



LIVING IN A WOODEN HOUSE – DOES IT MATTER?

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OBJECTIVE

- to evaluate the attitudes of residents of wood-based buildings, based on the experience they gained during their time of living in such a building.

METHODS

- standardized personal in-depth interview
 - sample of the owners of six wooden houses (married couples who lived in houses with their families)
 - transcript of the recording of the interview, identification of the decisive characteristics and synthesis of the qualitative features
- Interview areas: years of residence, location, reasons to choose specific type of house, advantages, expectations, and economic efficiency related to wooden houses, duration and circumstances of house construction, satisfaction with construction company, quality of architect's and/or designer's services and communication
 - assessment of the attributes of the wooden house on a 5-point scale



RESULTS

Families choose wooden houses mainly due to:

- the quick construction, an acceptable price and lower operating costs
- most of them retained the wooden elements of construction visible, emphasizing the **aesthetic** properties and **smell of the wood**
- the owners did not use the help of an architect in designing the building
- they preferred to choose a catalogue house or look for the type of house whose construction they consult with an authorized designer



Assessment of wooden house attributes by the owners

<i>Attributes</i>	<i>Owner</i>					
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Fire safety	2	1	3	2	1	3
Weather resistance	1	1	1	2	2	3
Lifespan/Durability	2	1	1	2	2	2
Energy efficiency	1	1	1	1	1	1
Thermo-insulating attributes	1	1	1	1	1	1
Value for money	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maintenance	1	1	2	1	1	1
Sustainability	1	1	1	1	1	1
Acoustic attributes	2	2	1	2	1	2
Speed of construction	1	1	1	-	1	2
Health and safety	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ease of renovation	1	1	2	1	1	1
Aesthetics	1	1	1	1	1	1

Scale of assessment: 1 – the best, 5 – the worst



COCLUSIONS

Mentioned problems:

- non-compliance with the set deadlines

(despite of that the speed of construction was above the expectations of respondents)

Fighting the myths:

- none of the wooden houses had a problem with pests, fungi, moisture, or poor insulation

Survey did not reveal any significant negatively perceived attributes of wooden-based houses



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THANK YOU

<http://www.woodema.org/>