Improving Neighbourhood Satisfactior in Post-War Neighbourhoods

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN STRATEGIES FOR LIVEABILITY

















HERITAGE & ACHITECTURE

Resourceful housing: Adapting 20th Century Heritage

DELET LINIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Sara Ozcan

Problem Statement

Research

Research question Values and attributes of residents in Amsterdam Nieuw-West Enhancing liveability with architecture Architectural design strategies

Design

Design case

Assesment

Assessing the design strategies

Problem statement

POST-WAR NEIGHBOURHOODS

Post-war neighborhoods were characterized by modernist principles, featuring innovative design and prefabrication methods (van Beckhoven et al., 2005), but many have since faced physical and socio-economic challenges (Argilou et al., 2008). Addressing these issues requires a focus on neighborhood satisfaction, which encompasses liveability factors like safety, amenities, social cohesion, and aesthetic appeal.



Slotervaart (van Eesteren)

Problem statement

LOW NEIGHBOURHOOD SATISFACTION SCORE IN AMSTERDAM NIEUW-WEST

'Wonen in Amsterdam' (2023) survey indicates an average neighborhood satisfaction score of 7.5 for Amsterdam residents.

Amsterdam Nieuw-West, particularly Osdorp, scores significantly lower of 6.2, with safety and social cohesion also receiving poor. (Dienst Oncerzoek en Statistiek, 2007)

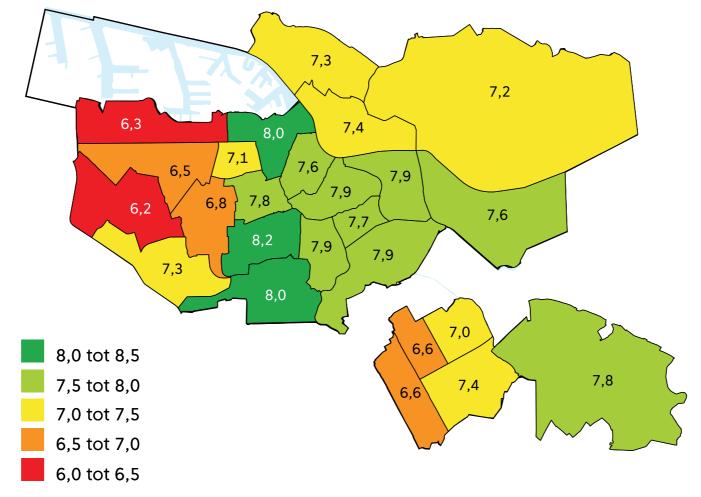
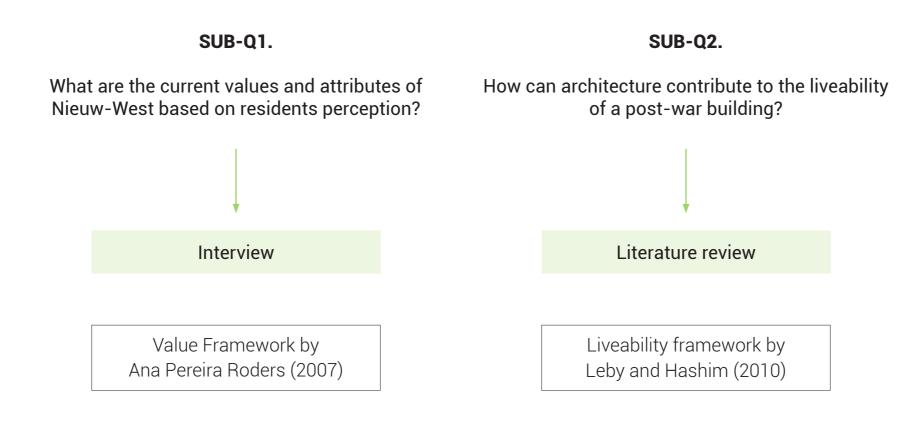


Image source: Wonen in Amsterdam 2023 Leefbaarheid. (2023).

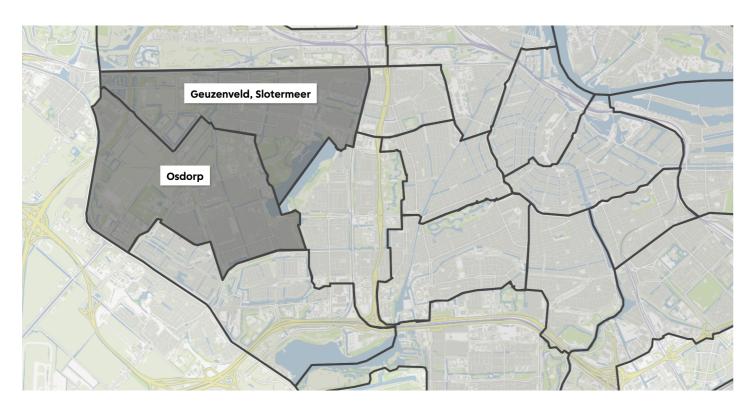
Research question

What architectural design strategies can be applied to post-war housing to improve neighbourhood satisfaction by enhancing liveability, while considering the values and attributes perceived by residents?

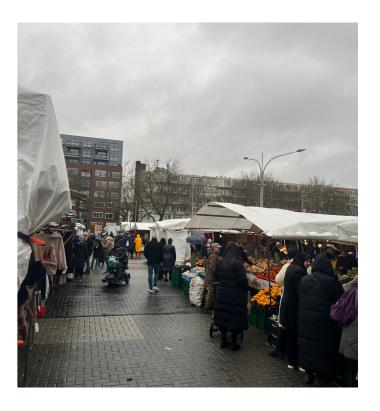


The goal is to identify and assess architectural design strategies that have the potential to enhance the liveability in post-war neighbourhoods.

Values and attributes of residents in Amsterdam Nieuw-West







BALLARAT IMAGINE METHOD

What do you love in...?

How do you imagine...?

What do you want to retain in...?

(Buckley et al., 2015)

IMAGINE OSDORP & GEUZENVELD-SLOTERMEER

What do you love in your neighbourhood?

What do you imagine for your neighbourhood?

What do you want to retain in your neighbourhood?

What makes you feel at home in your neighbourhood?

If you were to take us anywhere in your neighbourhood, where would it be?

What makes you feel included in your neighbourhood?

How would you describe your neighbourhood in one word?

Values and attributes of residents in Amsterdam Nieuw-West

Q1. What do you love in your neighbourhood?	RAW DATA	CATEGORIZED DATA	VALUE TYPE
Participant 16 Osdorp: "I find it pleasant to live here because the streets are very wide , and it	Wide streets	Spacious	Aesthetical
is open here."	Safe	Safety	Political management
	Feeling involved	Social inclusion	Social emotional and
Q5. How do you imagine your neighbourhood?			collective
	Beautiful	Appearance	Aesthetical evidential
Participant 7 Geuzenveld-Slotermeer: "Safe and everyone feeling involved. Beautiful	Green	Greenery	Ecological spiritual
and green is how I hope to see it."			
and green is now i nope to see it.	Greenery	Greenery	Ecological spiritual
			Historic-conceptual
Q6. What must be retained in your neighbourhood?	Water	Water	Ecological spiritual
			Historic-conceptual
Participant 25 Osdorp: "The greenery , the water here, the trees . I think it is very	Trees	Greenery	Ecological spiritual
beautiful, especially in the summer people come from all over to come and spend the			Historic-conceptual
day here. We wouldn't want to see that go."	Beautiful	Appearance	Aesthetical evidential

Values and attributes of residents in Amsterdam Nieuw-West

CATEGORIZED DATA	VALUE TYPE
Spacious	Aesthetical
Safety	Political management
Social inclusion	Social emotional and
	collective
Appearance	Aesthetical evidential
Greenery	Ecological spiritual
Greenery	Ecological spiritual
	Historic-conceptual
Water	Ecological spiritual
	Historic-conceptual
Greenery	Ecological spiritual
	Historic-conceptual
Appearance	Aesthetical evidential
	Spacious Safety Social inclusion Appearance Greenery Greenery Water Greenery



Frequency attribute GS/Osdorp



Ecological Spiritual Greenery (10%/4%) Essential **Renovation (13%/11%)** Clean (21%) Appearance (10%) New buildings (4%) Existential Adaptive re-use (3%) 14/11 Aesthetical Evidential Appearance (10%/4%) New buildings (4%) 3/2 Technological Urban agriculture (3%)

Imagine attributes classified in Value Framework by Ana Pereira Roders (2007)

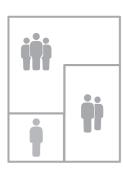
Enhancing liveability with architecture

FUNCTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Accessibility and Services



Mixed-use planning



Human-centred approach

Well-connected neighbourhoods tend to foster higher levels of community engagement. (Higgs, C., et al., 2019)

Retrofitting efforts, including elevators, ramps, and wider door ways, can significantly enhance liveability.

(Preiser, W.F.E., & Osdroff, E., 2001)

Integrating diverse functions, like residential, commercial, and recreational spaces, within structures to enhance functionality and create vibrant environments (*Gehl*, 2010)

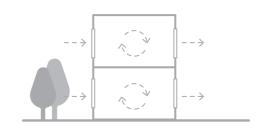


Densification strategies like a mix of housing types and sizes to accommodate diverse household compositions and promote social inclusivity. (Abels, 2018)

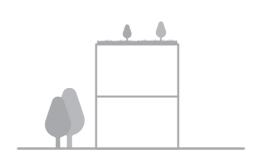
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT



Aesthetics and appeal



Sustainability



Nature and urban setting

Visually appealing spaces impact health, happiness, and quality of life in urban areas. (Harvey, 2014; Mehaffy, 2021)

Enhancing visual appeal through façade renovations, colour schemes, and artistic elements positively impact residents' well-being. (Harvey, 2014; Mehaffy, 2021)

Sustainability strategies like improving energy efficiency in buildings through better insulation and modern systems can enhance liveability.

(Fleur-Bahi et al., 2017)

Incorporating nature improves residents' well-being and building environmental performance.

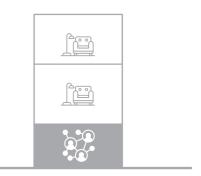
(Vogt et al., 2020)

Parks and outdoor spaces foster community ownership and positively impact social, and physical health.

(Vogt et al., 2020)

Enhancing liveability with architecture

SOCIAL COHESION

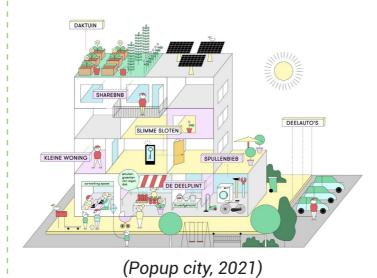


Shared spaces

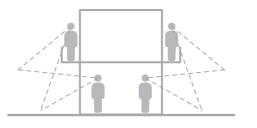
Shared spaces in buildings promote social interaction among residents.

(Gehl, 2010)

The use of collective and shared spaces, like communal facilities, co-working spaces, shared guest rooms, and flexible minishops, foster a sense of community.



