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(Ge)Schichten

What was.

What is.

What's left?

Research

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1. Forward

Planning and Building Phases

1948
Opening of international airport
Zurich-Kloten

1960's
Housing and employee in hospitality
shortage in Zurich



Previous housing block
(Source: Baugeschichtliches Archiv)

1970's
Construction of express roads
(Bucheeggstrasse, Rosengarten, Milch-
bucktunnel)



(ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, Bildarchiv /
Fotograf: Baumann, Heinz)

1980's
Youth riots and open drug scene
Extension to Jugendhaus
Drahtschmidli *Dynamo 1988*

1961

Pre Planning project Hotel Zürich
by Werner Frey
Neumühlequai 42, 8006 Zurich

1962

Bewilligung Hotel Zürich

1965

New project
by Lehmann, Spögler+Morf Architekten

1967

Demolition work of housing block

1972

Opening of Hotel Zürich

1985-1990

Planning of extension *La Résidence*
Wasserwerkstrasse 6-8, 8006 Zurich

Renovation of ground floor in Hotel
Zürich by Morf+Spögler Architekten

1990

Opening of La Résidence

Mid 1990's

Properties for sale

1995
«Cleaning» of the open drug scene
Platzspitz Park, Limmat



Open drug scene at Limmat
(Source: Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv)



(Source: Baugeschichtliches Archiv)

2019
Covid-19 pandemic



Mid 1990's

New property owner
American investor family Stawski

1997

Marriott International
Franchise contract for 25 years

1997

Complete replacement of A&E and
electrical fittings
Soft renovation of ground floor area

2005

Renovation ground floor
by raum concept, Munich

2007

Closing swimming pool and transfor-
mation into new Millennium Ballroom
by RBM Architekten, CH

2015

Renovation Guest Rooms + Ballrooms,
new carpet design in buildings
by Carbone Design Interior, CH

2016

Replacement of ground floor windows

2019

M Club Lounge
by JOI-Design, GER

2019

Renovation ground floor
by Living Design, SWE

2023

50 year anniversary

2. Typology

Business Hotel

The hotel is the giant metaphor for modernity: anonymous rooms for anonymous and rootless lives. The Business Hotel originated in the 19th century in America. The first example is the Exchange Coffee House in Boston from 1809 which featured an assortment of public, social and business functions.¹

The development of cities, the means of transportation and global interconnectivity favoured people to travel around the world. Business hotels became centers for business and retail activities in the cities. Due to their location, use regulation can have important ramifications in the design and development. The ground and first floor became important spaces for *retail continuity* aka importance of importing new programs to offer to the city.²

The hotel as an operating machine had to be optimized architecturally. Due to tight urban sites, the tower with a base became a predominant typology. The size of the tower was defined by the operational costs in relation to profitability: The dimension and heights were determined by load bearing construction elements, a central core position with short distance corridors and efficient layout of bedrooms for operations, a base with public and social functions for entertainment of the hotel guests as well as the city. It was made possible by constant new technical and technological innovations, from cold and warm water systems, electricity to the passenger lift which influenced new services (eg. a la carte menu, phone calls to the reception) and equipment (en-suite bathrooms).

Therefore, the business hotel was and is a very expensive typology due to:

1. City center location and high property values
2. Tight urban sites and space sparsity
3. Complexity of operations, facilities and services
4. Staff management costs

[1] Walter A. Rutes, Richard H Penner, Lawrence Adams, *Hotel Design - Planning and Development*, 2. *Downtown Hotels*, p.13.

[2] Walter A. Rutes, Richard H Penner, Lawrence Adams, *Hotel Design - Planning and Development*, 2. *Downtown Hotels*, p.17.

International Hotel Chain

With the start of mass tourism, the rich made up a declining proportion of hotel guests which turned away from the grand hotels towards the new modern way of living. Standardization responded to the need to reorganize the business of the hotel to suit to the broader customer base and generate efficient economies to lower the price of accommodations.

The first national hotel chain originated in America under the name «Quality Courts United». The owners referred business to each other's hotels and established standards for their properties in order to better meet the needs and expectations of their guests and recap profits due to the high costs. The chain became an influential force in the lodging industry and established a reputation to provide value-driven, affordable yet high-quality/ luxurious services in city centers. Technological innovations influenced the development of better customer services. National chains spread internationally.³

The international hotel chain is characterized by standardized services which vary from customer service to the interior design. The interior design of hospitality evolved through strategies to define luxury amenities and develop a strong brand identity that is recognizable around the globe. Ian Schrager, chairman of Ian Schrager Hotel, criticized the generic aspect of hotel interiors in business hotels that became merely a place to sleep and not to live. "The best surprise is no surprise" - However, this describes the value of the design strategies.

3. Legacy

Hotel Zürich Gesamtkunstwerk

Opened 1972

Designed by Lehmann, Spögler + Morf Architekten

Hotel Zürich AG (Örlikon-Bührle AG, Swissair, Eidgenössische Bank Beteiligungs- und Finanzgesellschaft, Gebrüder Volkart-Holding AG)

The interview with the architects of the Hotel Zürich, Mr. Kurt Spögler and Mrs. Susan Spögler, who was in charge of the interior design, demonstrated conclusively that the first high-rise hotel in the luxury business category in Zurich has been designed as a «Gesamtkunstwerk». From the building down to the interior fittings, every detail was well thought of and designed by the architects. Their reference was the SAS Royal Hotel in Stockholm by Arne Jacobsen. During this period, public buildings were regarded as «Gesamtkunstwerke». Mr. Spögler emphasised that the considerations within the entire building, from the structure to the design of the carpet and radio, was important to him and he took great pleasure in drawing and designing everything by hand.

Characteristic of the 1970's, Hotel Zürich was modern in design, characterized by red and orange tones, round shapes in furniture and fittings, the use of wooden and metal (ceiling) panelling, the use of concrete, striking lights, plush carpets and especially the «Kunst am Bau» - to name a few examples.

The Spöglers had not been in the building since the Hotel Zürich was taken over by the international hotel company Marriott and were extremely shocked by how little has been preserved of their original design. Mr. Spögler in particular found the changes to the structure of the building, the extension to the Ballroom, «very terrible» and was outraged by RBM Architekten.

