

KV. FÅGELBÄRSTRÄDET 13

Markeliushuset

Cecilia Rudström

Conor Horan Murphy

Francisco Rocha

Ingela Nirbrant

Marie Bednar

Vilius Juknevicius



HEM I KOLLEKTIVHUS

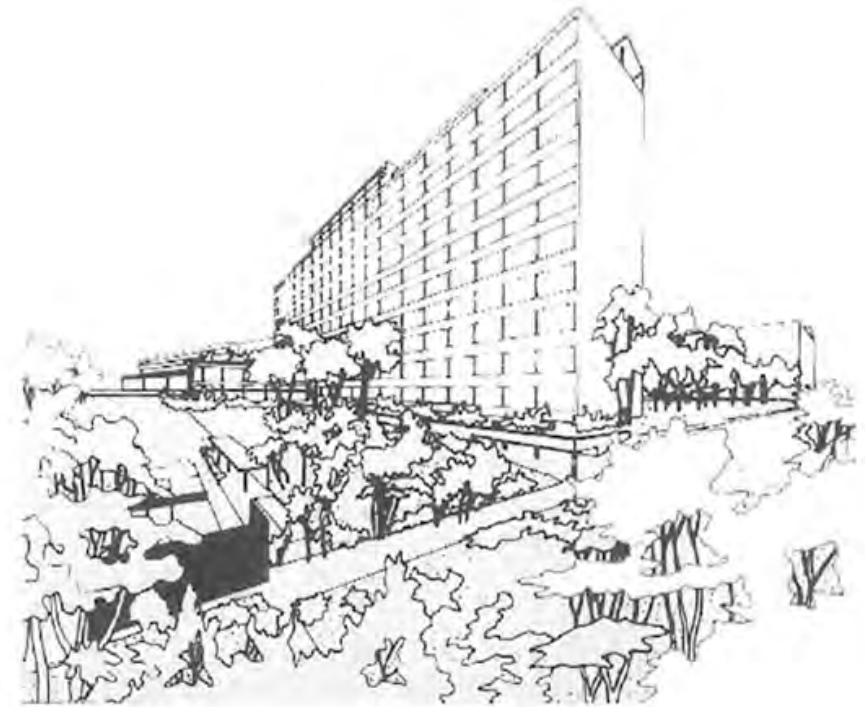
10 SEP - 11 SEP

SVEN MARKELIUS & ALVA MYRDAL



Sven Markelius was considered a radical for his time. As architect Sven Markelius, like other functionalist wanted to create a type of architecture adapted to its own time. The desire to improve housing standards and solve the overcrowding issues was considered commendable, but his ideas of how to do it radical. When Markelius took a step further and proposed a form of housing suited for the married working woman, he was strongly questioned. Markelius got to put up with being attacked in the debate and met in future difficulties in realizing his idea of the collective house. In 1935 he finally completed Sweden's first collective house at John Ericssongatan 6, developed in close relationship with his friends Alva and Gunnar Myrdal.

In her article titled "Collective housing", Alva Myrdal presented ideas of a new family, a new woman and new type of upbringing, something that made much of the Swedish women's movement closed up behind her bold ideas. She became a focal point of the 1930-century women's movement and its network across organizational boundaries. Alva Myrdal argued that collective upbringing of children was socially and psychologically suitable for every child, regardless of whether their mothers worked at home or away. She expressed among other things, the importance of responsibility for children's upbringing being shared between the parents and the community. Myrdal stood for the woman who chose to work for changes along with the men, but still contributing with her female experience.



Centralhem hindrar skilsmässa?





1935



2011

HEM I KOLLEKTIVHUS

SVENSKA
SLÖJDFÖRENINGENS
UTSTÄLLNING:

moderna heminredningar,
barnavdelning,
restaurant.

18 maj - 9 juni
kl. 11-21



HEM I KOLLEKTIVHUS

10 SEP - 11 SEP

APARTMENT 1



Appointee C. WILH. JOHNSON
Clerk FRIDA JOHNSON
JAN ERIK and ELIZABETH

Among the staff at Swedish cannery Stockholm office are spouses C. Wilh. and Frida Johnson with their strong sense of duty and impeccable neatness.

They **both serve in the accounting department** and it was over the office books their hearts met and now they are a happy family with two children, the **5-year old Jan Erik** and small **2-year old Elizabeth**, called Bettan. It is C. Wilh.'s secret dream to one day be able to buy a villa in Tureberg, and he considers the apartment in the public housing as a **transition period**. The couple thinks this is a good solution to their family troubles. Since they can not afford to have their own servant, they have chosen to leave their children with the competent women at the public housing children's section, but as soon as they arrived home after office, they pick up their kids up to **enjoy family life** and play with the kids. So passes the happy family **evenings** during play and when the **children are returned to the nurse**, the couple



spend some evening hours reading aloud and sewing around the coffee table, where they on Sundays enjoy a cup of tea with Frida's parents.