SAFETY



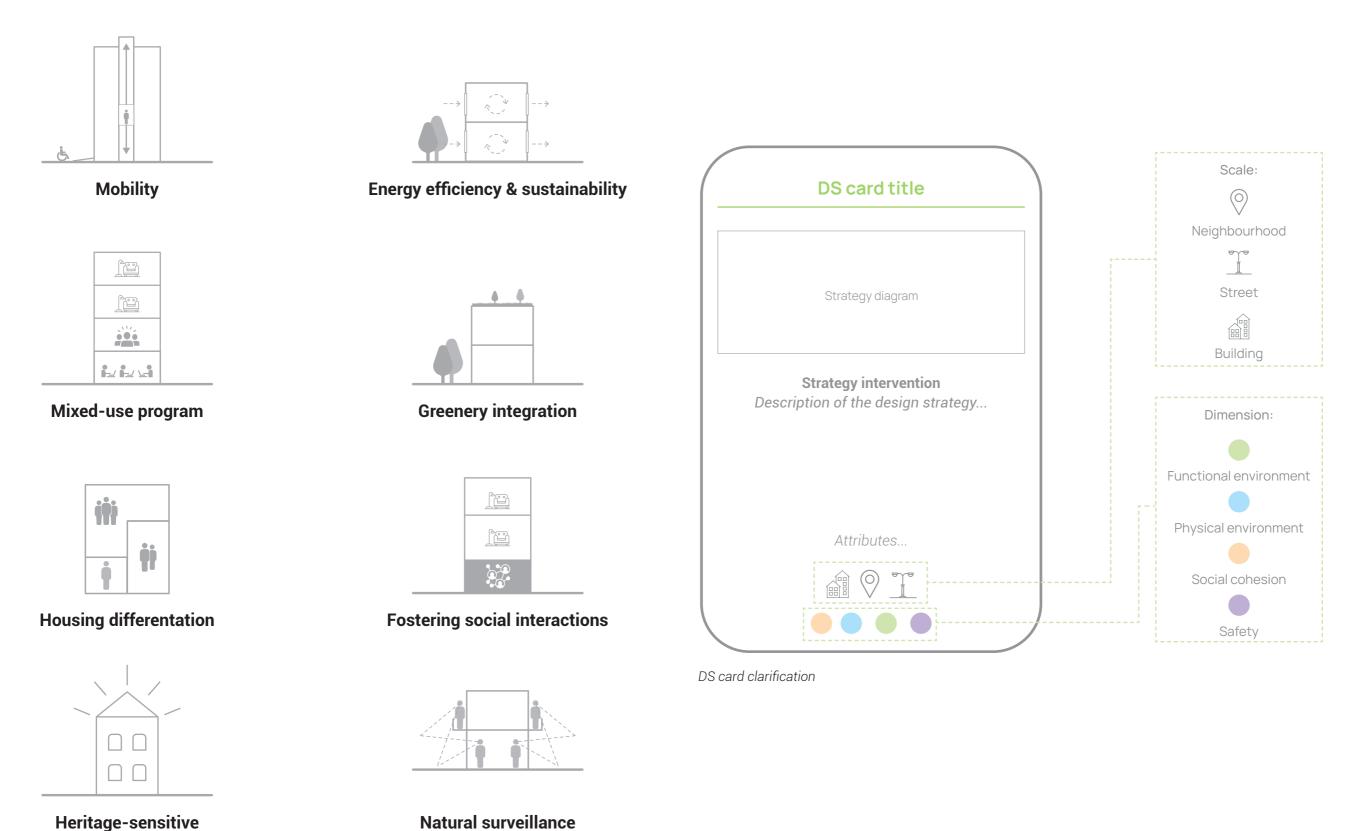
Natural surveillance

Increasing visibility in ground floor spaces and common areas to create "eyes on the street" for safety.

(Jacobs, 1961)

Secure entry systems and clear demarcation between public-private space improve residents' sense of safety. (Newman, 1972)

What architectural design strategies can be applied to post-war housing to improve neighbourhood satisfaction by enhancing liveability, while considering the values and attributes perceived by residents?



What architectural design strategies can be applied to post-war housing to improve neighbourhood satisfaction by enhancing liveability, while considering the values and attributes perceived by residents?





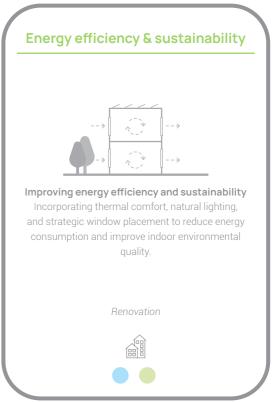












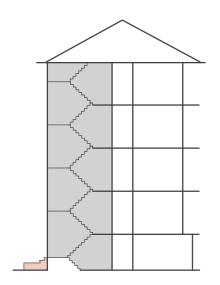
Design case

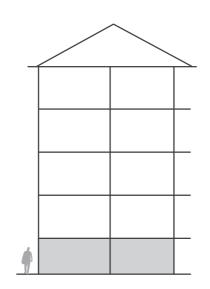
Testing design strategies that would allow existing porch buildings to be resurfaced to improve liveability

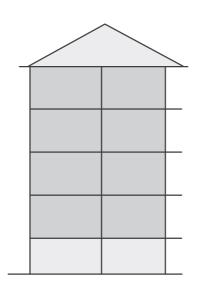


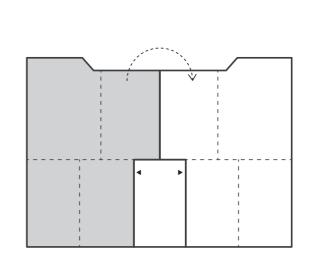
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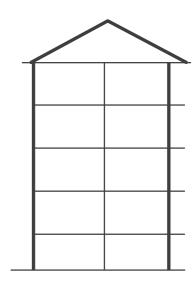
What are the case study specific problems?











LIMITED ACCESSIBILITY

The porches are connected to staircases and offer no accessibility for the disabled and also less comfort for residents.

ANONYMOUS PLINTH

The functions in the ground floor create an anonymous closed off plinth.

NO FORMAL COMMUNAL SPACES

With only housing as the program,
the building is very private
and there is no room for social
interactions.

ONE HOUSING TYPE

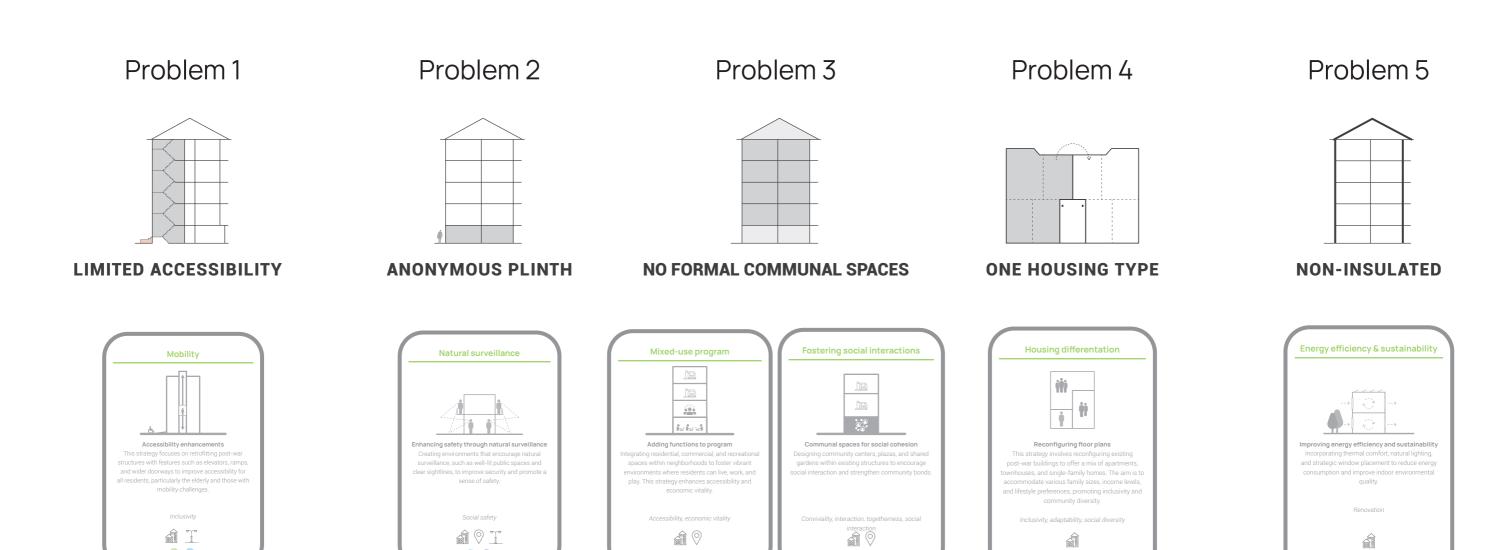
With the exception of the maisonette on the ground floor, there is only 1 housing type and no wide diversity of dwellings.

NON-INSULATED

The facades and roof are not insulated, which could lead to energy loss and uncomfortable indoor temperatures..

Design case

Which 'DS' cards are needed to improve the problems?



General social heritage challenges



BALANCING PRESERVATION AND MODERNIZATION

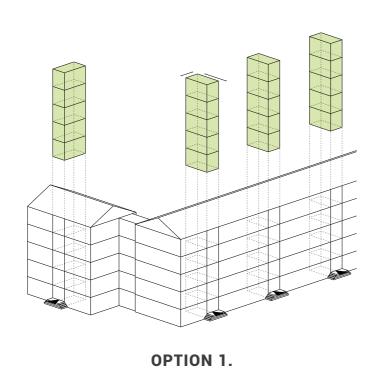
Heritage projects face the dilemma of updating buildings for modern use while preserving their heritage and character.



PRESENCE OF GREENERY

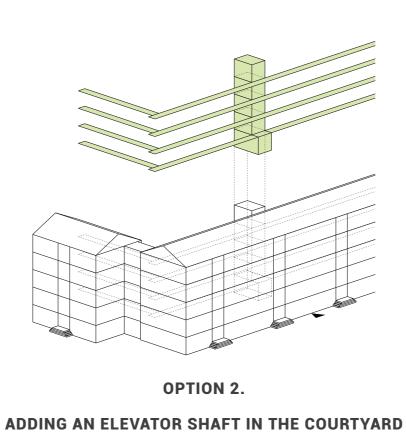
This strategy depends on whether greenery already exists or not. If greenery is present, it might need to be rearranged to improve user quality.



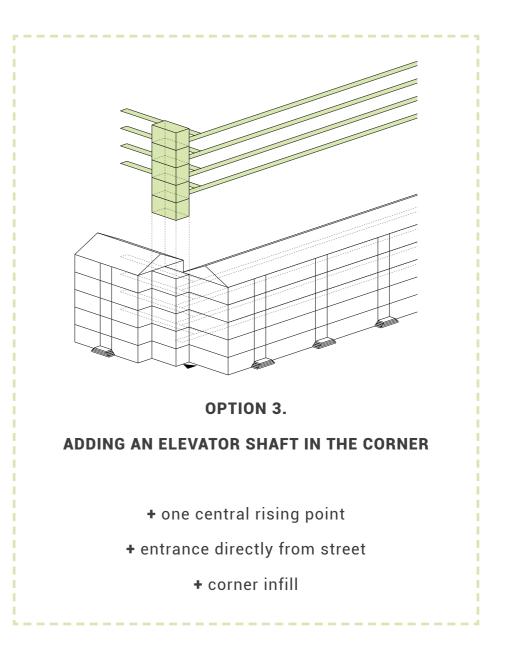


USING THE EXISTING PORCHES AS ELEVATOR SHAFTS

- does not fit within dimensions
 - ramp needed
 - costly



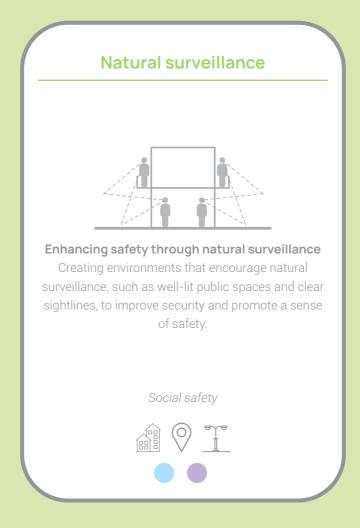
- - + one central rising point
 - obstructs view
 - entrance required through plinth





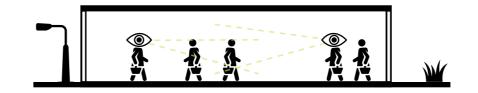


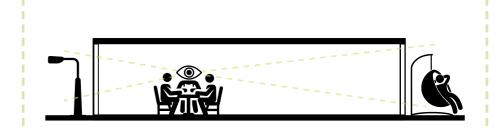
P2. Anonymous plinth How can you create eves on the streets'



How can you create eyes on the streets?







OPTION 1. COMMUNAL IN PLINTH

- + provides social control
- less public involved
- possible limited use

OPTION 2.

COMMERCIAL IN PLINTH

- + attracts external audiences
- limited activity related to opening hours
- insufficient interaction with surroundings

OPTION 3.

HOUSING IN PLINTH

- + constant presence and activity
- + social control of the environment
- lack of privacy on the street-side

How can you create eyes on the streets? (existing)



- no activity due to the closed plinth and storage areas behind it.

How can you create eyes on the streets?



+ plinth is more open due to the large window openings, and there is more activity because of the living area, both inside and outside, resulting in increased social control on the street and in the courtyard.

How can you create eyes on the streets?