(Image: Archive Spögler)



1972 - 1997

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Marriott Hotel International Hotel Chain

Opened 1997

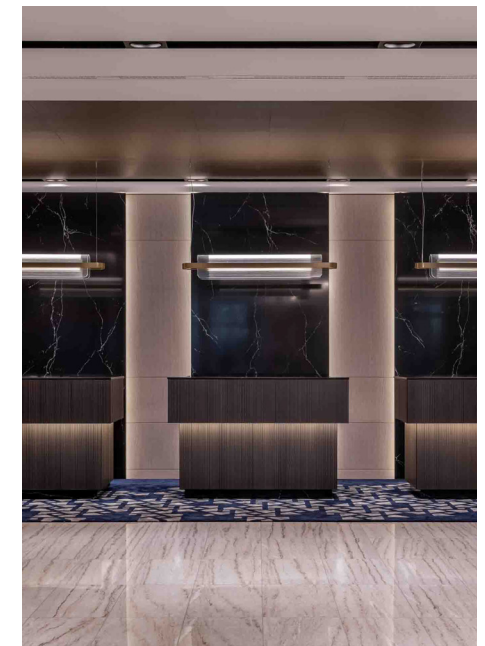
Marriott Hotel

New Hotel Zürich AG (Matthias Prager, President, Irene Fogel, Abraham Jankel Stawski, Marc Bloch), Engineering Team Representative Mr. Taycimen, General Manager Marriott Hotel Daniel Lehmann

The communication with an international American company has its limits due to confidentiality. During official tours with the managers, only certain information was allowed to be released. For the Marriott Hotel, impeccable service and the resulting operation from the building and the staff for the satisfaction and demand of the guest is most important. Cleanliness, technology, wellbeing, sustainability, locality and integration with the city of Zurich are the main motives. The interior design as a brand means that the design and services are the same/ similar worldwide and no matter where in the world you go to a Marriott brand, you recognize everything and feel at home. Customer satisfaction is most important.

The manager of the Team of Engineering Mr. Taycimen, who has been working in the building for 26 years, works on behalf of Marriott for Hotel Zürich AG. In his opinion, the training to understand the building takes at least 3 years. That's why he knows the building inside out.

(Image: Marriott.com)



1997 - 2021

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Brand and category

Hotel brands: the name on the hotel's sign

Hotel category: a classification for reward night pricing only

Marriott Portfolio is divided into 30 different brands, each one with their own design and philosophy. The brands are what determines what the experience in that hotel is meant to be.

The categories go from select, to premium and luxury. Each category is defined: The higher the category, the more individualization in the design is desired, but always in compliance with the design and brand standards and brand strategies. The design guidelines and standards are developed at the headquarters in the USA, where a large team called Global Design Strategies is dedicated exclusively to the brand and design strategies. For some continent-based initiatives, local headquarters teams are also involved.

Luxury	Bespoke and superb amenities and services
Premium	Sophisticated and thoughtful amenities and services
Select	Smart and easy amenities and services
Distinctive	Trendy and modern, a bit more of a hip and young vibe
Classic	More traditional and less edgy/innovative

Global Design Team and Brand Identity

Global Design associates provide input and advice regarding selection of the project architects and interior designers. They also lead the engineering, hotel openings, operations, fire protection and life safety, and brand disciplines in reviewing and commenting on hotel design, schematic, and construction plans. Global Design monitors the progress of ongoing development to ensure it aligns with agreed upon plans and shares best practices across our owner and franchisee community.

In the Select Category category the Global Design team provides prototype plans and specification packages. In the Premium Category, which includes Marriott as a brand, the Global Design team only provides the strategy and works out the concepts with the commissioned design offices within the framework of the design strategy. Experienced international interior design offices and hospitality architects are favoured.

Renovations and Lifecycle

The rooms in the Marriott Hotel undergo every 7 years a soft renovation and every 14 years a complete renovation. This is on the one hand due to **abrasion** of surfaces, furnitures and fittings. Carpets get used, chairs break and fittings stained. The hotel guests expects clean and brand new rooms. Decay is not expected from a premium hotel. On the other hand **brand relevance** plays a crucial role. Brand strategies naturally change over time as guest profiles change with generations and rapid advances in technology, which influence ever evolving expectations and demands of customers.

	CLASSIC	DISTINCTIVE
LUXURY		
PREMIUM		
SELECT		

2025 Sustainability & Social Impact Goals



NURTURE

Nurture Our World

- ▶ **GOAL: By 2025, contribute 15M hours of volunteer service to support our company priorities and community engagement strategy**
Children & Youth: 50% of our volunteer hours will serve children and youth, including those at risk and disadvantaged, by developing their skills, employability and supporting their vitality
- ▶ **GOAL: By 2025, 80% of our managed hotels will have participated in community service activities**
By 2025, 50% of franchised hotels will have participated in community service activities
- ▶ **By 2025, 50% of all reported volunteer activities will be skills-based**



EMPOWER

Empower Through Opportunity

- ▶ **GOAL: By 2025, invest at least \$35M to increase and deepen programs and partnerships that develop hospitality skills and opportunity among youth, diverse populations, women, people with disabilities, veterans and refugees**
- ▶ **GOAL: By 2025, achieve gender representation parity for global company leadership**



