

Ernst Neufert

1900

Born on March 15 in Freyburg an der Unstrut, son of Karl Hermann Neufert and Florentine Berta, née Schlieder

1906–14

Attends the Bürgerschule in Freyburg an der Unstrut

1917

Apprenticeship as a bricklayer; passes the journeyman examination

1918

Supplemental occupational education at the Grossherzoglich-Sächsische Baugewerkenschule, Weimar

1919

Transfers to the Staatliche Bauhaus in Weimar upon the recommendation of the director of the Grossherzoglich-Sächsische Baugewerkenschule, Weimar

1920

Studies at the Staatliche Bauhaus in Weimar; begins a one-year study tour through Spain with fellow student Paul Linder

1921

Returns to Weimar. Hired to work under Walter Gropius in a leading position at his architecture offices in Weimar and Dessau. Marries Alice Spiess-Neufert, née Vollmer; four children are born to the couple: Peter, Christa, Ingrid, and Ilas.

1925

Project manager in the offices of Walter Gropius; among his responsibilities are the new wing of the Bauhaus and the Masters' Houses project in Dessau.

1926

Called to a professorship under Otto Bartning at the Staatliche Bauhochschule in Weimar; head of the building department

1929

Builds his private home in Gelmeroda, near Weimar, as a prototype for a series of single-family homes. After the Nazis close down the architectural school, Neufert moves to Berlin, where he takes over the direction of the architecture department at a private school run by Johannes Itten.

1934–44

In-house architect for the Vereinigte Lausitzer Glaswerke (United Lusatia Glassworks); designs other industrial buildings

1936

Publishes the first edition of the *Bauentwurfslehre* (Architects' Data). Travels to New York with the intention of planning to emigrate; visits Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin East, Wisconsin

1938

Receives a commission from Albert Speer to research issues of standardization.

1939

Marries Käthe Illgen; the couple has one daughter: Katja

1943

Publishes the *Bauordnungslehre* (Building Standards)

1943–44

Is appointed commissioner for building standards for the Third Reich. Employed on Speer's staff to work on reconstructing cities destroyed in bomb attacks

1945

Called to a professorship for architecture at the Technische Hochschule in Darmstadt

1949–50

Besides many other buildings, he erects his own house and studio, Planerhof, in Darmstadt.

1953

Founds the intergenerational architecture offices of Neufert + Neufert in Cologne, with his son, Peter Neufert; they work together until he withdraws from his contract in 1955.

Among his most important projects in the ensuing years are: the Ledigenheim in Darmstadt; the main factory for Eternit in Leimen, near Heidelberg; and the Quelle Distribution Center in Nuremberg.

1986

Dies on February 23 at his home in Bugnau-sur-Rolle on Lake Geneva