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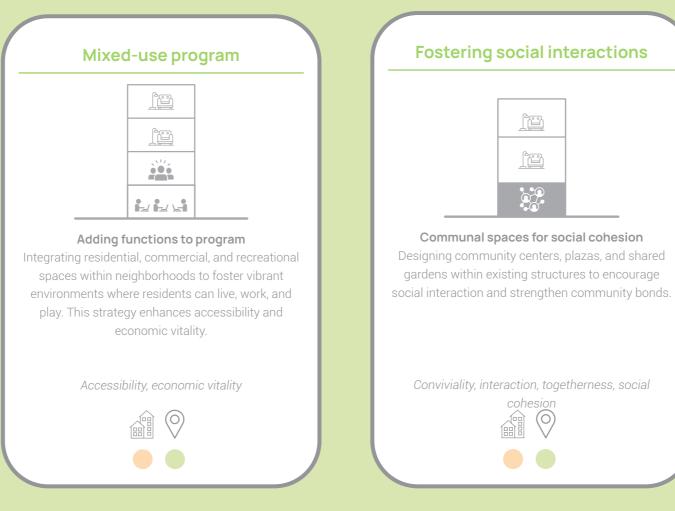
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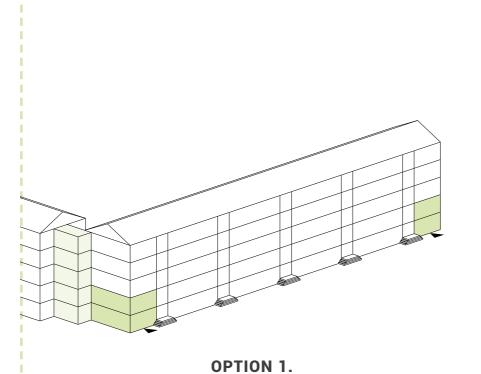


+ activity on the street can be created by a facade garden

P3. No formal communal spaces How to foster social interactions?

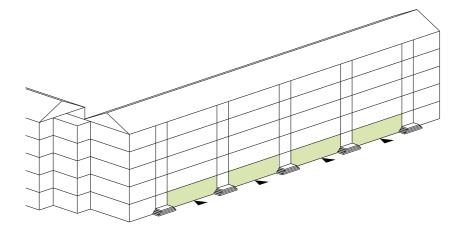


How to foster social interactions?



ADDING FUNCTIONS IN THE CORNER(S)

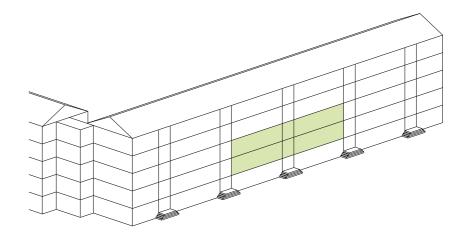
- + possibility to connect with entrance
 - + route through social functions
 - + action in side facade



OPTION 2.

ADDING FUNCTIONS IN THE PLINTH

- + easily accessible to residents from the street
 - only accessible from the outside

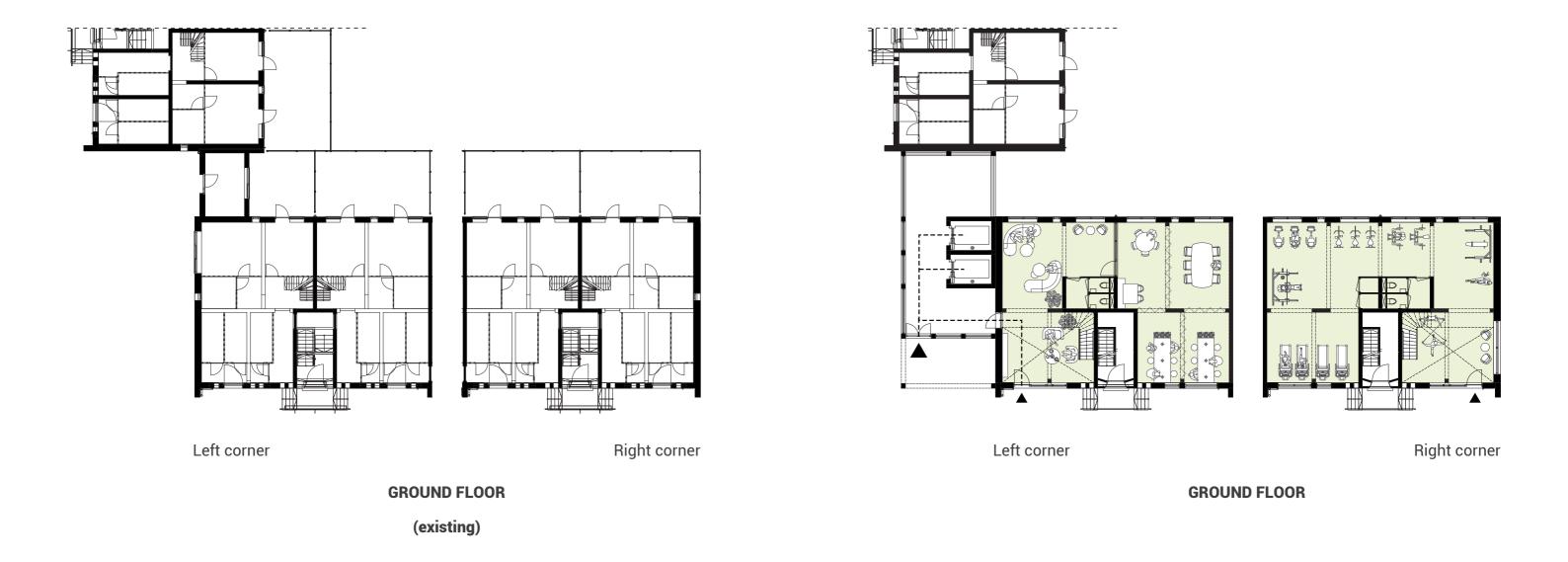


OPTION 3.

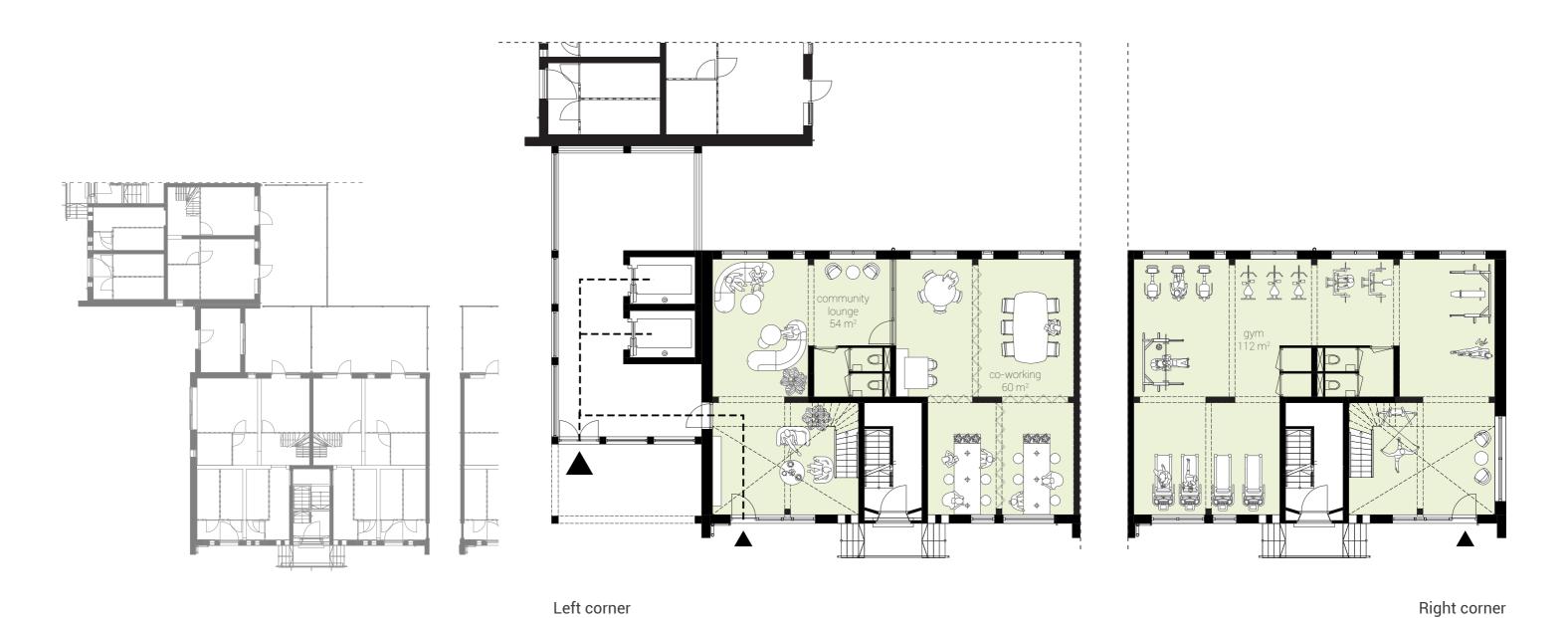
ADDING FUNCTIONS IN THE CENTER

- + internally accessible through galleries
 - not tied to a specific route

How to foster social interactions?

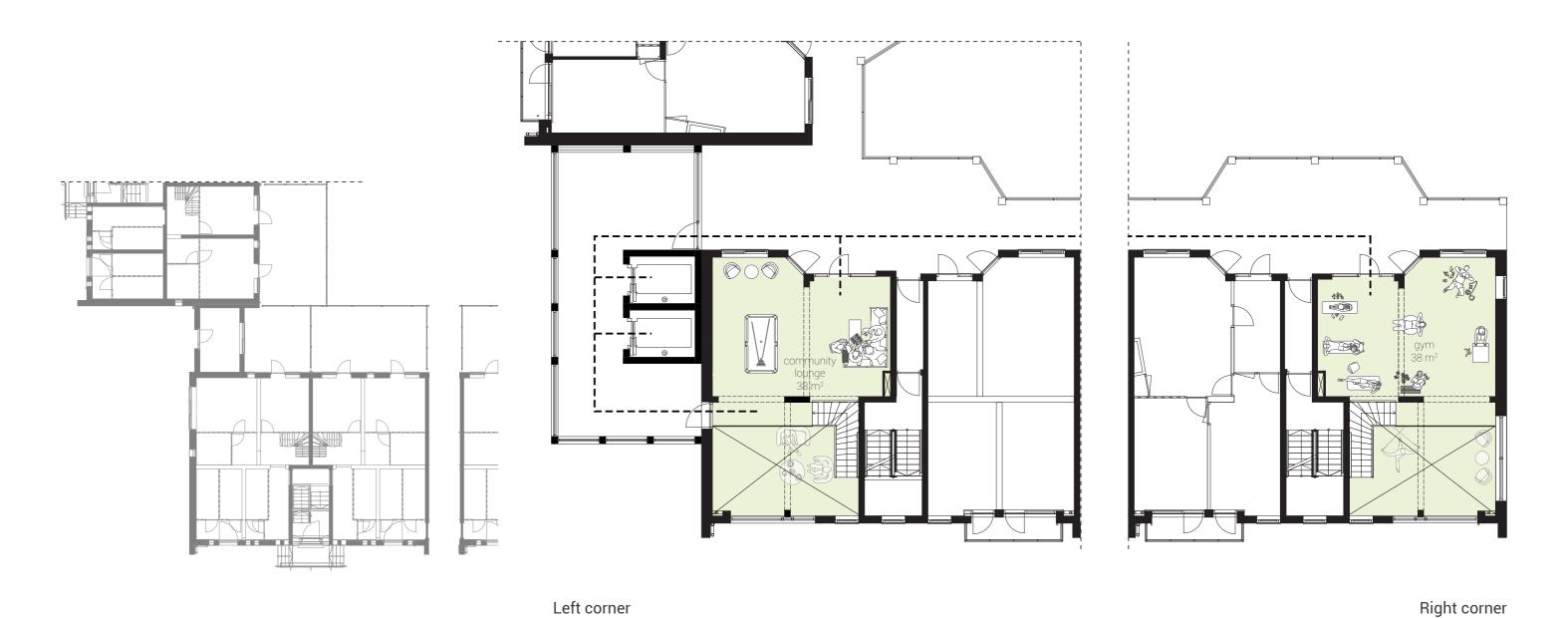


How to foster social interactions?



GROUND FLOOR

How to foster social interactions?



FIRST FLOOR

How to foster social interactions?



