary domestic buildings (villas). They first appeared as a physical modification in response to newly introduced needs, or as correction to lack of identification of certain users' needs by the designer.

The goal of this research in to study the historical development of annexes, in terms of their beginnings, the factors that led to their adoption, their spatial description and classification, in addition to the regulations that govern their use. This research attempts as well to conduct a spatial and behavioral analysis of the activities that take place is annexes.

Historical review shows that annexes were first used after the introduction of "villas" in the fifties of the 20th century in the housing complex of Aramco in the Eastern Province, whose architects designed the Malaz housing project in Riyadh, which eventually became the single-family house prototype instead of traditional houses.

Many changes were contemporaneous with the period in which villas became fashionable, but most remarkably were social, and is evident in guest entertainment that led to an increasing need for the use of annexes to house such an activity. The analysis of this activity follows the model which Amos Rappoport presented in 1990.