At precisely 10:30 **C. Wilh. makes the sofa bed** where he sleeps, **while Frida retires to her small bedroom**, in whose interior she has put a lot of efforts to get it neat and elegant. Mr and Mrs Johnson's bourgeois comforts of home is mirrored in the design by the firm David Blomberg, where they ordered their furniture.



APARTMENT 1

Architect ALBIN MARTINSSON

Albin Martinsson is a very handsome and attractive man in the **prime of life**. Women like his charm but he is still searching for the right one.

Albin's **passion is art**, he is used to going to exhibitions several times a month. He is very well known in museums and art spaces and always knows about the newest artists, works and designs. This was also the reason why he just had to move in this one-room apartment! It is small, but with its history, architecture and functional style it is very special! In his work as an **architect**, he has the possibility to create his own ideas, but work is hard and not always well paid. Unfortunately he can't afford the expensive artworks he loves, but he is very skilled in combining cheaper affordable works with some special pieces and manages to define **his own style in his apartment**. The heart pieces are two big paintings, one behind his bed and one above his sofa.



Albin Martinssons kitchenette is pretty small and he doesn't like cooking so much. When he moved in 11 years ago he could use the **food elevators** to have lunch or dinner delivered from the restaurant down stairs, to his slight disappointment however, it has recently been replaced by bakery. More important for him is his bar with a great range of good alcohol. He likes to invite friends in the evenings, when they drink some drinks and discuss art. His bed is connected to the whole apartment, but with a nice choice of colors and materials he managed to define a special atmosphere and to separate it optical. He wants to stay in his beloved room for at least the **next 5 to 10 years**.



APARTMENT 2

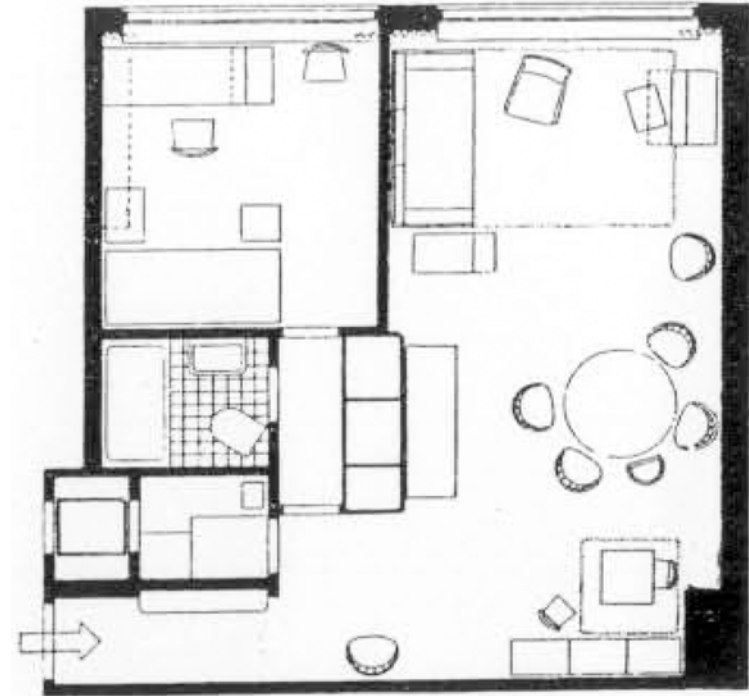
Telecommunication worker SVEN JOHAN
Dress Maker EMMA SPANG

Telephone Worker Sven Johan Spang and his wife, dress maker Emma, got to know each other in a **Communist study group** 17 years ago. As a representative of the fackförening trade union, Mr Spang has had to work harder than most over the years. He suffered a difficult set back five years ago, when the family lost virtually everything in the great fire in Hagulund, including precious carved heirlooms.

Mr Spang and Emma **love clear lines** and up right consistency large and small. Their new home is a vision of this. The interior is very **cheap but radically modern**.

They have chosen not to buy matching furniture suites, instead furnishing their apartment piece by piece, as their finances allow. In doing so, they have acquired furniture from many different makers, such as Svenskt Tenn, Dahlins slöjdnffär and Futuruni.

One could say that the high altar in this home is the round Aalto table around which the family dine - and where Mrs Emma largely does her sewing, when she is alone and her family elsewhere. **The children**, who have their own little piece of furniture and play area at the far end of the room, **sleep in the children's ward** while their parents sleep on the couch which is designed as a sofa bed.