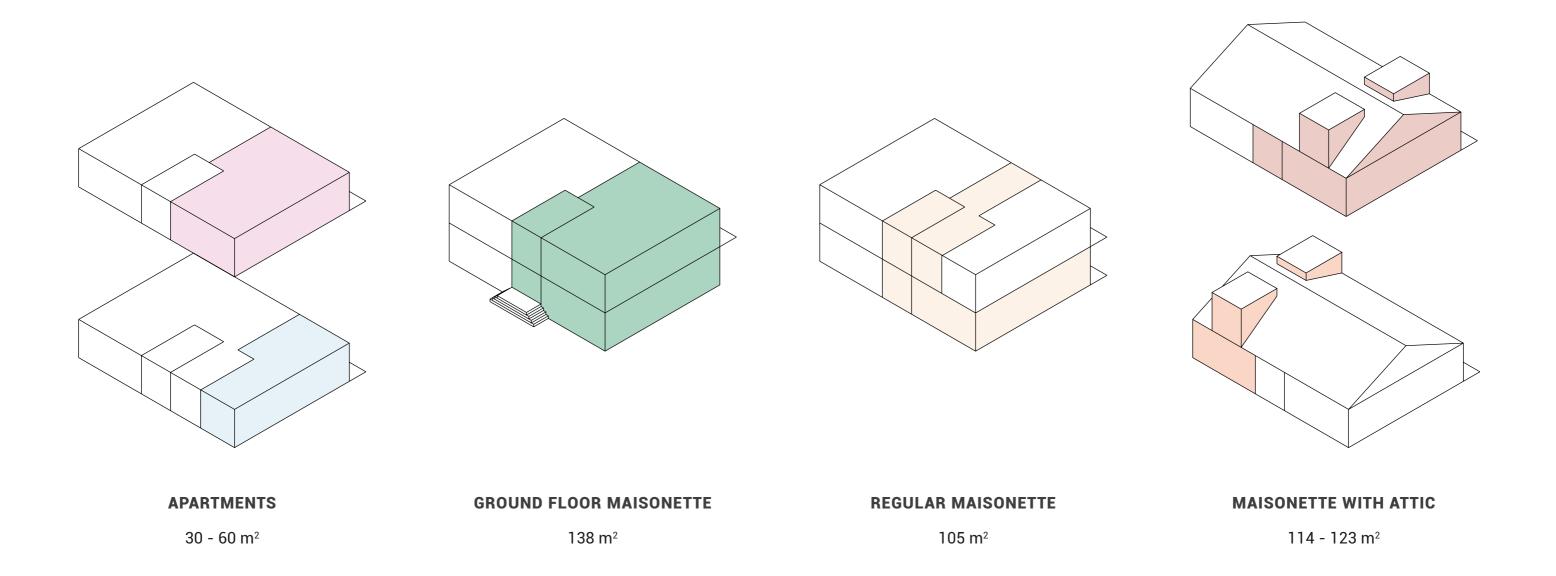
P4. One housing type

What housing types can be realized within the current structure?



P4. One housing type

What housing types can be realized within the current structure?



P4. One housing type

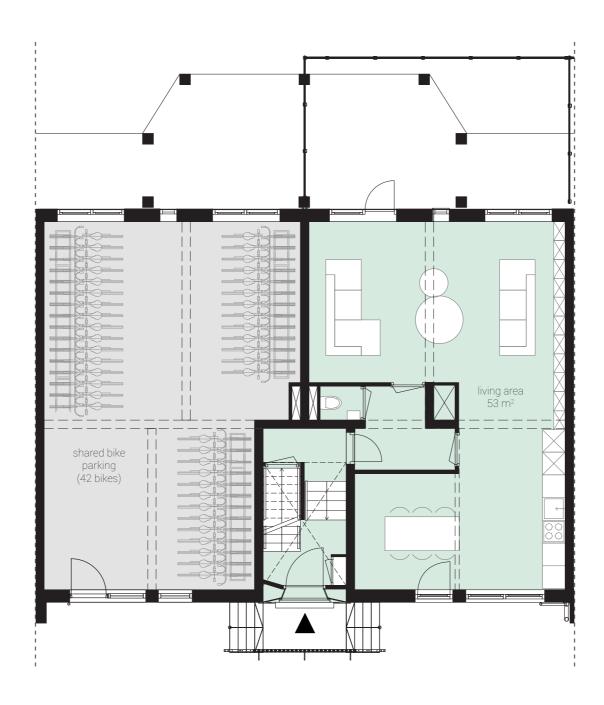
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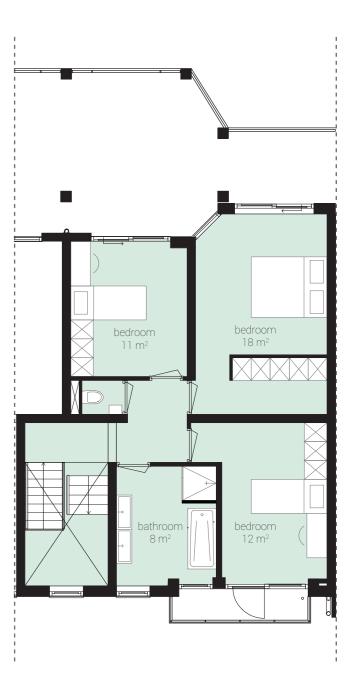
GROUND FLOOR MAISONETTE - 138 m²

- existing stair gets a new function
- + storage space under the stair
- the plinth is open which creates
 natural surveillance towars the
 street and the courtyard
- connected to the gallery

EXISTING DWELLING - 58 m²

- seperate living room and kitchen
- no designated dining area
- two bedrooms





What housing types can be realized within the current structure?

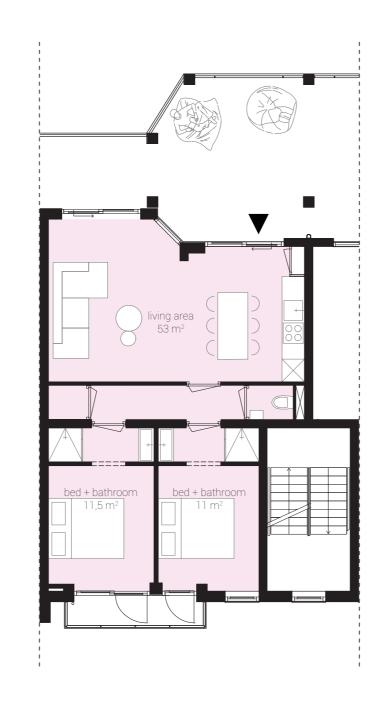
FRIENDS APARTMENT - 58 m²

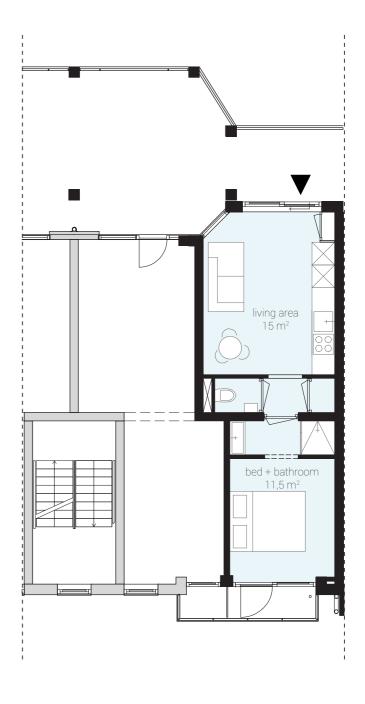
- shared living room but
 private bathrooms
- -/+ small (shared) storage space

SINGLE APARTMENT - 30 m²

- studio sized apartment but with master bedroom
- -/+ small storage space
- entrance right into living space

- seperate living room and kitchen
- no designated dining area
- two bedrooms



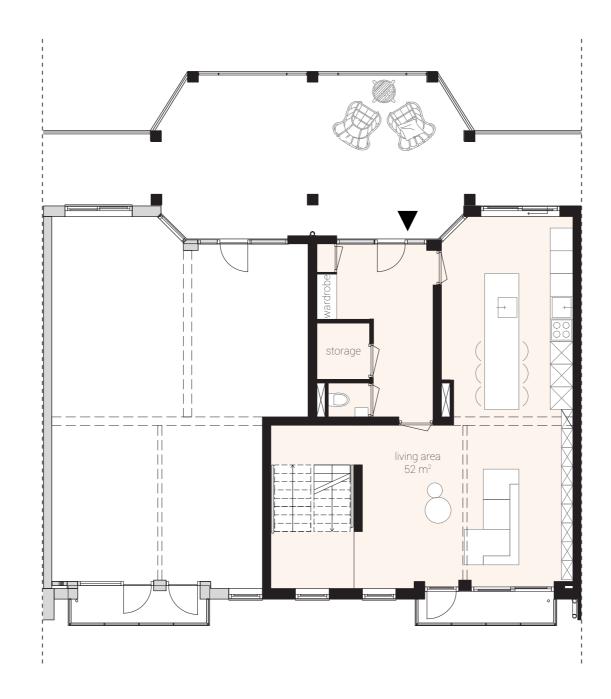


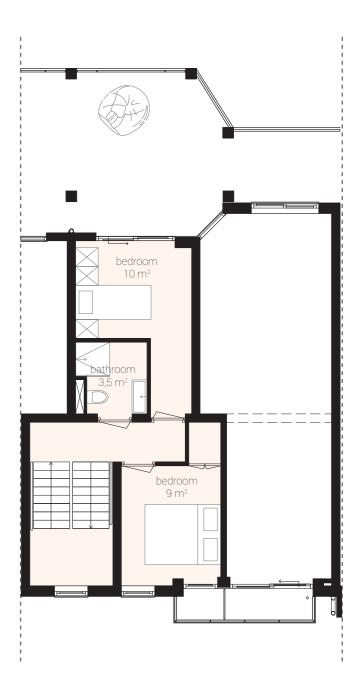
What housing types can be realized within the current structure?

REGULAR MAISONETTE - 105 m²

- existing stair gets a new function and becomes architectural element of the dwelling
- + spacious entrance hall
- storage space
- small bathroom
- small bedrooms

- seperate living room and kitchen
- no designated dining area
- two bedrooms



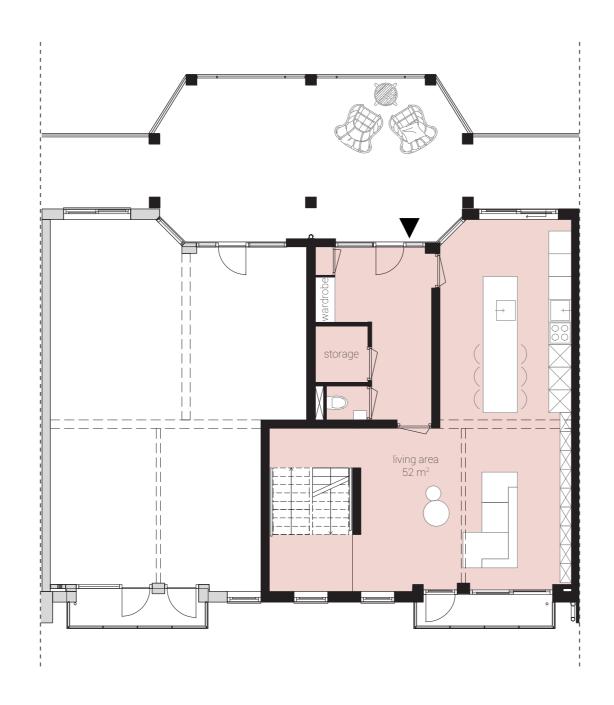


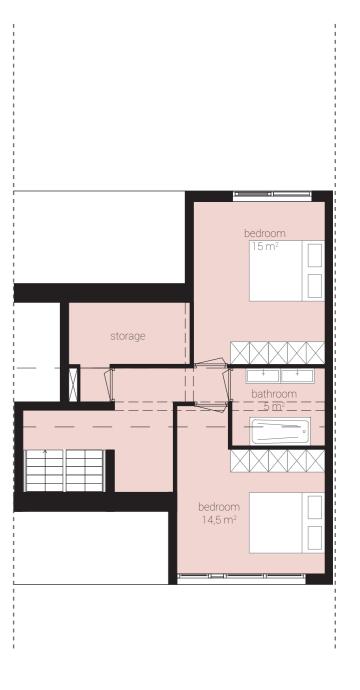
What housing types can be realized within the current structure?

