









The presentation of archival materials in the houses opened during Budapest100

The researcher volunteers of Budapest100 flock to the Budapest City Archives (BCA) each spring to gather knowledge about the participating houses. Their primary aim is to gain reliable information on the owner, designer, and builder of a certain house from the original building plans; however, the research process often includes other archival material besides plans, e.g. official documents, photos, heritage protection documentation etc. The cooperation between the BCA and Budapest100 entails providing digital copies of the building plans by the BCA in return for the compiled research materials that become digital data entries among the Archives' records.

On the one hand, volunteers usually use the copies as part of the building history exhibitions on the weekend of Budapest100; on the other, they are also a great visual aid for guided tours, revealing the smallest details about the houses. Exhibitions are realized by the volunteers and the building's residents/current users, so they range from small-scale posters hung on a clothesline to grandiose displays. Primarily, it's institutions who invest more in the fancier installations; but it also happened in recent years that the descendants of the former owners or residents have put considerable effort as well as their own money into the design and relization of exhibitions. As the main organizer of the event, the project managers of the Hungarian Contemporary Architecture Centre responsible for the festival help the volunteers by collecting the list of required drawings, which they send to the BCA, and then they print the copies in A3 size. We have established this exchange to present high-quality copies of the plans to visitors which showcase the professional excellence of the BCA and raise awareness of the importance of their work in preserving Budapest's built heritage.

The plans are important because in many cases they contain not only names but provide information on the original layout or even show features that were never built. The small inscriptions and notes are especially informative about the original intent of the architect regarding the layout and the decoration, as well as the social status of the presumed inhabitants. In many cases, drawings are a delight to look at thanks to their artistic quality.













Plans can shed light on details one would otherwise miss, especially about historical buildings. Photo: Budapest100/Dániel Ránki



Display elements are often borrowed from friends or lent by residents. Photo: Budapest100/Balázs Pivarnyik













Plans are often accompanied by archive photos of the architect or the former residents of the house. Photo Budapest100/Balázs Danyi



The building plans provide a great base for discussion. Photo: Budapest100/Balázs Danyi













Photo: Budapest100/Balázs Danyi



They are also a great tool for explaining the layout and functions of a building. Photo: Budapest100/Balázs Mohai













Photo: Budapest100/Balázs Danyi



Photo: Budapest100/Fekete Hajnal













Elaborate displays are more typical for institutions. Photo: Budapest100/Balázs Danyi



However, families sometimes go all out when it comes to showcasing their heritage. Photo: Budapest100/Gergely Schöff





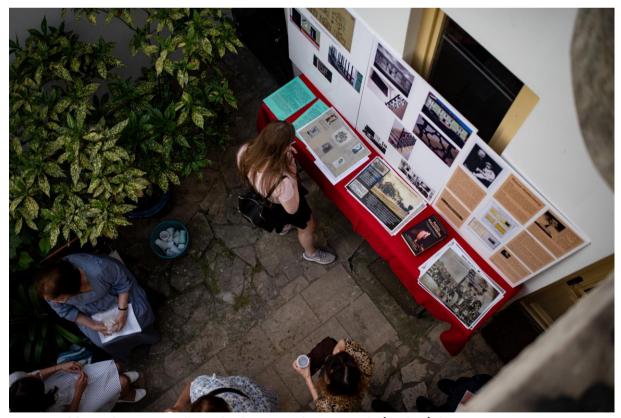








Sometimes all it requires is a nice sturdy fence... Photo: Budapest100/Gergely Schöff



...or a table and some cardboard. Photo: Budapest100/Dániel Ránki













The prints are excellent decoration... Photo: Budapest100/Balázs Pivarnyik



...and even more excellent as a background for a chorus. Photo: Budapest100/Balázs Pivarnyik













...or a band. Photo: Budapest100/Gergely Schöff



There is always an element of celebration. Photo: Budapest100/Balázs Mohai











The different variations show the changing intentions of the designer and the person who commissioned the building. Photo: Budapest100/Anita Fonyódi



Open walkways and railings are excellent for display. Photo: Budapest100/Fekete Hajnal













Visitors come from all age groups. Photo: Budapest100/Dániel Ránki



Visitors come from all age groups. Photo: Budapest100/Sziliva Gyulai













Photo: Budapest100/Dániel Ránki



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Photo: Budapest100/Dániel Ránki



Photo: Budapest100/Gergely Schöff













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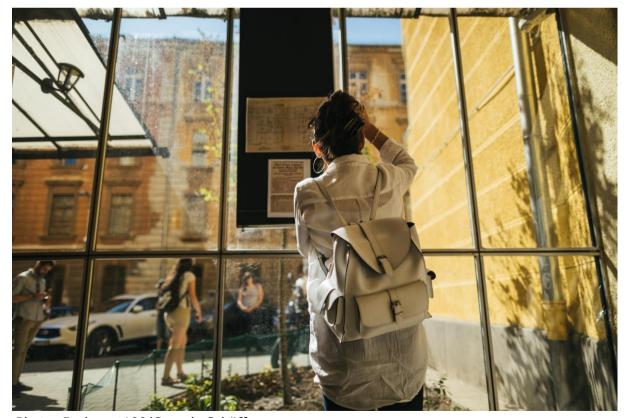


Photo: Budapest100/Gergely Schöff













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