In his own room, 15 year old Sven Johan carries on with his studies. He is a **healthy youth** with a strong interest in technology and sports, who enjoys the distance the crèche provides between him and his siblings. Seeing as no one thinks anything of an upper-class woman leaving their children with a little private nurse when they go out shopping or to cocktail parties, Mrs. Spang believes she too should have **the right** to leave her little ones with the nurse in the bright and **airy children's department** when she must go out because of her work.

APARTMENT 2



Graphic Designer ANTON HANSSON

Mr. Hansson met his future wife Lena while he was studying **Graphic Design** at Kungl. Konsthogskolan. They lived together in an apartment in Vasasataden initially, before moving out to a house in Malarhojden once they began expecting their first child. Annika was born a healthy baby girl, followed two years later by her baby brother Gunnar.

A few years later, however, and things were not going all that smoothly for this, once happy, family. Shortly after Annika's seventh birthday, Anton and Lena **separated**. Having been awarded **joint custody of the children**, it was decided that the former Ms. Hansson would have the children during the week, with Mr. Hansson taking them **for the weekends**. Upon moving from the family home in Malarhojden, Anton sought out an apartment in the Communal House having been captivated by its **bright, well planned** apartments and location. The building's location leaves him conveniently **close to his Studio**, to his friends and to the culture and **excitement of central Stockholm**. Though things are a little bit cramped when Annika and Gunnar come on weekends, but Anton says he is **infatuated** with the **sculptural feel** of his apartment and the architecture of the building.



Their regular Saturday ritual starts with **breakfast from Petite France**, down at the café during the summer months but delivered up to the apartment by the **dumb waiter** during the winter. After this they head into the city to enjoy one of Stockholm's numerous museums and perhaps a spot of shopping. Anton's only complaints about the building are that there is no access to the **roof terrace** anymore and no direct access to the park at the rear of the building. Having lived here for eight years now however, Anton says he has **no intention of leaving!**



APARTMENT 3

Correspondent lieutenant ERIK WIDGREN
Head of division LISBET WIDGREN

It's not considered indiscreet, that there were no illusions of a perfect marriage when Lieutenant Erik Widgren, correspondent of AB Nordic Exports, for **three years ago married** with Lisbet Gerhard, head of racing department in the fashion firm Vogue. What both of them wanted from their life was essentially a refined and **pleasant socializing**, in part amongst themselves - they meeting almost exclusively in the afternoon - and in part with his good friends, who greatly appreciate good food, good drink, funny jokes and a game of bridge.

When the spouses invited architect Elias Svedberg, at the interior design firm of Martin, to create an ideal living environment for them, they were keen to highlight the pleasant family relations as a key factor in the furniture. Accordingly, a strong emphasis were put on social life. A **wide angle sofa** provides opportunities **for game nights and conversations**. When Mrs. Widgren after supper in the dining area by the fireplace, the urge to dance she can easily move away the furniture and unimpeded enjoy the rhythmic temptations of a jazz.



Family Widgren confess willingly, that they have aesthetic interests, as shown by the fact that he placed no less than two oil paintings in the living room. In the modern totality, it has also crept into some older pieces, which Mr. Widgren inherited from an aunt in Arboga which has been placed on the family's small book shelf, mounted on the wall and limited to a desktop flap, where Mrs. Widgren can sign New Year's greetings from Vogue to their customers. Even in the bedroom the spouses Widgren have kept their representation comments on family life. Therefore the double bed is the central piece of furniture, which totally dominates the interior with its air of bourgeois respectability bedroom.