MAISONETTE WITH ATTIC - 123 m²

- existing stair gets a new function and becomes architectural element of the dwelling
- + spacious entrance hall
- spacious bedrooms through dormers
- storage spaces in attic

- seperate living room and kitchen
- no designated dining area
- two bedrooms



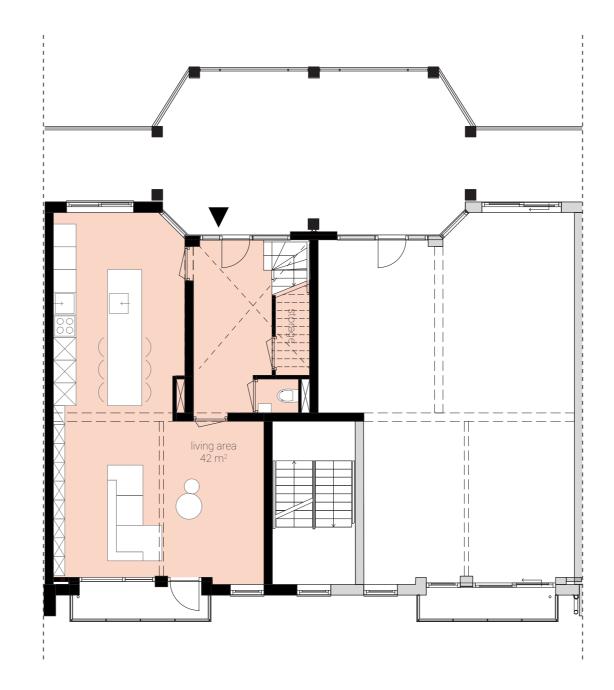


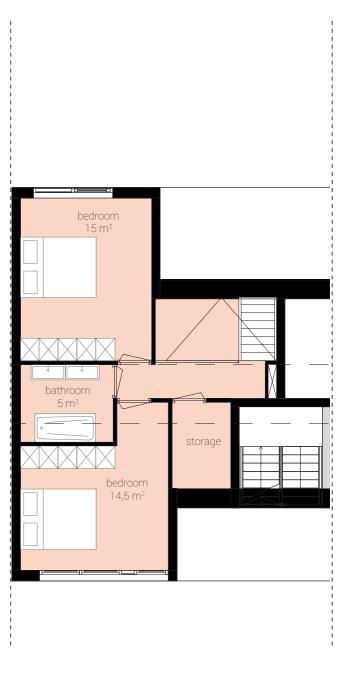
What housing types can be realized within the current structure?

MAISONETTE WITH ATTIC - 114 m²

- spacious entrance
- spacious bedrooms through dormers
- storage spaces in attic and under the stairs

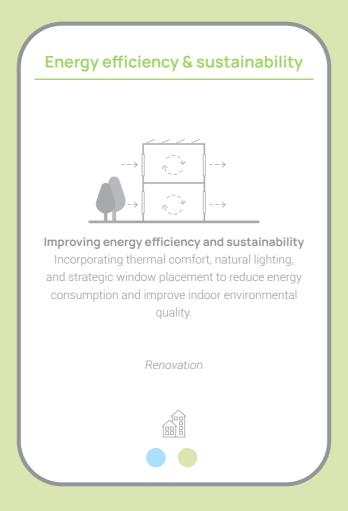
- seperate living room and kitchen
- no designated dining area
- two bedrooms





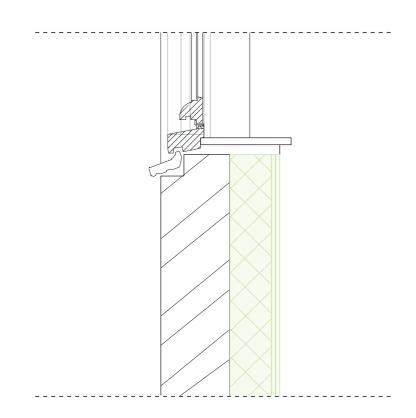
P5. Non-insulated

How can the energy efficiency of the porch building be improved?



P5. Non-insulated

How can the energy efficiency of the porch building be improved?

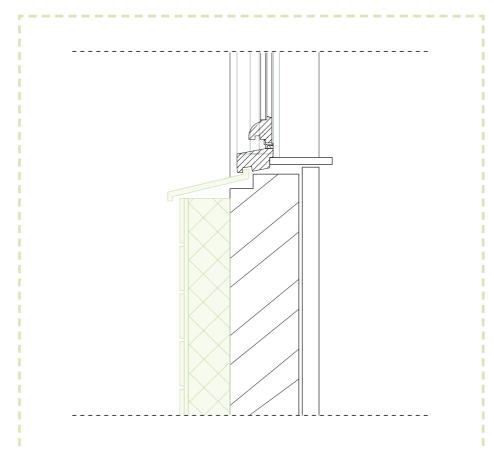


OPTION 1.

+ preserving the exterior facade

INSULATING THE FACADE FROM THE INSIDE

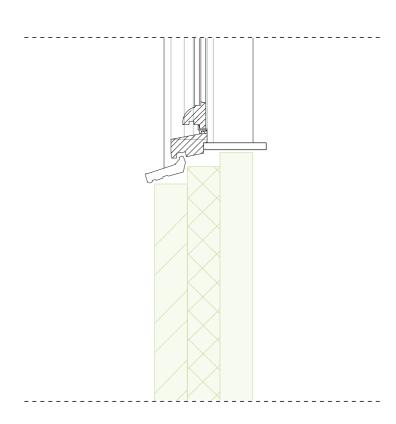
- loss of living space
- complex due to thermal bridges



OPTION 2.

INSULATING THE FACADE FROM THE OUTSIDE

- + better thermal performance
 - + preservation of space
- -/+ change in appearance

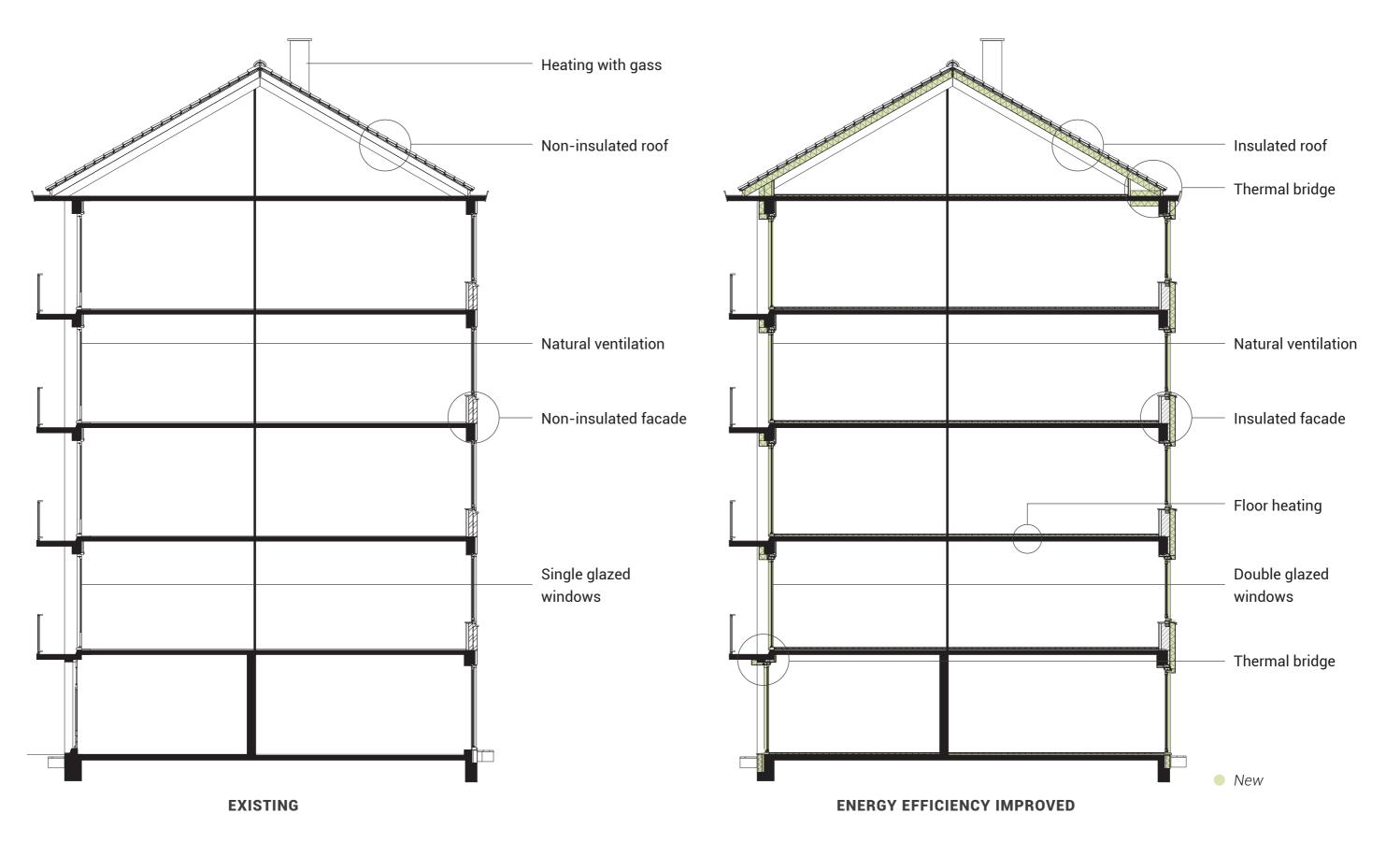


OPTION 3.

REPLACING THE FACADE WITH NEW

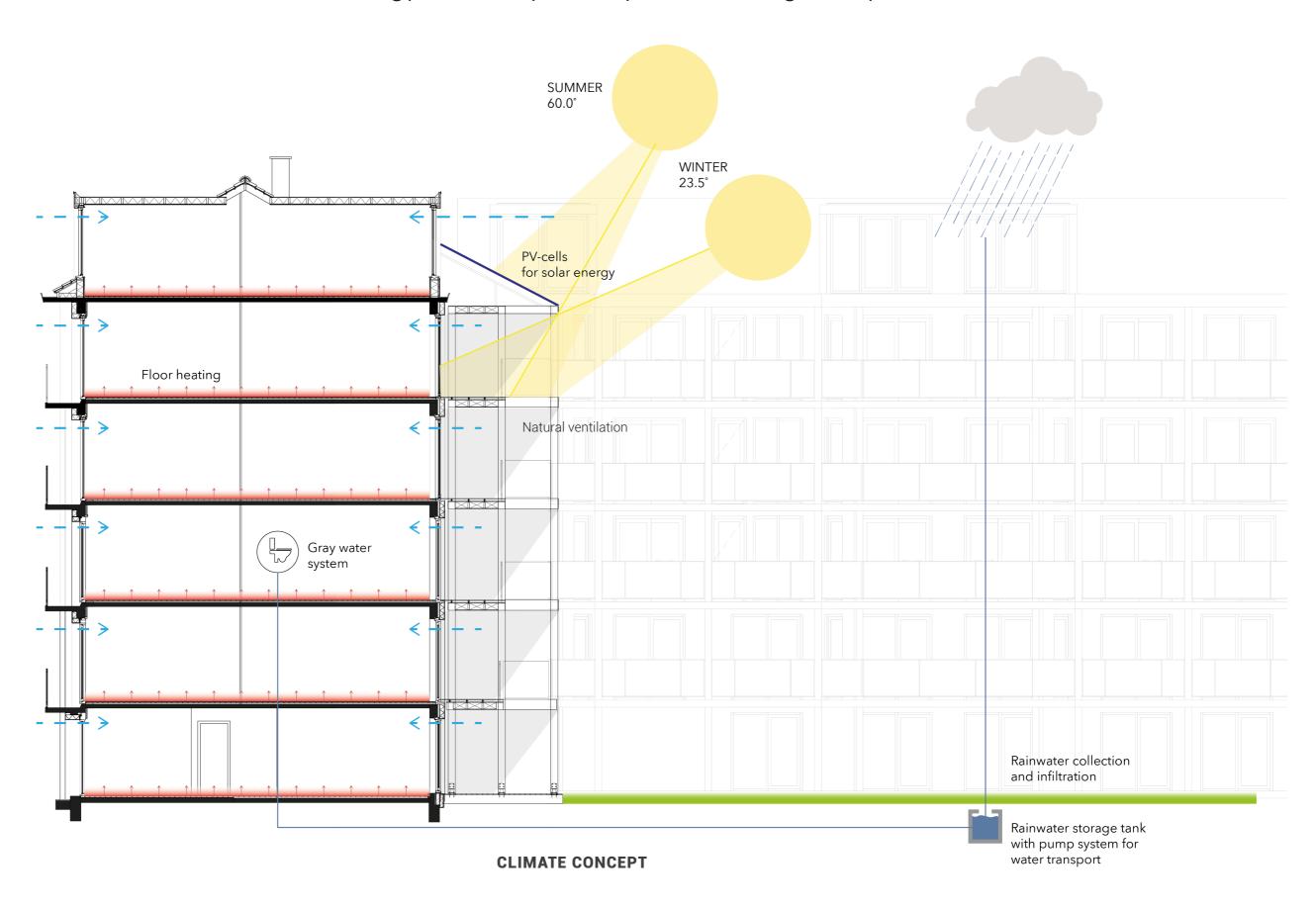
- structurally complex
- -/+ removing materials, using sustainable materials
 - higher costs
 - -/+ change in appearance

P5. Non-insulated
How can the energy efficiency of the porch building be improved?