SUSTAIN

Sustain Responsible Operations

- ▶ **GOAL: Reduce environmental footprint by 15% | 30% | 45% | 50% across the portfolio by 2025** (from a 2015 baseline, for water/carbon/waste/food waste)
Water: Reduce water intensity by 15%
Carbon: Reduce carbon intensity by 30%
» Commit to analyze the opportunity to set a science-based target
Waste: Reduce waste to landfill by 45%. Reduce food waste by 50%
Renewable energy: Achieve a minimum of 30% renewable electricity use
- ▶ **GOAL: 100% of MI hotels will have a sustainability certification, and 650 hotels will pursue LEED certification or equivalent by 2025**
Sustainability Certifications:
» By 2025, 100% of hotels will be certified to a recognized sustainability standard
Sustainable Building Standards:
» By 2020, LEED certification or equivalent will be incorporated into building design and renovation standards, including select service prototype solutions for high growth markets*
» By 2020, 100% of all prototypes will be designed for LEED certification*
» By 2025, MI will partner with owners to develop 250 adaptive reuse projects
MI's new global HQ will achieve a minimum of LEED Gold certification
- ▶ **GOAL: Responsibly source 95% in our Top 10 priority categories by 2025**
Responsible Sourcing: By 2025, responsibly source 95%, by spend, of its top 10 categories
» Top 10 priority categories include: animal proteins (inclusive of beef, eggs, lamb, pork, and poultry), bottled water, cleaning supplies, cocoa, coffee, guest room amenities, paper products, seafood, sugar, textiles.
» Marriott International is committed to sourcing 100% of our eggs (shell, liquid, and egg products) from cage-free sources throughout our global operations for all owned, managed and franchised properties by the end of 2025. [Read more.](#) »
Supplier Requirements/Reviews:
» By 2020, require all contracted suppliers in the top 10 categories to provide information on product sustainability, inclusive of social and human rights impacts*
» By 2025, MI will require all centrally-contracted suppliers to provide this information
Local Sourcing: By 2025, locally source 50% of all produce, in aggregate (measured by total spend)
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (FF&E): By 2025, ensure that the top 10 FF&E product categories sourced are in the top tier of the Marriott Sustainability Assessment Program (MSAP)
- ▶ **GOAL: By 2020, all properties will have a Serve 360 section on the marriott.com website with hotel impact metrics***



WELCOME

Welcome All and Advance Human Rights


- ▶ **GOAL: By 2025, 100% of on-property associates will have completed human rights training, including on human trafficking awareness, responsible sourcing and recruitment policies and practices**
Scale the training and resources developed by MI and its community partners to the broader industry to create greater awareness, while developing updated trainings and resources to meet evolving needs and emerging trends
- ▶ **GOAL: By 2025, enhance or embed human rights criteria in our recruitment and sourcing policies and work with our industry to address human rights risks in the construction phase**
- ▶ **GOAL: By 2025, promote a peaceful world through travel by investing at least \$500,000 in partnerships that drive, evaluate and elevate travel and tourism's role in cultural understanding**



SERVE 360
DOING GOOD IN EVERY DIRECTION


*Delayed due to COVID-19

Marriott INTERNATIONAL Global Procurement Supplier Conduct Guidelines




Animal Welfare

Marriott is committed to the humane treatment of animals and recognizes that animal welfare is crucial to safe and responsible operations, entertainment and food and product supply chain. Suppliers should recognize their responsibility for the ethical treatment of animals in their care and in the care of their suppliers, employees and contractors. We expect our suppliers, vendors and business partners to comply with local standards and encourage them to surpass, where feasible, international standards on the ethical, humane and legal treatment of animals. Further information can be found in Marriott's Animal Welfare Position Statement.




Responsible Sourcing of Materials

Marriott is committed to the legal and responsible sourcing of its products and services and will not knowingly purchase products made with illegally harvested, produced and/or traded materials. Marriott expects suppliers to source raw and other materials from responsible and legal sources and exercise due diligence on the materials in their supply chain. Seafood-specific information can be found in Marriott's Responsible Seafood Position Statement.



Supplier Diversity

Marriott encourages suppliers to include businesses owned by individuals from historically disadvantaged communities, such as people with disabilities, LGBT people, ethnic minorities, veterans, and women, in the selection process for contracting opportunities, and when possible, to track and report spend with these diverse-owned firms.



Management System

Marriott is committed to upholding the highest standards regarding the social and environmental integrity of our supply chain. Marriott expects that our suppliers implement or maintain, as applicable, management systems that facilitate compliance with all applicable laws, identify and mitigate related operational risks, and undertake continuous improvement as appropriate. Marriott encourages suppliers to inform and/or train relevant staff on the aforementioned subjects and to track and communicate progress regarding these efforts. Marriott encourages suppliers to have a process for timely corrective action of any violations or non-compliance identified and provide its employees with an anonymous complaint mechanism to report workplace grievances.

4. (Ge)Schichten

Contractual Obligations

Building Shell

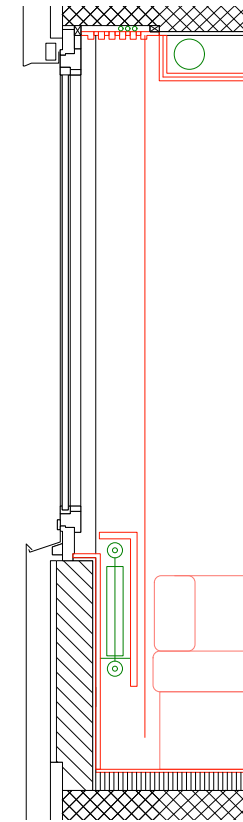
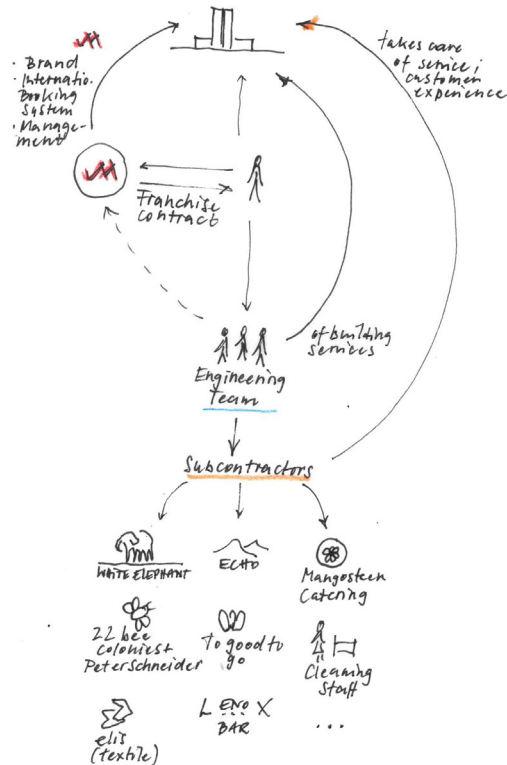
The owner (Hotel Zürich AG, Company limited by shares (AG)) is responsible for the building shell which includes the structure, hard surfaces (flooring, ceilings), technical, electrical and sanitary services. When the building was acquired mid 1990s, the new owner completely renewed and modernized the technical equipment, including new sprinkler systems, sanitary facilities and ventilation systems.