APARTMENT 3

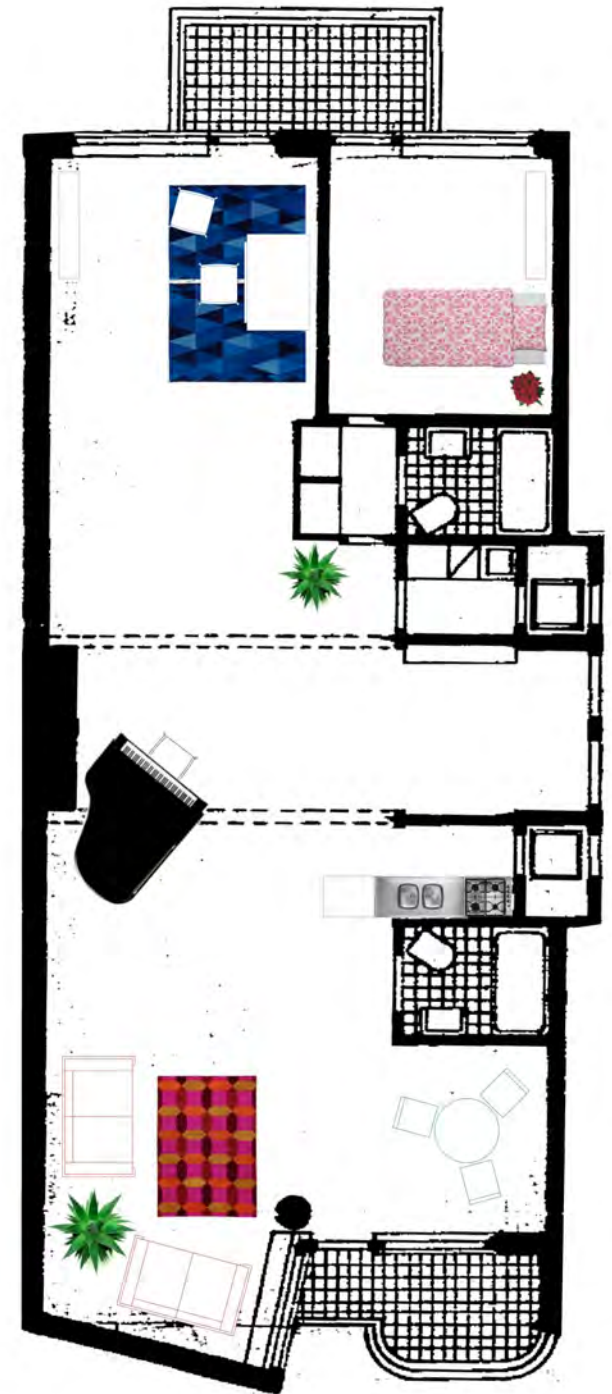


Retired FRIDA WHELAN

For over thirty years that Frida Whelan lives in her **large and comfortable apartment**. But It's not been always so large. Mrs. Whelan was very happy there with her husband and her son, the main reason for moving to number 6 at John Ericssonsgatan. At this time they bought this house also because it was one of the most spacious. Mr and Mrs Whelan could leave their little boy Erik at kindergarten when the spouses went to work.

Now Mrs Whelan lives alone in her wistful home and she wants to stay there until the end of her life as her love. For some years that she doesn't work, now this lady **dedicates her time to friends**. Mrs Whelan always has the table placed for taking the brew with them while enjoying the view on her flowered balcony. Sometimes she likes to take it with some of the fantastic **sweet croissants** that she asks at Petite France to send them **by the food's elevator**. She also likes to spend some time alone playing piano. This reminds her of the times when this house was full and lively. Now all she have is memories and old picture frames hang on the wall of her office where it was her son's room.

In short it's all about love. She can't describe the **enormous affection** she feels for this house but it's from the heart.

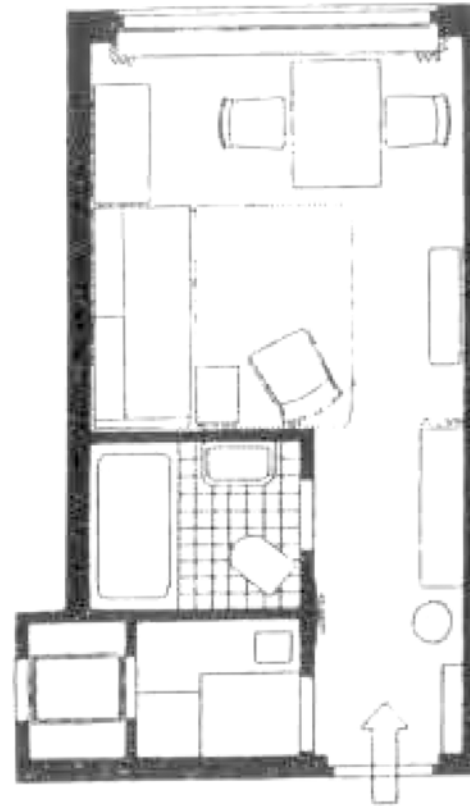




APARTMENT 4

Assistant teacher MABEL ANDERSSON

Six years ago the principal of the local middle school on Kungsholmen considered praising student Mabel Andersson, both for her knowledge and her sense of order. He was evidently a good judge of character, for Miss Mabel has shown every ability to live up to these expectations over the past years, in her work as a clerk for Nilsson and Warburg Menswear. Miss Mabel represents the best qualities of the current generation of young independent women, and for the Collective House it is a pleasure to **count her among its tenants**. She is thorough in her duties and reveals a natural feminine charm working with customers. At the same time she is very eager to create comfort around her with **very limited funds**. When she turned to the furniture firm of G. A. Berg to get her small and modest apartment furnishings, she gave the company clear and wise directives. The costs needed to be limited very strictly, and the furniture had to serve her special needs. So she got a sofa bed with velvet bedspread, a special chest-of-draws of clothing and linens, a table with a multiple uses, a bookcase with hinged cabinet bottom, a comfortable armchair, a few straight back chairs, a small cabinet for sewing equipment and other **necessary things**. She outfitted the apartment with curtains, drapes and other textiles she **sewed herself**.



