Muuratsalo Experimental House

Location: Muuratsalo, Finland

By Emily Rosa

Architect: Alvar Aalto
Owner: Alvar Aalto
Year of completion: 1953
Climate: Continental Subarctic Climate
Material of interest: Red Brick
Application: Exterior

Properties of material: This material allows for exploration of different configurations of the unit, and gives a sense of human scale and a haptic quality. Fifty different types of bricks which are arranged in various patterns as a material exploration. Brick is used in this case as an exterior façade material which allows for solar heating. Brick is also used floor material in the courtyard, which allows for a visual connection to the earth, but also a permeable ground surface. Brick was also tested by Aalto to see how it would respond to the harsh climate.

Sources:
http://www.alvaraalto.fi/experimentalhouse.htm
http://anavedobomgosto.blogspot.com/2011/01/experimental-house.html