Interior Shell

Marriott International is responsible for the internal shell of the building and can perform soft changes at their costs, such as changes to the wall surfaces, fittings, furniture etc. Any changes made to the or consequently effecting the building structure need to be permitted by the owner as it is their investment.

Building Services

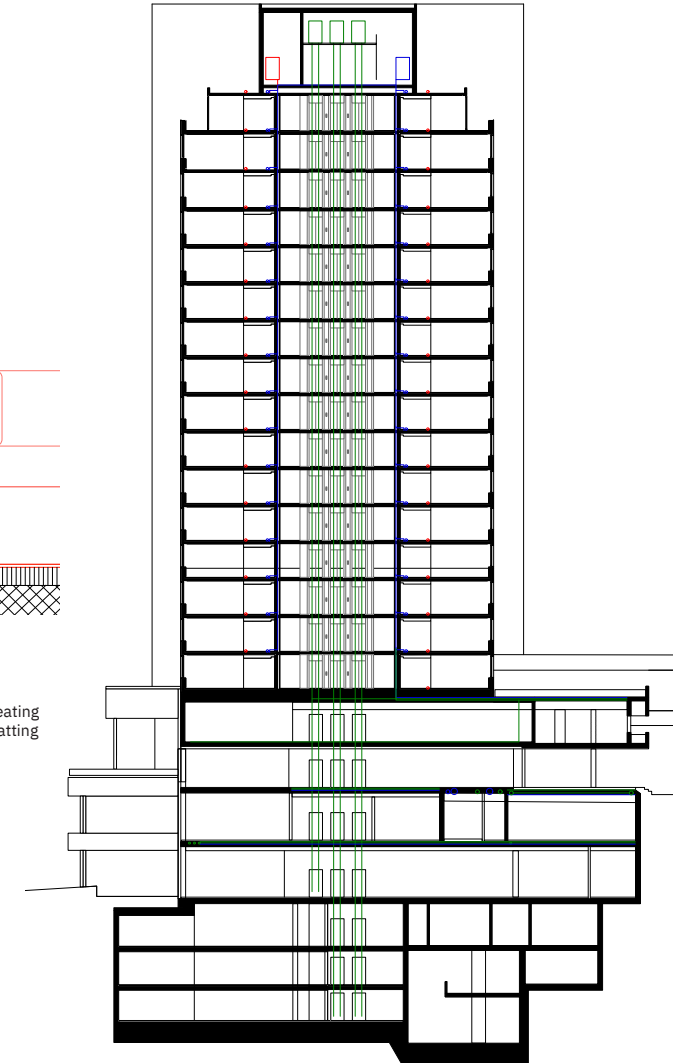
The Team of Engineering, Mr. Taycimen and his team, are responsible for the building services. They represent the building on behalf of Marriott who work for Hotel Zürich AG.



Building Shell
 Eloxidized aluminium sheathing
 Insulation, glass-wool matting
 Brick masonry
 Rendering
 Reinforced concrete
 Radiator

Interior Shell
 Suspended ceiling
 Wallpaper, Paint
 Carpet
 Furniture

Building services



Structural Performance

The load-bearing structure of the hotel is made out of reinforced concrete, poured on-site. The load-bearing shafts of the 65 m high high-rise tower are arranged on the outside, which on the one hand allow for a flexible floor plan and on the other hand distinctively characterize the appearance of the building's height.

The height of the building was limited due to building regulations. Nevertheless, the effect of the tower's height was particularly important to the architects, which is why the technical rooms were built on top of the building to elongate its appearance.¹

[1] Information from the conversation with K. Spögl.



(Image: ETH Bibliothek)

Concrete surfaces: Handmade labour and artworks as invisible shield

The surfaces of the exterior facade, the central lift core and the installation shafts are exposed concrete surfaces that are bush-hammered throughout the entire building. Some of the exposed concrete surfaces can still be found in the present form. Especially in the base tract of the building within the core zone, the surfaces can be identified.

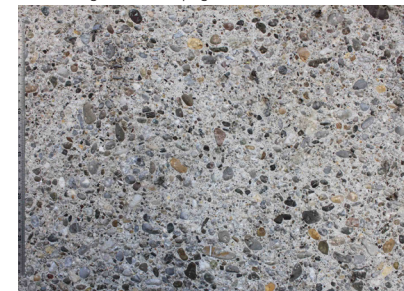
According to the architect Spögl, the surfaces were bush-hammered by hand. It is noticeable that the bush-hammered concrete is covered at the lift core in the representative entrance hall and from the 2nd floor onwards not anymore. In the horizontal section of the building, it is also noticeable that the surfaces on which the artworks by Erwin Rehmann have been preserved have not been changed.



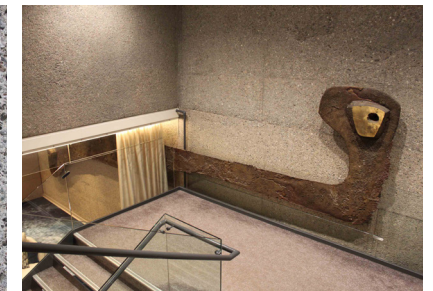
1972 (Image: Archive Spögl)