The entire apartment is **neat and pretty** with effeminate touches in its simplicity. When someone remarks that the dwelling appears a bit **on the small side**, Miss Mabel usually replies saying that she is not so bulky herself either, and that she cannot imagine a more **ideal apartment for a young girl** in earning just 2000 SEK annually. She should know what she is talking about, seeing as she is the secretary for the Clerk's Club Social Committee.

APARTMENT

4



Architecture student JESPER SVENSSON

Long before graduating from Vänersborg gymnasium Jesper Svensson was already determined to lead his life as an Architect, and ever since he has been accepted to KTH School of Architecture the ambitious student has been gradually and persistently pursuing his dream. When the opportunity came to rent a bright two room apartment in the renowned architect's Sven Markelius Collective house, he didn't hesitate for a minute, and now Jesper is proud to call himself a tenant in one of the most exquisite **historical buildings** in Stockholm that is among the few buildings remaining designed in the **functional style of the mid 1940-ties**. As an 3rd year architecture student Jesper admires the **layout of the apartment**, which was achieved by joining two small adjacent flats to single one in order to accommodate the ever growing standards of living. Moreover, through the large windows he often enjoys the view to the kindergartens playground and greenery, although the student feels somewhat **disappointed that the roof terrace** which once was available to all the tenants **has been closed**-off since the reconstruction in the year 1990.



Jesper finds the social atmosphere in the collective house pleasing since he is surrounded mostly by **young creative people**, journalist, engineers and photographers with whom he enjoys the occasional chit chat. After receiving the bachelor's degree he plans to **move out to a bigger apartment** to live with his girlfriend, but he is quickly adds that he is bound to visit this place again, if not for inspiration, than at least for the superb Petite France delicatessens!

