Cultural Daily

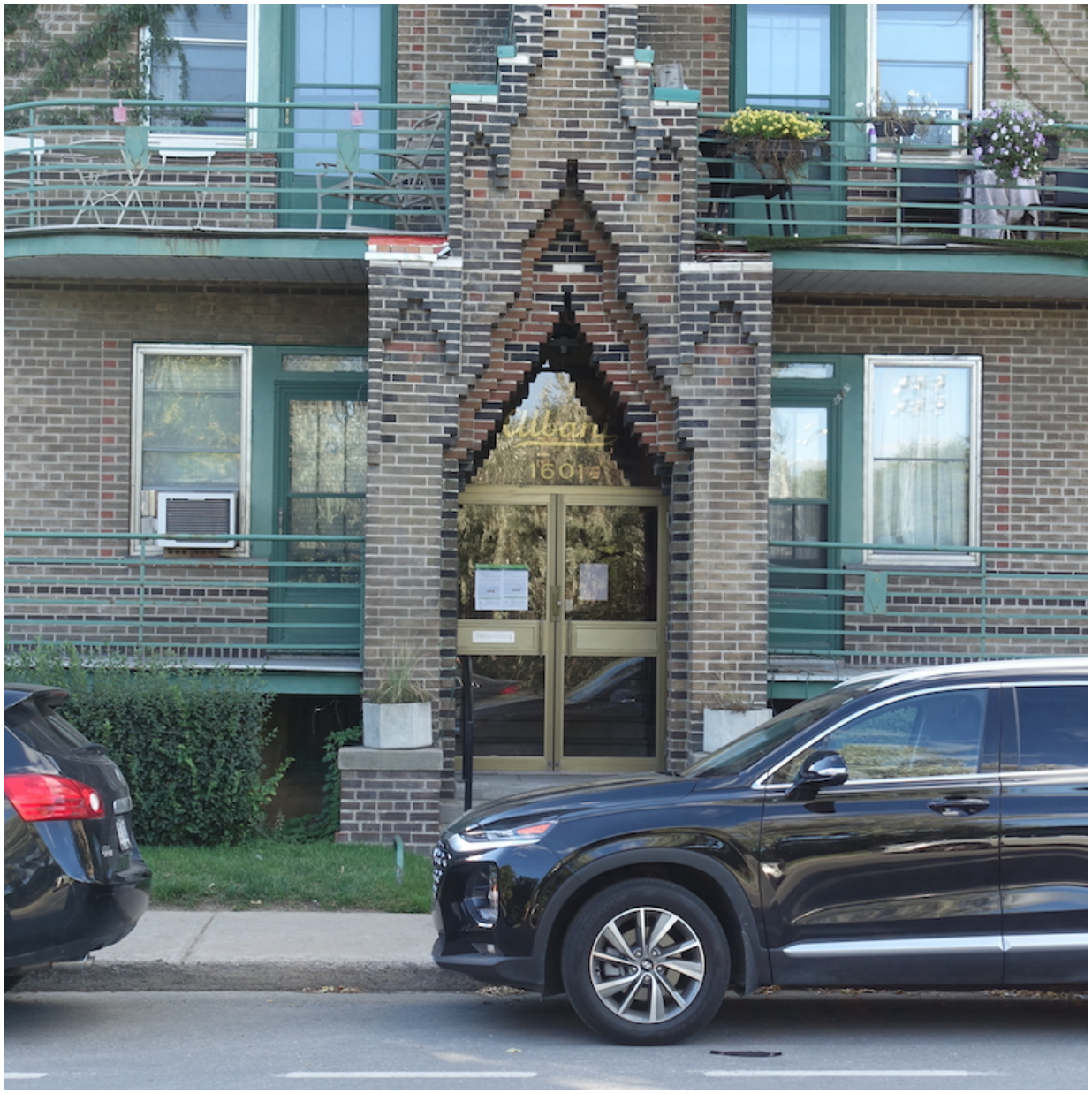
Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Building Entryway Treatment and the Sense of Arrival

Maurice Amiel · Tuesday, October 12th, 2021

The feature image, reprised below, illustrates what the ***entryway*** of an apartment building, located in a select neighborhood, can encompass:

- It is technically the ***point of entrance*** into a building and, perceptually, *through its treatment at the scale of the building*, the marker of ***its location on that building***
- It is perceptually, through the ***nature and visibility*** *of its treatment at the scale of the street*, the mean by which the building ***can be distinguished from others,*** thereby comforting ***one's sense of pending arrival***.



Entryway treatment as marker of location on building and in the city

The following examples will illustrate the gradual increase in ***perceptual quality*** *of selected apartment buildings entryway treatments in my immediate conventional neighborhood.*

The minimally treated façade bound scheme, whereby the change of material around the door is *perceptually enhanced with a slightly recessed placement of the door, accommodating a single step mini-landing transition from outside to inside the building.*

Minimum treatment of entryway as marker of location on building and in the city

The façade bound decorated scheme whereby the entryway is not only framed with a reminder of a classic frontal colonnade, but is also located atop a series of steps which*, with handrail, night lights and creeping ivy, clearly identify THE entry doorway.*

Improved entryway treatment with decorative elements, raised landing and landscape elements

The improved façade bound scheme with transition providing extension, whereby the entryway, is made noticeable by *the addition of projecting planters delimiting two small landings two steps apart extending to the sidewalk with a noticeable landscaped walkway.*

Improved entryway treatment with extended landing and landscape elements

The façade bound scheme with a projecting cylindrical awning, whereby the sides of the entryway are treated with concrete block finish, *helping one to locate it at a distance.*

Noted is the row of light-bearing posts, leading to the entryway from the sidewalk, and adding a ceremonial sense of arrival to the experience of entering.

Most complete entryway treatment involving façade and front yard treatment elements

End words

A certain humanistic conception of "architecture" would define its essence in *the **meaningful physical, functional and social presence** of a building.*

The entryway treatments presented here aimed to illustrate the gradual reaching for that state, *from a hole in the wall to a spatially articulated and lit up walkway from sidewalk to entryway.*

Credit all photographs to Maurice Amiel

This entry was posted on Tuesday, October 12th, 2021 at 7:04 am and is filed under Architecture, Visual/Design
You can follow any responses to this entry through the Comments (RSS) feed. You can leave a response, or trackback from your own site.