2021



Facade, 2021



Erwin Rehmann, Ground Floor, 2021

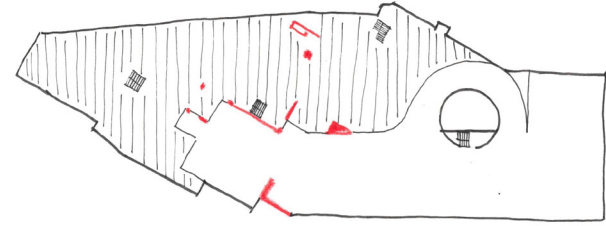


Staircase, 2021

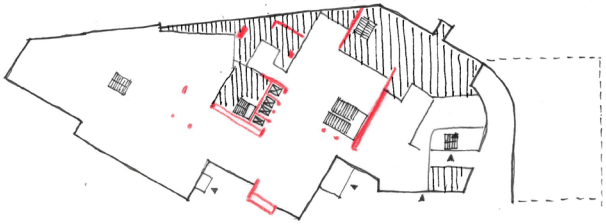


Erwin Rehmann, First Floor, 2021

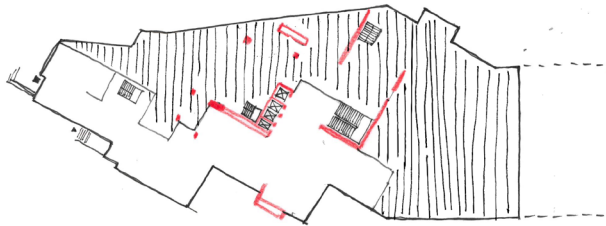
Spatial Relations



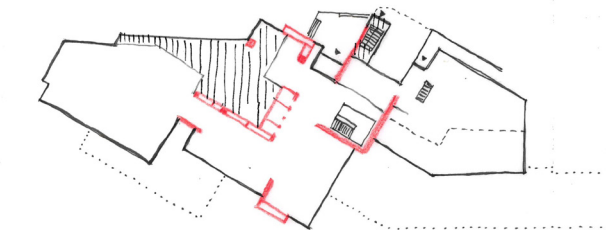
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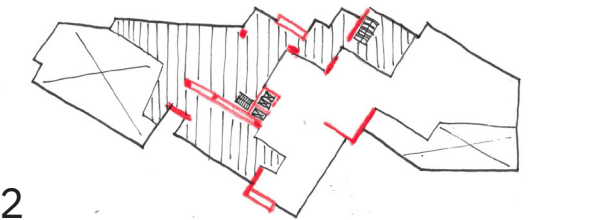
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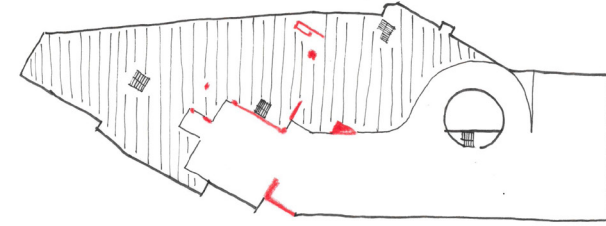


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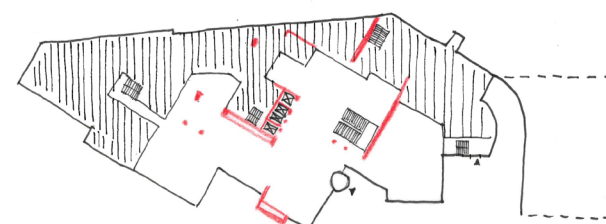
1972

18

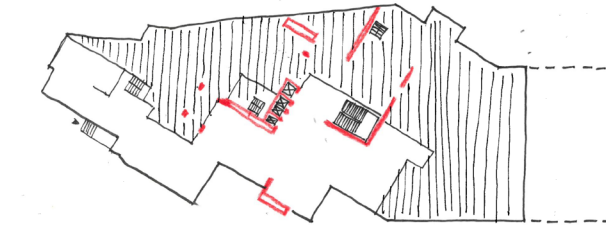
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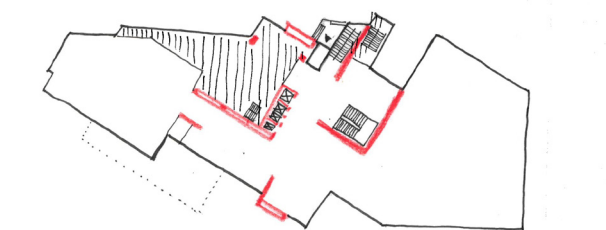
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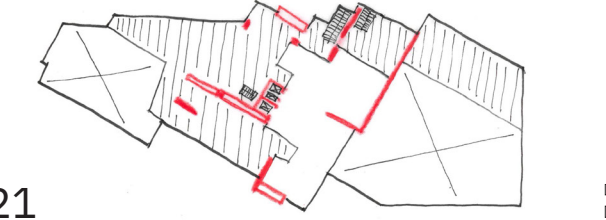
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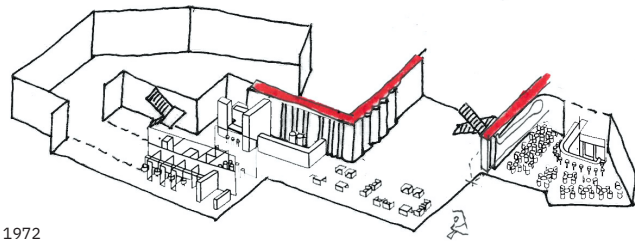
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2021

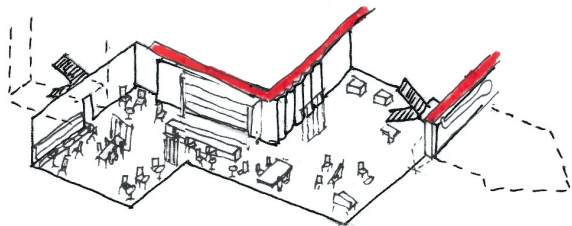
Public
Private Hotel

6. Appendix - Whats' left?

Ground Floor



1972



2021

1.



(Image: Archive Spögler)

Entrance from Neumühlequai
Erwin Rehmann, Swiss sculptor, created six casted bronze sculptures worth CHF 200.000,- CHF for the Hotel Zürich in the 1970's. They represent the departure, journey and arrival.