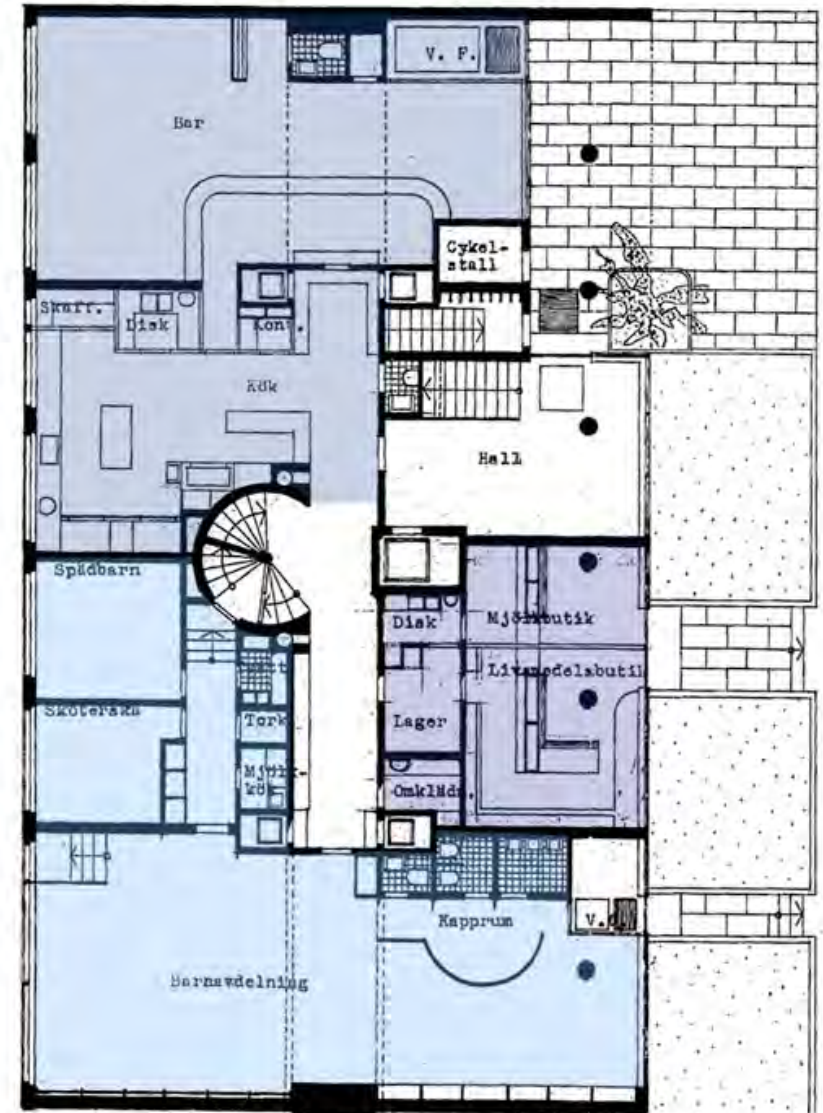
THE GROUND FLOOR 0



The **restaurant** will continue to be **accessible to the public**. It is divided into two parts; a **bar** at which teak veneered red beech bar you can **grab something** if you are **in a rush** on your way to or from work. There is also the more comfortable part of the **restaurant** where you can enjoy a **quiet dinner** at red beech tables in armchairs.. In a corner of the restaurant you can also find a larger, round table were you can **enjoy a cup of coffee** and read newspapers and magazines. The **kitchen** serves the **restaurant** as well as the **apartments** to which the **food is delivered** through four **dumbbells**.

The **nursery** can be **access** both from the **street** and the **planted garden**. Here you have the cohousing's **children's paradise!** You have to agree that it is the ideal nursery, **large, bright and airy**, easy to keep clean. Here you have **sandbox and wading pool** made of shimmering green tiles. And then there are the **bedrooms** for the babies and children, the cleaning- and changing rooms, the milk kitchen and the little bathrooms. The children of the cohousing are meant to live a happy life, **feel free and jolly** but at the same time **learn to respect** each other while **mum and dad can work**. An **isolated room** on the first floor will after the exhibition be kept vacant **in case of illness** in the little colony.

Facing the street is also a **milks store** and a small **grocer**.



THE GROUND FLOOR TODAY 0



As divorce became more common in the mid-30s and the number of people living alone quickly grew the idea of the **collective housing** soon became **unsustainable** as the **cost of the staff** became too great. On average, **25 %** of the **resident's income** was used to pay the staff, and it showed less expensive for families to get a private nanny that could take care of the daily household tasks.