P5. Non-insulated

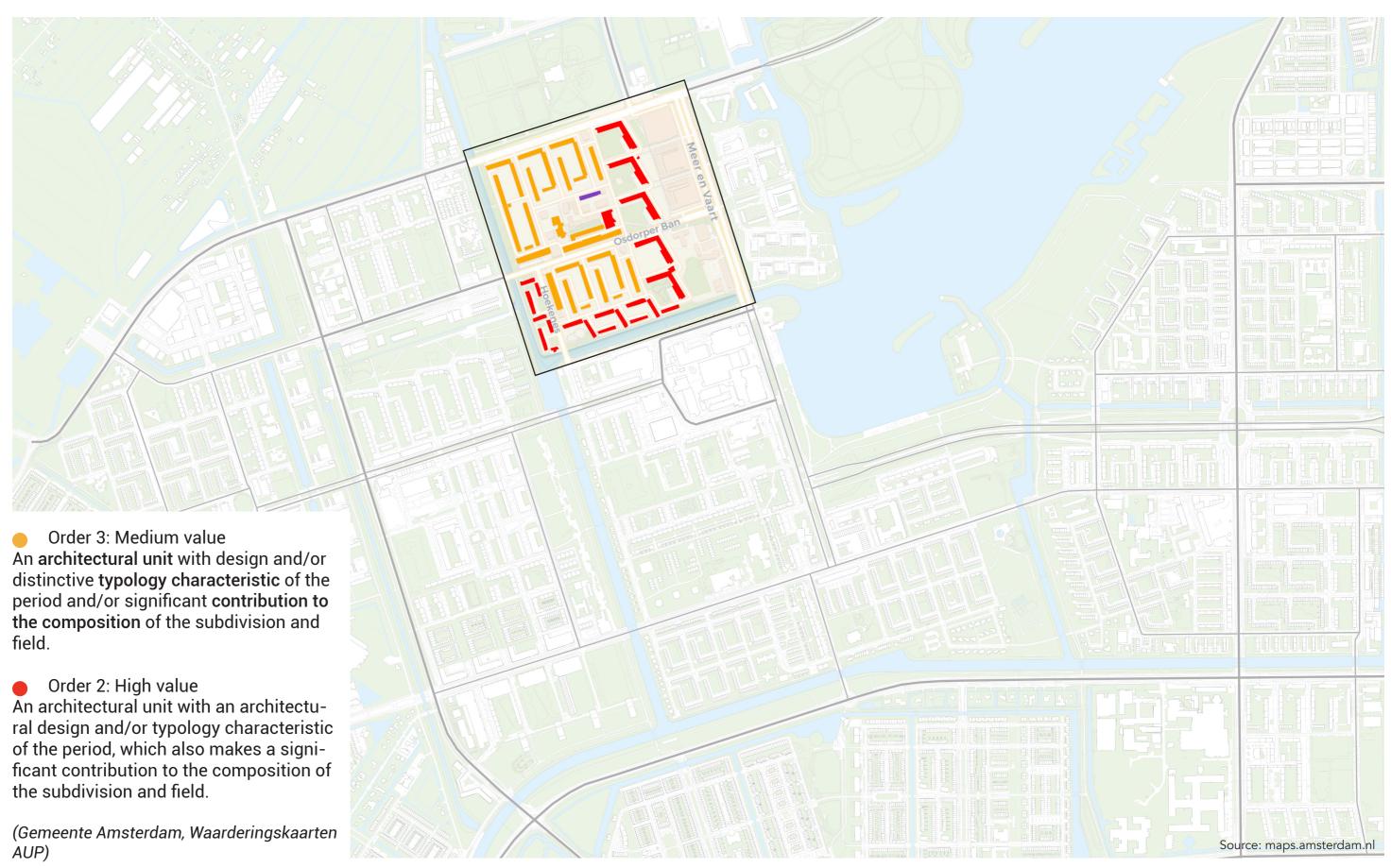
How can the energy efficiency of the porch building be improved?



What architectural building characteristics should be preserved to retain its identity?



What architectural building characteristics should be preserved to retain its identity?



What architectural building characteristics should be preserved to retain its identity? (existing)



The entrance and communal space





EXISTING

Retain the qualitative value of architectural ideas, but use them functionally in a contemporary way for a changing society.

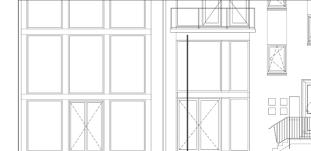
The entrance and communal space

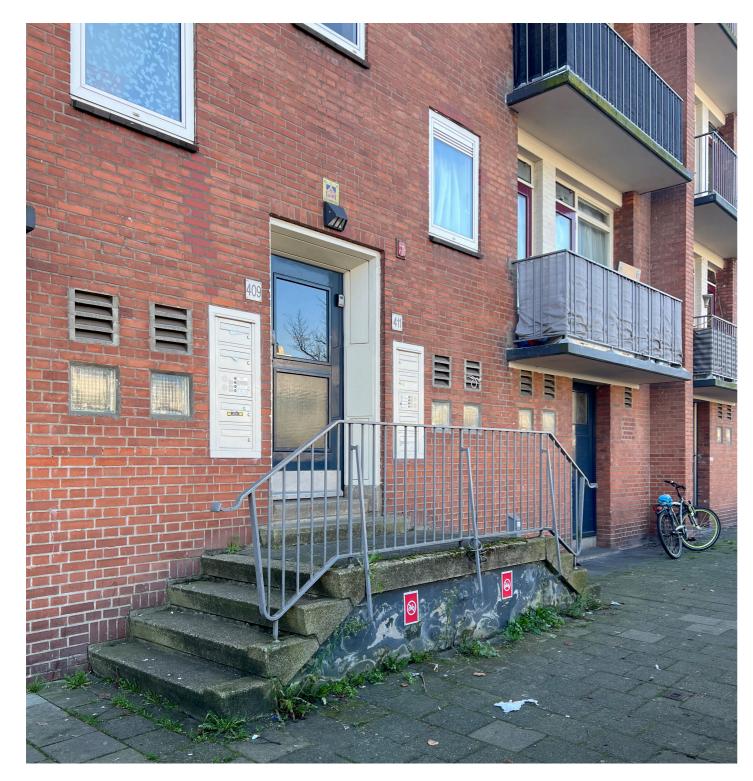


The entrance and communal space



Detail V1. 1:5







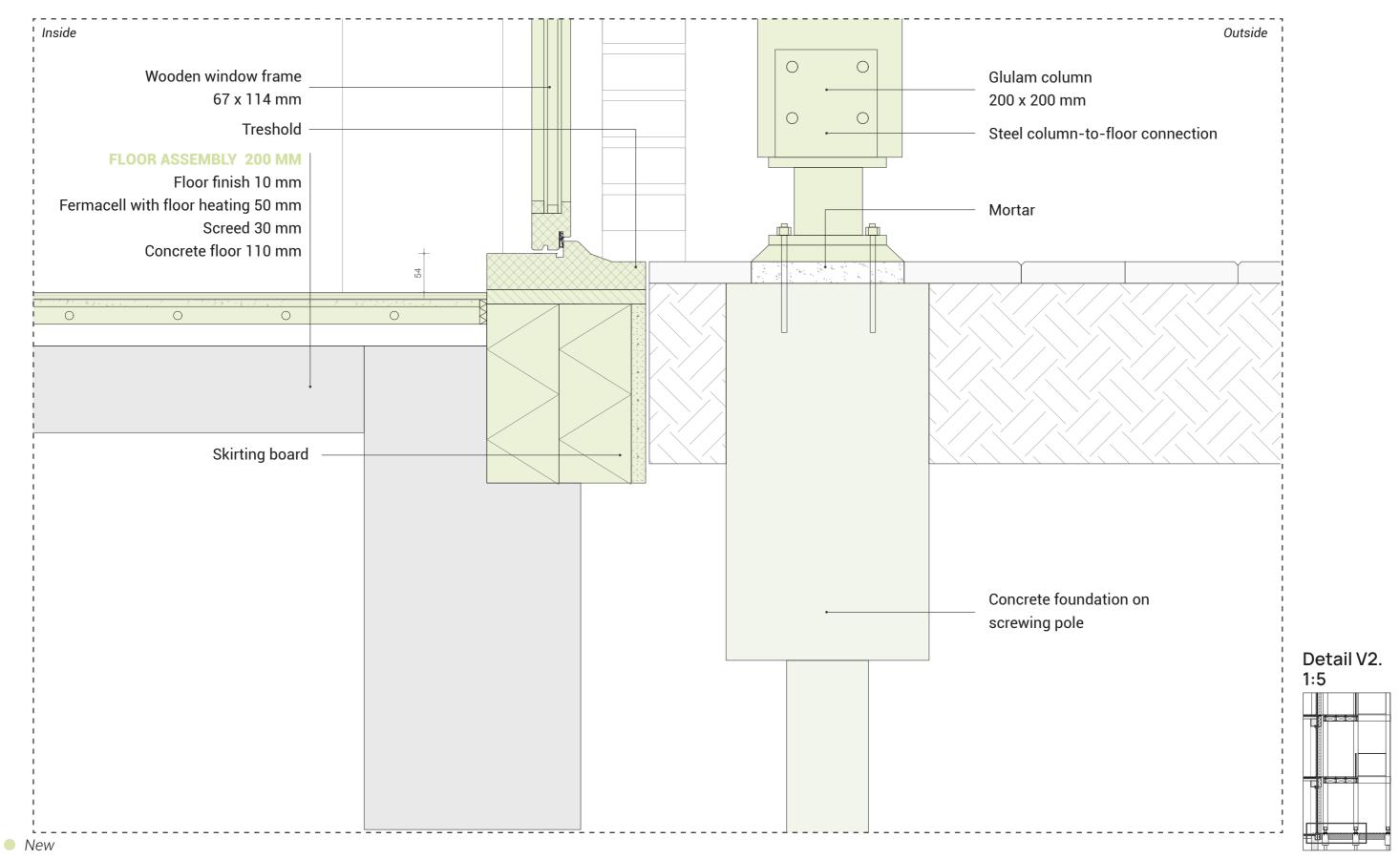
EXISTING

Ground floor dwelling



The entrance door to the ground floor apartment exudes a welcoming atmosphere through its material, color and transparency.

Ground floor dwelling

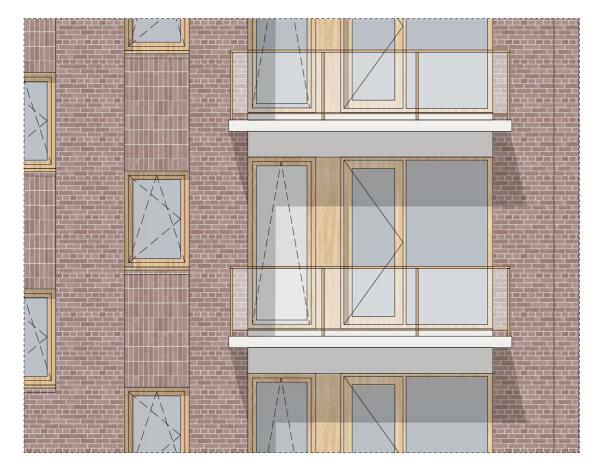




The dialogue between the two materials represents a balance between heritage and present, each expressing its era and function.

Together they create a balanced composition where existing and new coexist.