„It started at the entrance to the Hotel Zürich: There was a wonderful sculpture on the left side [by Erwin Rehmann]. Then you go into the hotel, come up the stairs and there are more works of art. And then you arrive on the second floor, in the foyer with the view over the Limmat. There is another large sculpture by Rehmann. I thought back then that if you start with the art in the entrance, the experience has to continue up in the building.“ - K. Spögler ¹

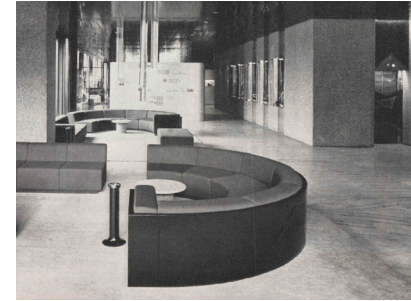
[1] Information from the conversation with K. Spögler



(Image: SRF Archiv 1972)



A. Greatroom



(Image: Archive Spögler)

Entrance Hall

Hotel Zürich (1972-1997*)
The entrance hall with reception, telephone station and lounge opens to the south towards the adjacent street, the river Limmat and Platzspitz Park. The entrance hall was kept in brown tones: Brown wooden fittings, White marble floor from Cristallina Virginia (Canton Ticino), bush-hammered concrete surfaces, Floor-to-ceiling windows, Blue and yellow enamelled lift doors by Hanny Fries were a colourful feature. Brown carpets formed islands, with seating arrangements in blue fabric and elongated light sources drawn down from the ceiling.



(Image: tripadvisor.de)

Lobby (1997 - 2019*)

In 1997 Marriott International took over Hotel Zürich. The lobby was renovated.

*Date not confirmed.



(Image: Marriott.com)

Greatroom (2019 -)

During the pandemic in 2019 and resulting closure of the Marriott Hotel, the reception and lobby were renovated and transformed into the new greatroom. ¹

2006 Marriott evolved its design from the lobby into the greatroom. It focused on transforming the lobby from a 'no longer popular formal living room' to a space that can be tailored to the guest own needs. Instead of having architectural barriers, zones are created and form spaces that can be

created and form spaces that can be adapted to the guests activity (casual dining, meet and work, private time etc.). Experts from Marriott's Global Design team followed business travelers as they went about their days and conducted interviews. The new zones are the Individual, the social zone and the business zone.

[1] Press release 12 january 2006. (Source: hospitalitynet.org)

B. Reception



(Image: Archive Spögler)

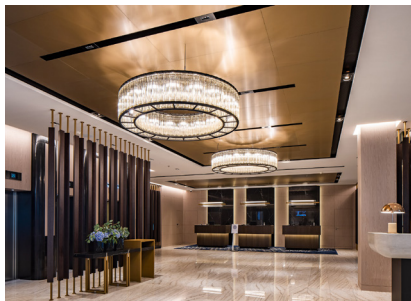
Hotel Zürich (1972-1997*)

The reception included a telephone station. The furniture was made out of stained Wengé wood.



(Image: tripadvisor.de)

Marriott Hotel (2005- 2019)



Greatroom (2019 -)

The reception is part of the greatroom.

„A timeless lens on design and service, offering truly bespoke, memorable experiences for today's global traveler.“
(Tina Edmundson, Global Brand Officer Marriott International)

(Source: Press release 28 August 2013. hospitalitynet.org)

„The great rooms will be fluid, organic spaces where individuals can enjoy public privacy.“
(Mike Jannini, executive VP of Brand Management)

(Source: Marriott models new guestroom, January 10 2005, HotelMotel.com)



(Image: Marriott.com)

Detail B.1.



Lift doors (2021)

The black marble is a trace from the previous 2005 design. The marble flooring is a remnant from the original design from 1970s.

Hanny Fries in technical collaboration with Willy Charles Erismann designed in the 1970's the lift doors in the entrance hall. They were enamelled in blue and yellow.



(Image: Archive Spögler)

Story B.2.



Floor numbering

The tower has 19 floors. However, Marriott changed the numbering system in the lift so the tower appears taller. Floor 19 is 39 now.

Layer B.3.



(Image: Marriott.com)

Reception Marble

I assume that the black marble panels are a remnant from the 2005 lobby. Refer to *B. Reception* for comparison.



Back of Reception

The bush-hammered concrete wall is still exposed.

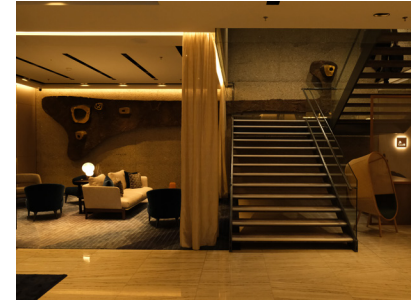
Layer B.4.



Lights in greatroom

I assume that the lights are a remnant from the 2005 lobby. Refer to *B. Reception* for comparison.

Story B.5.



(Image: Carmino Weber)

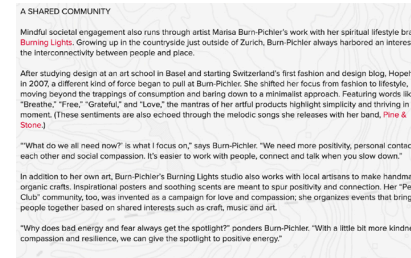
Artwork and decoration

The bronze sculpture on the bush-hammered concrete wall is from Erwin Rehmann, 1970's.

Additionally, the new greatroom is decorated with various lights, vases, plants and inspirational words like „love“ and „hope“. I assume these are from a Zurich-based artist¹ as Marriott pleads in their statement to act locally.²

[1] (Source: marriott-hotels.marriott.com)

[2] (Source: Sustainability Policy, serve360.marriott.com/)



(Source: marriott-hotels.marriott.com)

C. Lenox Bar

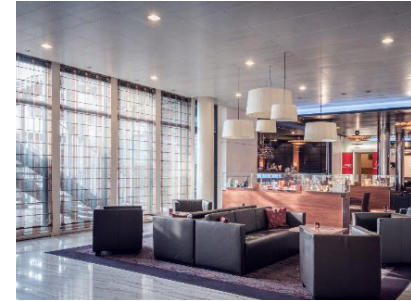


Hotel Zürich (1972 - 1997) Shopping Arcade

The lobby merged into the shopping arcade. It housed the «Otto Haute Coiffure», flower shop «Lüthi», Kiosk «Schmidt Agence», a watch, jewelry and fashion boutique «Bucherer and Weinberg» from Bahnhofstrasse, travel agency «Kuoni», «Hertz» car rental. Vitrines which were built into the concrete structure featured further jewellery. The furnishing elements of the shops were treated with synthetic resin varnish (white or green) and mirrored walls enhanced the spatial impression.