SEBRAN Daycare

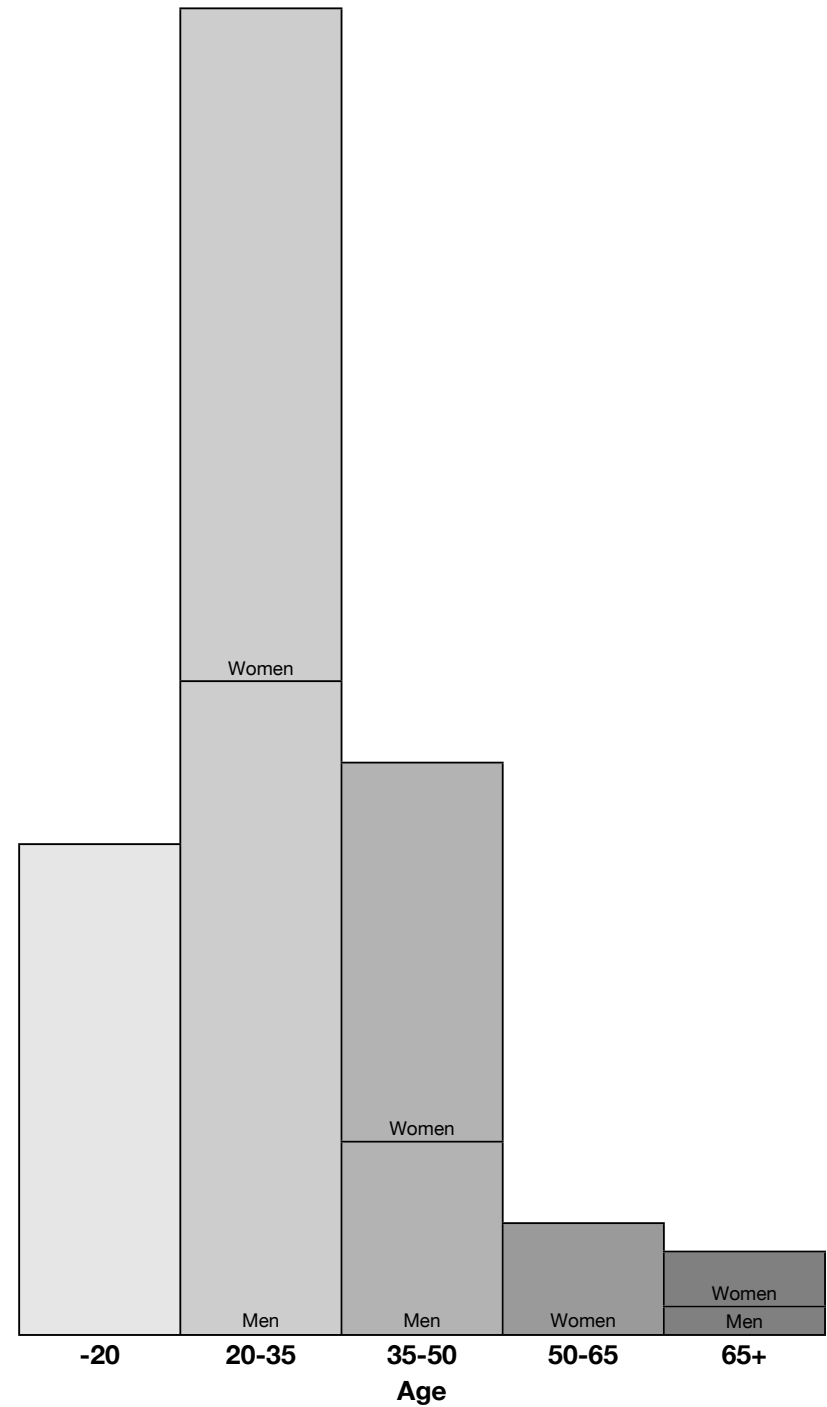
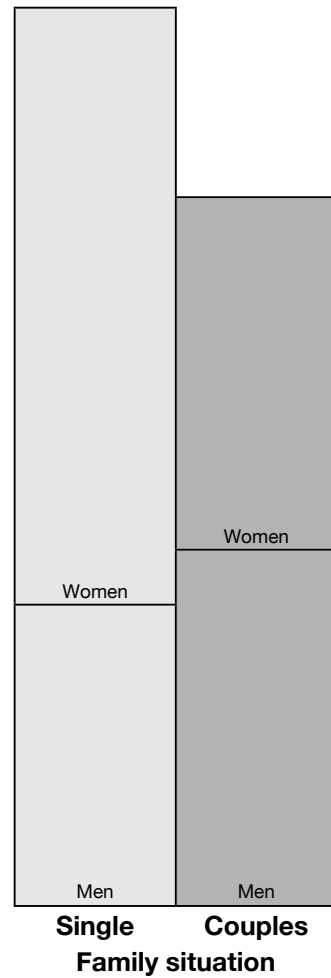
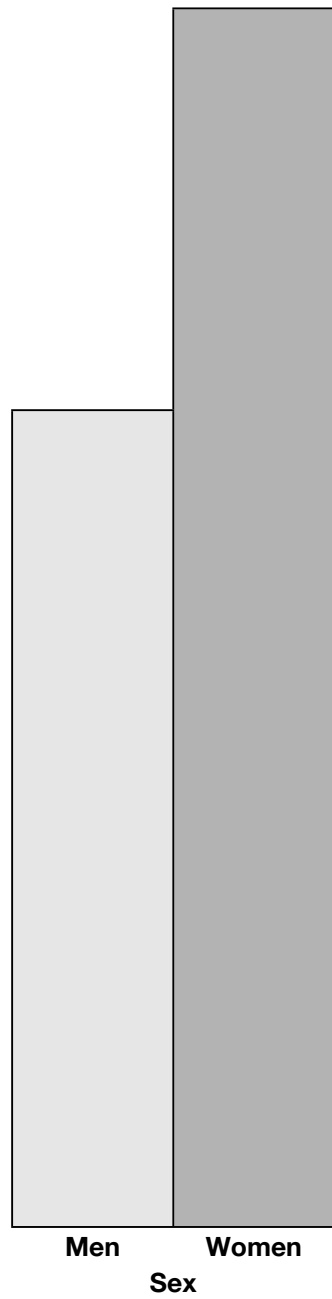
Since 1942 the daycare premises has **been let out**. A number of different tenants have come and gone, all involved in different types of child care. From 1989 however SE-Banken has been the tenant and they let the parent cooperative daycare "SEBRAN" use the premises for kids of employees at SE-Banken. Now the business has been transferred to a **private parent association** that runs the day-care for **children between 1-3 years old**.