Apartment dwelling



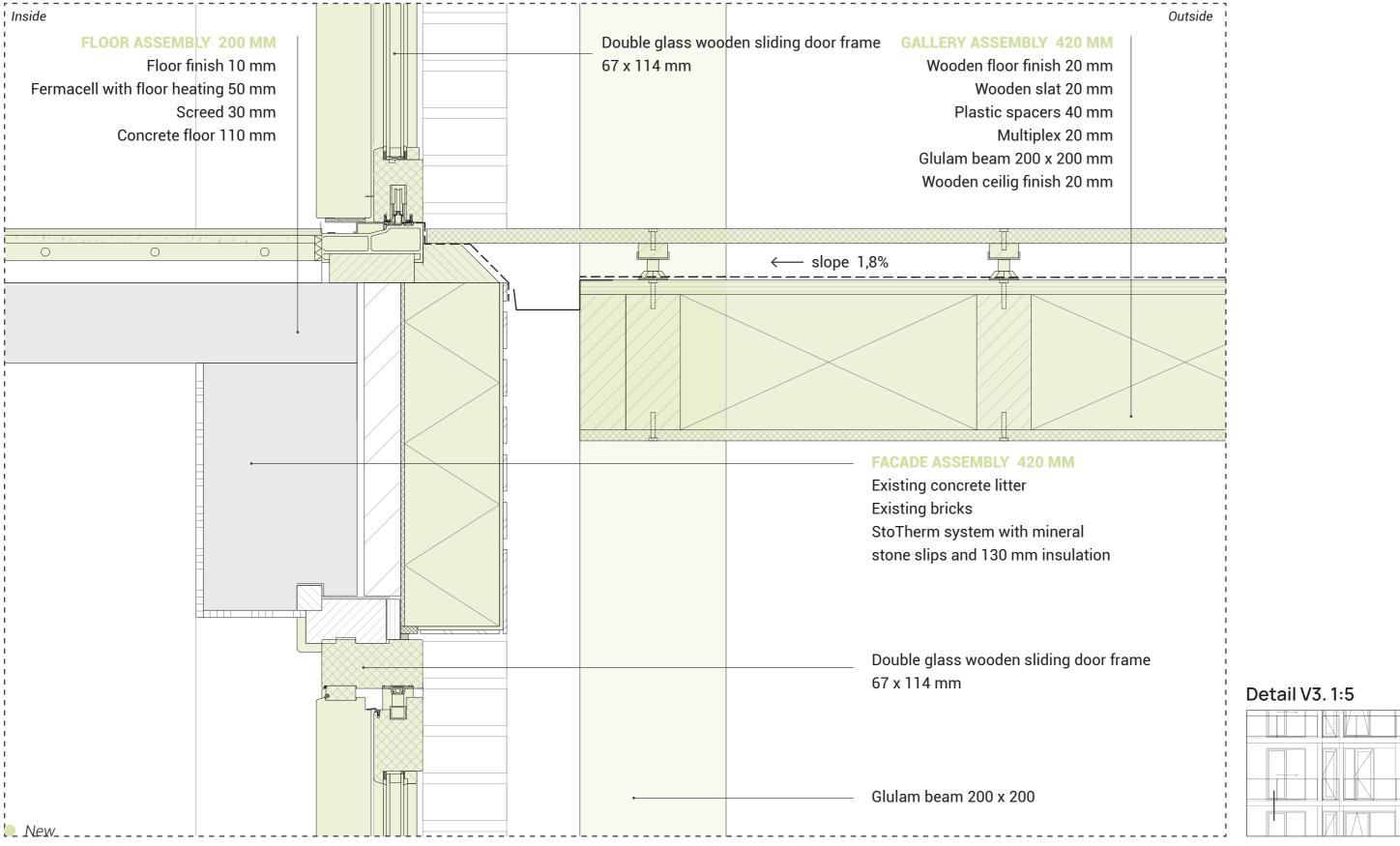


NORTH ELEVATION

The brick slips offer flexibility in the masonry bond pattern. While maintaining the existing bond, a playful accent has been added by vertically aligning the brick slips between the windows.

SOUTH ELEVATION

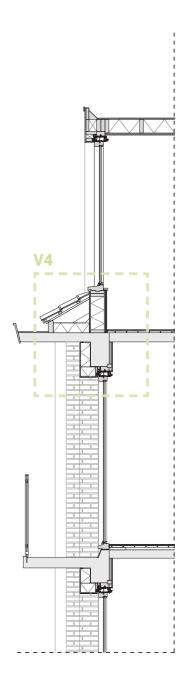
Apartment dwelling



Maisonette with dormers





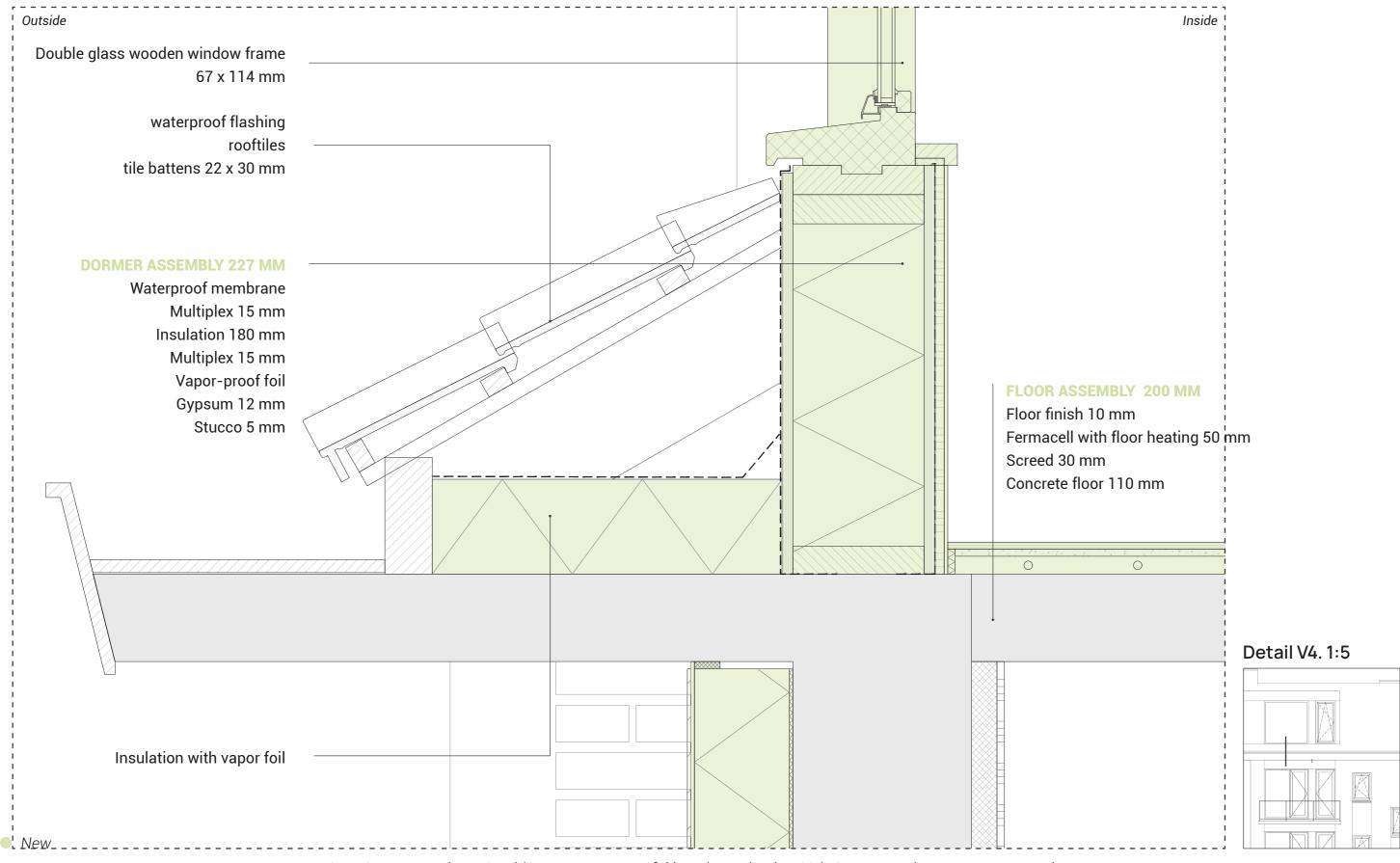


NORTH ELEVATION

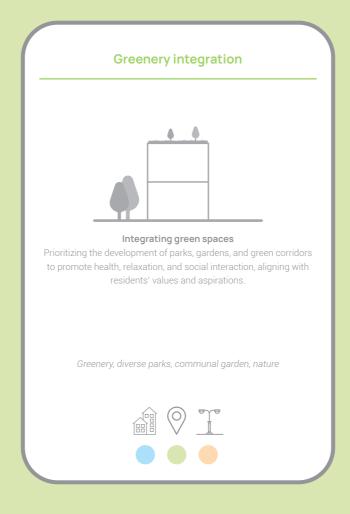
The new dormers harmonize with the existing facace and emulate the aesthetic and layout.

SOUTH ELEVATION

Maisonette with dormers



Greenery integration How can the courtyard be rearranged?



Greenery integration

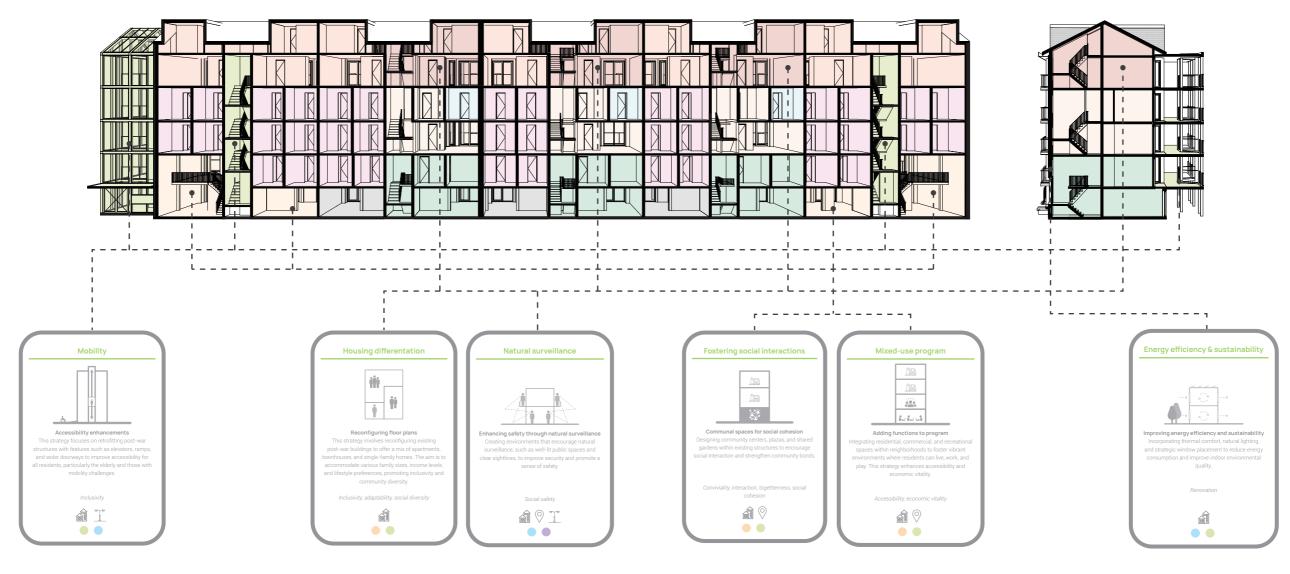
How can the courtyard be rearranged?



SOCIAL ENCOUNTERS

The layout encourages and creates a childfriendly space for meeting and brings local residents together.

How do the design strategies interact?



IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY

- + elevator access provides better accessibility
- + gallery also provides space for social interaction
 - orientation of gallery affects daylighting
 - two staircases needed as escape routes
- height difference should be solved through small slopes

MORE DWELLING TYPES

- + 6 dwelling types instead of 2
- + gallery also provides space for social interaction
- attic apartments dependent on floor height
 - change of housing typology

(architecturally valued by municipality)

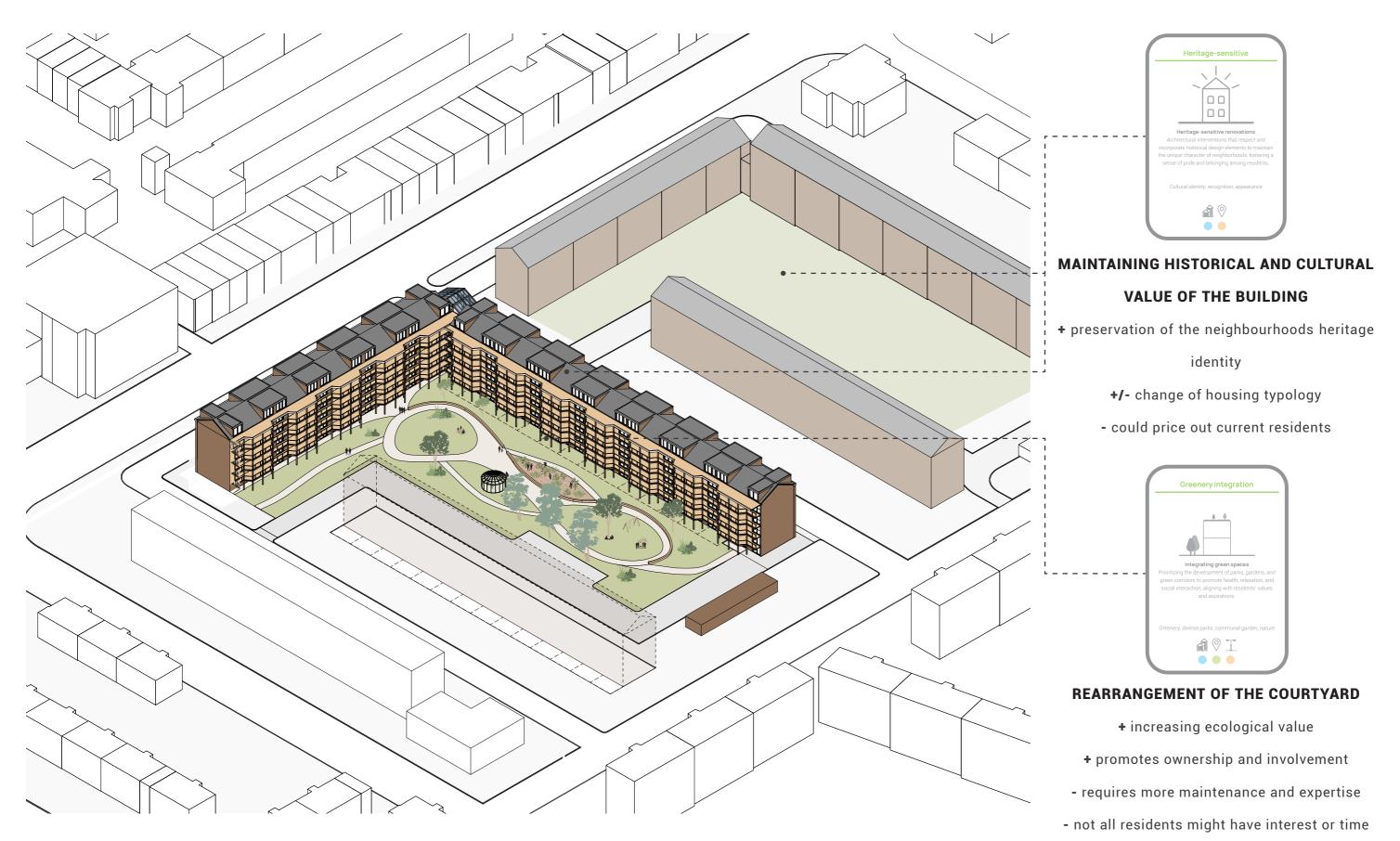
COMMUNAL SPACES ADDED TO PROGRAM

- + meeting spaces for residents
- + activity in the plinth which provides natural surveillance
 - less space for housing
- requires maintenance, repairs and responsibility

RETROFITTING INSULATION

- + improved thermal comfort
- + energy efficiency upgrade
- +/- Impact on external features and aesthetics
- some considerations lead to thermal bridges

How do the design strategies interact?

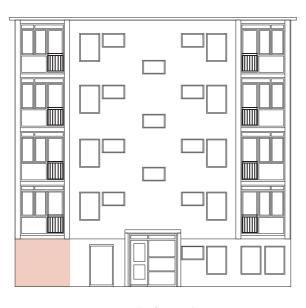


How can the design strategies be applied on other porch buildings?



OOKMEERWEG IN OSDORP

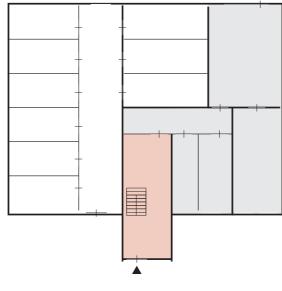




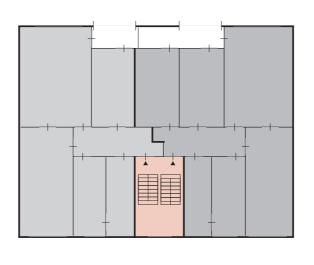
North facade



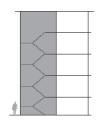
South facade



Ground floor

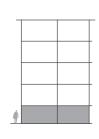


1st - 4th floor



LIMITED ACCESSIBILITY

The porches are connected to staircases and offer no accessibility for the disabled and also less comfort for residents.



ANONYMOUS PLINTH AND END WALL

The end wall is completely closed off, making the corner feel very anonymous.

OOKMEERWEG EXISTING SITUATION

How can the design strategies be applied on other porch buildings?



OOKMEERWEG IN OSDORP

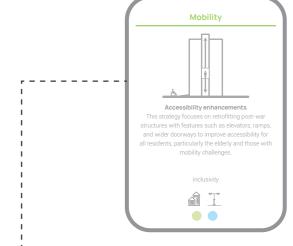




Ground floor

1st - 4th floor

North facade



IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY

- + each block has it's own elevator core
 - + fits within current dimensions
- less social encounters among neighbours
- floorplan must be adjusted for relocated

entrance

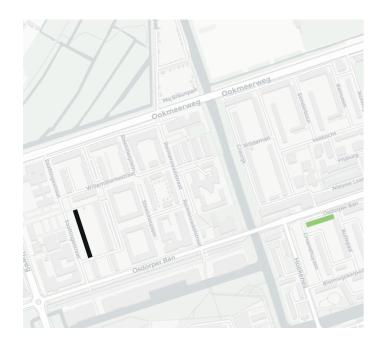


MORE EYES ON THE STREET

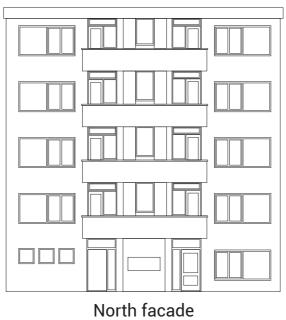
- + more daylight and sightlines from corner apartments
 - less privacy in the plinth

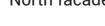
OOKMEERWEG DESIGN STRATEGIES APPLIED/TESTED

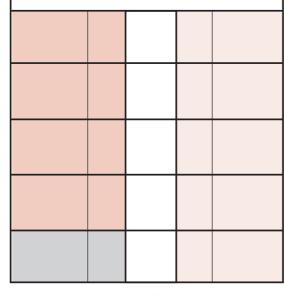
How can the design strategies be applied on other porch buildings?



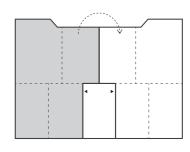
SAAFTINGESTRAAT IN OSDORP





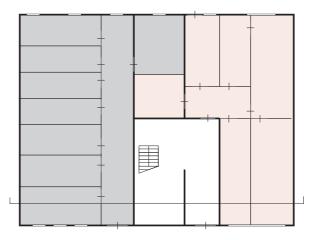


Section

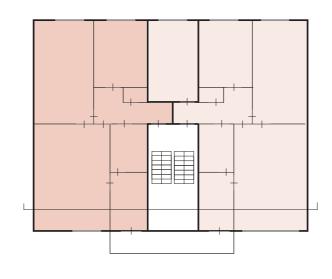


ONE HOUSING TYPE

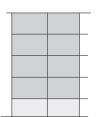
There is only 1 housing type and no wide diversity of dwellings.



Ground floor



1st - 4th floor

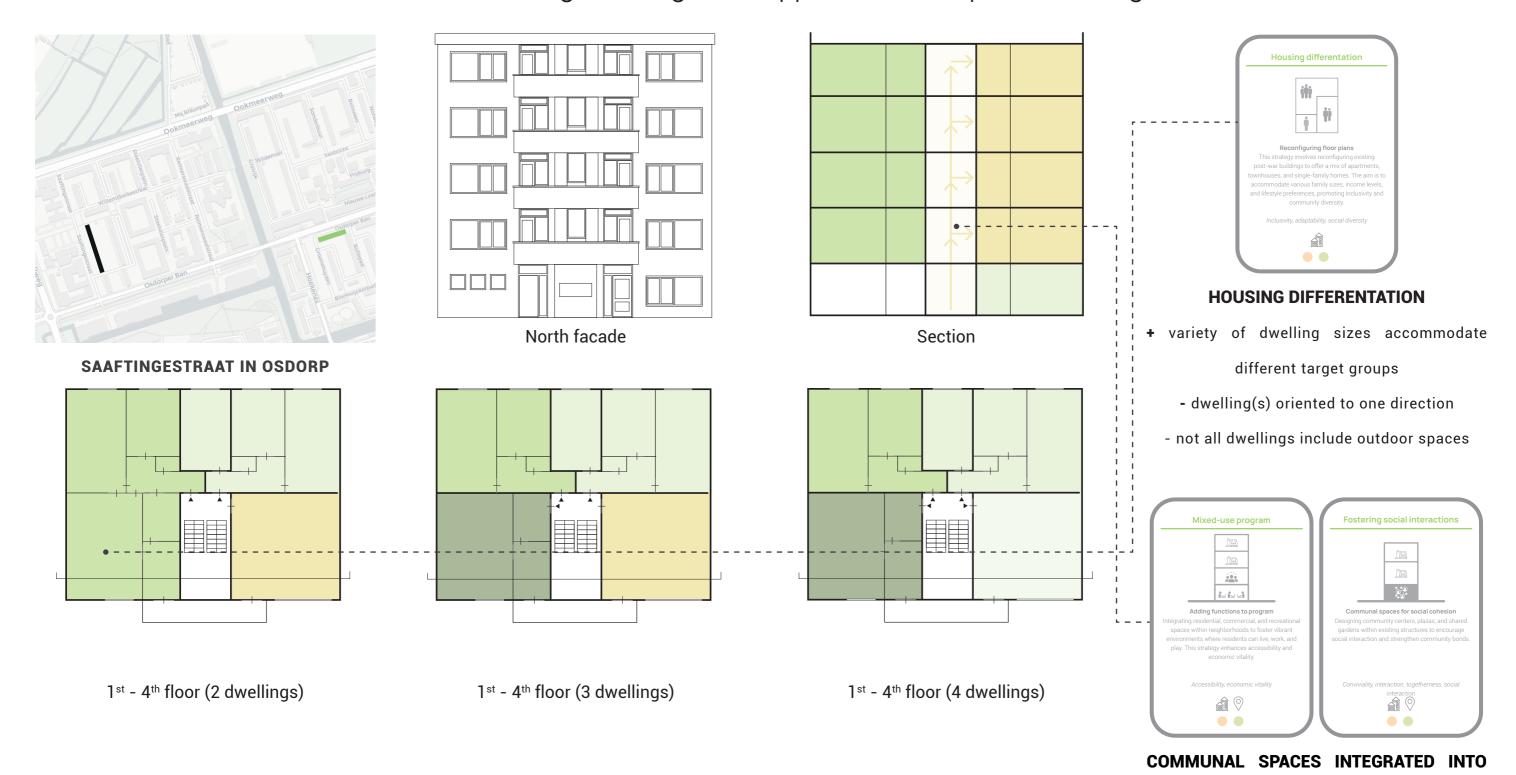


NO FORMAL COMMUNAL SPACES

With only housing as the program, the building is very private and there is no room for social interactions.

SAAFTINGESTRAAT EXISTING SITUATION

How can the design strategies be applied on other porch buildings?



SAAFTINGESTRAAT DESIGN STRATEGIES APPLIED/TESTED

+ communal spaces connected to the staircase

to stimulate social encounters

PROGRAM