(Image: Archive Spöglér)



Marriott Hotel (2005 - 2019) Bar and Lounge



(Image: tripadvisor.de)



(Image: Marriott.com)

Marriott Hotel (2019 -) Lenox Bar

The new hotel bar was named after Lenox Avenue in New York. The concept is strongly influenced by the American metropolis.

With its open design and choice of colours, the new room concept resembles the underground track halls of Zurich's main railway station and is thus intended to transform the Zurich Marriott Hotel not only into a circumnavigated space but also into a meeting place for travellers and locals, according to a corresponding press release.

The architects have used light marble, wood and steel pipes in the new rooms, which are reminiscent of the



(Image: Marriott.com)

station architecture. A mix of brown leather and subtle fabrics in natural colours was used for the interior design.

(Source: .htr.ch)



Story C.2.

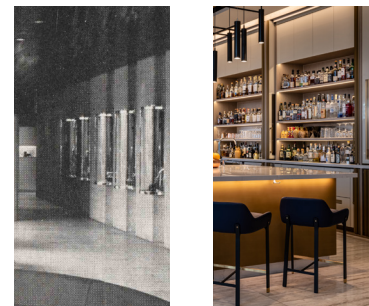


(Image: Elliott.com)

The Bee, a signature drink at the Lenox Bar. The gin is produced in Switzerland and enriched with honey from the 26 bee colonies living on the hotel roof. The glasses are specially selected for the new bar.

(Source: Marriott.com)

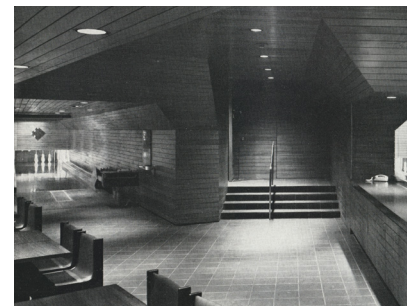
Layers C.3.



Showcasing

In Hotel Zürich glass vitrines were built in the concrete wall showcasing watches from Bucherer. Today, the Lenox Bar showcases a variety of alcohols.

Layers C.4.



(Image: Archive Spögler)

Hotel Zürich (1972 - 1997)

Bowling Alley

The bowling alley had four fully automated bowling lanes and, with 24 seats, invited hotel guests and societies for 10,-CHF an hour to play. It had direct access to the Platzspitz restaurant. The underground v-shaped room resulted from the property boundary and the room height was determined by the installation ducts. The space was characterized by red-stained, non-combustible, non-structural wood panelling on the walls and ceilings and dark brown clinker tiles on the floor.



Marriott Hotel (1997 -)

Storage room

The Marriott Hotel has converted the bowling alley into a storage and meeting room for the Lenox Bar staff. The original wood panelling on the walls and ceilings is preserved, but has been partially painted white. The original lamps on the walls and ceilings and some of the furnishings have been retained.

E. M Club Lounge



Hotel Zürich (1972 - 1997) Traveller's Bar

In 1972, when the Hotel Zürich opened, it was the first high-rise building in Zurich. The „Traveller's Bar“ was accessible through a separate entrance from Neumühlequai and from the hotel's entrance hall. It had a special permit for longer opening hours, making the bar a famous meeting place between international hotel guests and Zurich locals.



The bar was furnished with subtle materials that contributed to the elegance of the space: Brown leather upholstery, green marble tables, red wooden ceilings and walls partially covered with brown fabric. The load-bearing concrete wall between the lobby and the Traveller's Bar was clad with profiled and bush-hammered prefabricated concrete elements designed by Mr. Spögl.

(Image: Archive Spögl)



Marriott Hotel (2019 -) M Club Lounge

The M Club Lounge is an extra service for *Elite Members*, offering exclusive access to the private room where breakfast, dinner or snacks and cocktails at an extra charge can be enjoyed around the clock. The lounge is open 24/7 and is only accessible from the hotel lobby with Members Club card.

The space was renovated in 2019 into the first M Club Lounge in Europe

for the next generation of executive lounges. The vision was to create a place of retreat, relaxation, work and leisure. The designers describe that the concept was to emphasize the strong connection of the building with nature. It was inspired by the Lake Zurich, the Limmat River and the mountain panorama. Therefore the colour palette is characterized by monochrome earth tones enriched with splashes of blue.

„With this renovation, the Zurich Marriott has its finger on the pulse. Especially in today's 24-hour society, where you always have to be available and up-to-date, guests long for an appealing place where work and relaxation can be skilfully combined.“
Hotel Director Daniel Lehmann

(Source: falstaff.ch)

Detail E.1.



1970's vs. 2019

(Image: Archive Spögl)

Story E.2.



The Elite

Mr. Taycimen showed us the portrait of Mr. Jr. Marriott in the archive room of the Hotel which used to hang in the lobby. Today, the portrait is replaced by the M Club Lounge sign. The sign and the card reader mark the threshold between Elite members and usual Marriott guests.

(Image: Marriott.com)
(Image: hospitality-on.com)

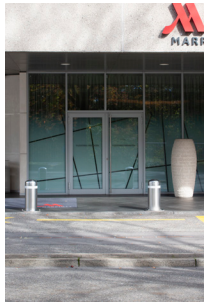


Detail E.4.