PETITE FRANCE

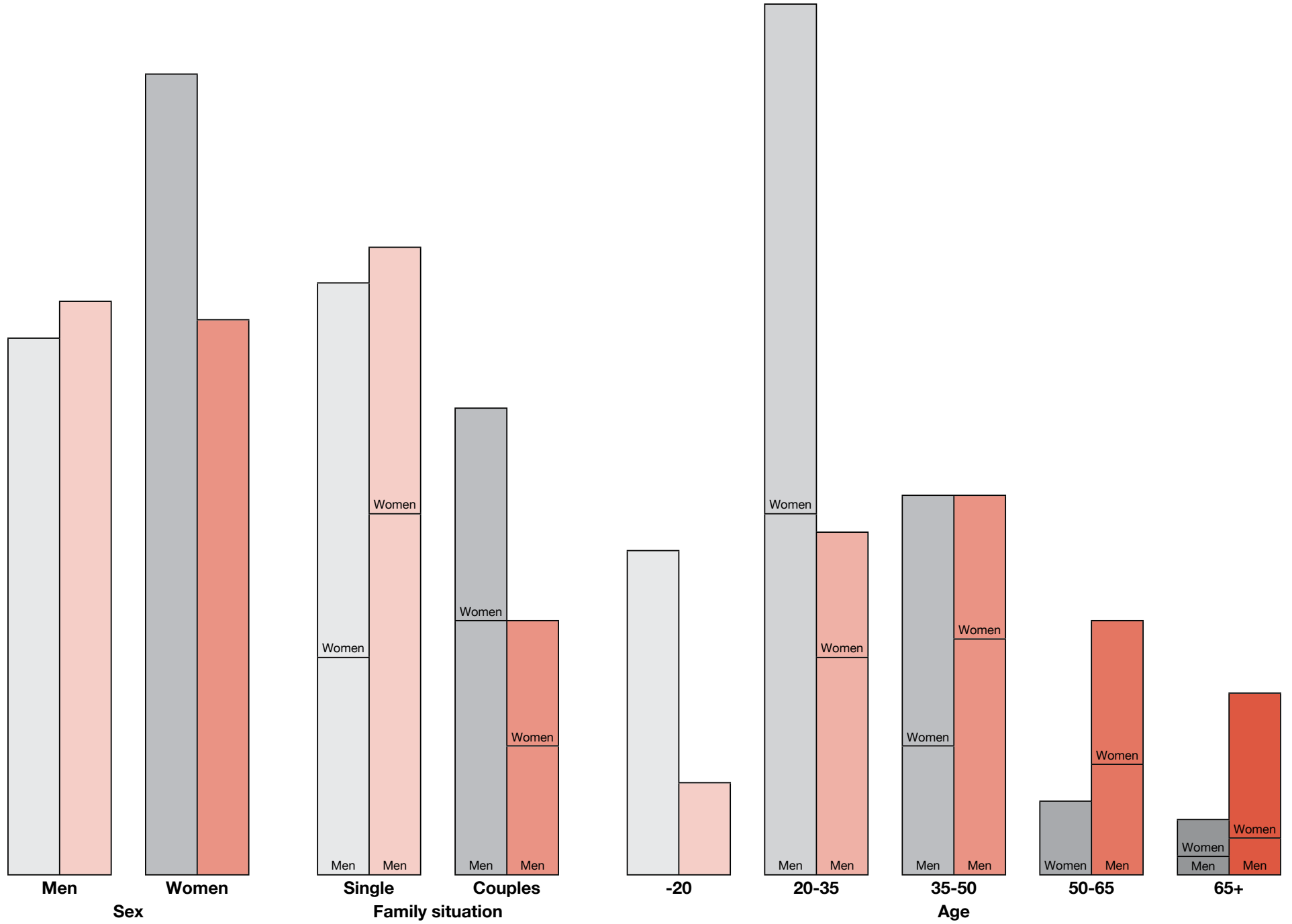
The **restaurant** was the part of the in-house operation that **lasted the longest** and not until 1958 was it let to Stefan Salzer. There has been a number of tenants since and the currently letting the premises since 2007 is Sébastien Boudet with his three year in a row award winning café "**Petite France**". The **dumbbells** are still **operating** as before and although the café **does not serve dinner**, breakfast and lunch can be ordered and **delivered** up to the residents in the house.



1935



1935
2011



Designer Photographer

Architect

Assistant

Professions of the
people who lived
in the house in
1935, sorted
by gender

Railway clerk

Architect

Assistant

Merchant

Doctor

Doctor

Decorative painter

Writer

Actress

Legal bachelor

Clerk

Chief Accountant

Clerk

Teacher

Music director

Medical bachelor

Journalist

Housewife

Guard Officer

Medical bachelor

Cashier

Widow

Staff

Engineer

Men

Women