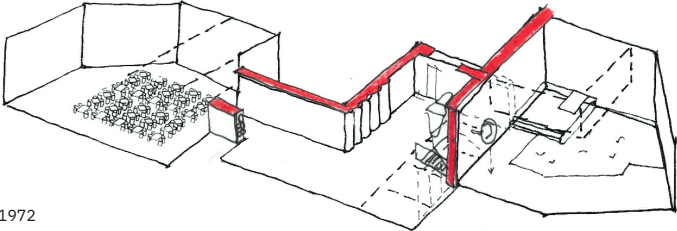


Privacy

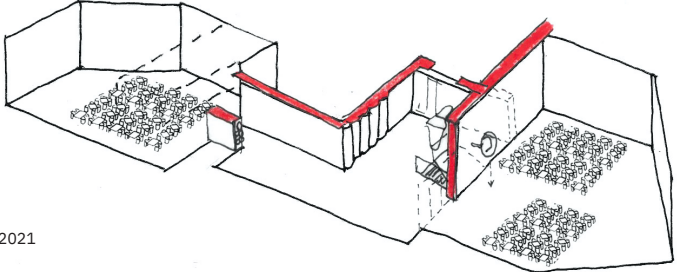
The facade facing Neumühlequai has been replaced in 2016 and offers neither access from nor visual contact with the street. It is conceived to define private islands of calm, which is evident in the partition walls and the arrangement and choice of furniture. The door is an emergency exit.



Second Floor



1972



2021

A.



The entrance lobby on the second floor is accessible from Wasserwerkstrasse and through the main staircase. It functions as the cloakroom.

Story A.1.



The threshold between the public entrance foyer and the private - (Marriott Hotel services) kitchen.

Story A.2.



The concrete columns of the lift are a remnant of the original structure, 1972. The bush-hammered concrete surface is exposed and not concealed. The right lift only operates between ground and second level.

B.



(Image: Archive Spöglar)

Foyer

In the Hotel Zürich 1972, the open foyer offered additional 100 seats for conferences, meetings, banquets, balls, fashion shows, and exhibitions and flowed into the congress hall. The bush-hammered concrete wall to the right was decorated with a tapestry by Lissy Funk, «Canzone della vita», 80x1150cm.

„It was really colourful. Really modern.“
- S.Spöglar



(Image: Archive Spöglar)



(Image: Marcel Joray, Erwin Rehmann 2)

Terrace

On the terrace adjacent to the foyer, a sculpture by Erwin Rehmann marked the end of his 6 sculptures representing the journey from neumühlequai up to the congress hall.

B.1.



Foyer

Today, 2021, the foyer functions as a room to the Century Ballroom.

Detail B.1.



(Image: Carmino Weber)

Erwin Rehmann bronze sculpture
The sculpture is fixed into the structural concrete wall which surface is bush-hammered.



Artwork
Instead of the tapestry, another art piece hangs on the concrete wall.

Carpet
In 2015* the carpet was replaced by a new design which is inspired by the 50 Frank bill. It is designed by Carbone Interior Design in collaboration with Axminster Carpet Design.

*Year assumed; Carbone Interior Design renovated the guest rooms in 2015.

B.2. Foyer



Foyer
Today, 2021, the foyer functions as a room to the Millennium Ballroom.

C.



(Image: Archiv Spögler)

Century Ballroom
The century Ballroom with its irregular floor plan faces south towards the Limmat with a large glazed facade and terrace.

In the Hotel Zürich the room was called a congress hall. It offered 400 seats and merged into the adjacent open foyer. It had the latest technical installations, such as a simultaneous translation cabin, film projectors and eidophor broadcasting. Dark brown wood panelling on the walls and ceiling and an orange-brown carpet characterised the room. The hall was furnished with orange chair covers, cylindrical height-adjustable lights and velour rouleaus, instead of conventional curtains.

The congress hall was used by various companies, such as Swiss Air. The image shows a conference from 1984.



(Image: ETH Baubibliothek)



(Image: Marriott.com)

Marriott Hotel rents the ballroom for 15.000,- CHF a day for various events. The in-house company Mangosteen Catering provides catering.

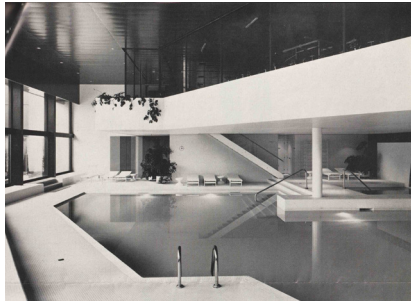
Detail C.1.



(Image: Carmino Weber)
(Source: Bauen + Wohnen, 32 (1978))

Century Ballroom wood panelling
According to Mr. Taycimen the panelling is still a remnant from Hotel Zürich. However, it has been painted several times.

D.



(Image: Archive Spöglar)

John Valentine Fitness Center
The Hotel Zürich offered next to the congress center also a health center for its guests. The health centre opened in 1972 under the management of the American fitness club *John Valentine*. When planning the Health Centre, the architects Lehmann, Spöglar and Morf were invited to America by *John Valentine* to visit the fitness clubs, study and design the best version for the Hotel Zurich. On the revision plans from 1985, the Health Centre was under the operations of the *Atmos Club*.

The double-height indoor swimming pool was in the eastern part of the building and opened up with its sun terrace towards the Limmat. The hall was directly accessible from the rooms via the lift hall and through a separate entrance from Walchestrassen. In addition to the swimming pool, the health centre was equipped with a whirlpool, cloakrooms, shower rooms and a bar. In the gallery there was a gymnasium with a fitness room, sauna, Russian-Turkish bath, solarium and massage rooms. The floors and walls were covered in white mosaic. The dark brown metal cladding of the facade extended through the ceiling into the room. A rainbow on the back wall provided a colourful accent.



(Image: Marriott.com)



(Image: Carmino Weber)

Millennium Ballroom
In the 1990s, after the clearing of the drug scene in Platzspitz and along the Limmat, the Letten became a popular place for swimming. With, among other things, operating costs too high compared to the profitability of the swimming hall, the Marriott decided to close the swimming hall and RBM Architekten converted it into a congress hall in 2007. The southern facade was moved forward to maximise the space of the convention hall, which functions as either one large hall or 4 smaller halls. The facade is a floor-to-ceiling glazed window front. The external facade of the entrance from Walchestrassen was closed according to the original.

