

***Tara Group Housing***

*Research Seminar Graduation Studio*  
*Msc 3 | AR3A010 | Q1 | 2016-2017*

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## *Tara Group Housing*

*Architect | Charles Correa*

*Location | New Delhi*

*Year | 1975 - 1978*

*Density | 125 dwellings x hectare*

*People | 325 x hectare*

*Dwellings Typology I | 124*

*Dwellings Typology II | 16*

*Material | concrete, brick*

## ***Introduction***

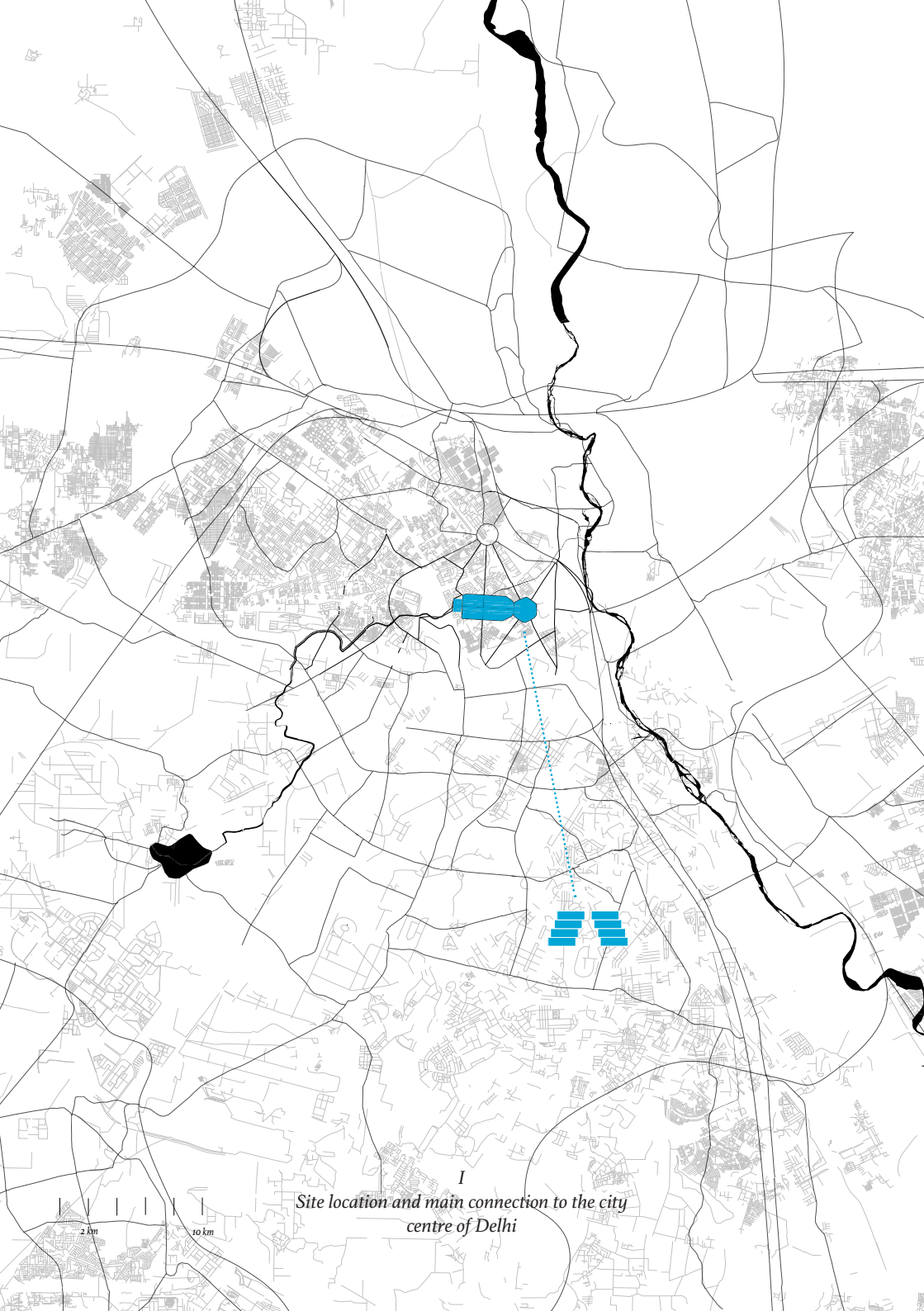
*The Tara complex is a low-rise high-density group of dwellings of two and three bedrooms units. It is located in Delhi in the outskirts of the city; the concept was introduced to rehabilitate the 1947 partition affected people who had nowhere to settle down after their retirement. Because of this, the architect paid extreme attention in providing a sense of privacy for all the residents; indeed, none of the apartments looks into another's flat.*

*The overall complex is formed by the combination between two tiers of shifting maisonettes. The roof of the lower level forms open-to-sky terraces for the upper level. The space in between the two rows of units works as a central terraced garden partially covered by a pergola, which is a focus for the community.*

*The apparently chaotic public space could appear as the result of the shifting movement of the units. The Architect Charles Correa, on the contrary, struggled in combining the design outdoor space with the units conceiving a unique public space in which the community can gather and find its own identity.*

### ***Urban Scale***

*Tara group housing is situated at about 15 km from the city centre of Delhi; the complex is conceived along a main axe, which is parallel to the fast traffic road Guru Ravidas Marg Street. More, the main axe points towards the Jahanpanah city forest following the natural hillside. Furthermore, the surroundings are dense of buildings despite for the south part facing towards the park. In order to create a stronger relationship within the context, the Architect Charles Correa decided to design the project perpendicular to the slope of the terrain. Indeed, there is a 2,5 meters height difference between the north and south side of the plot.*



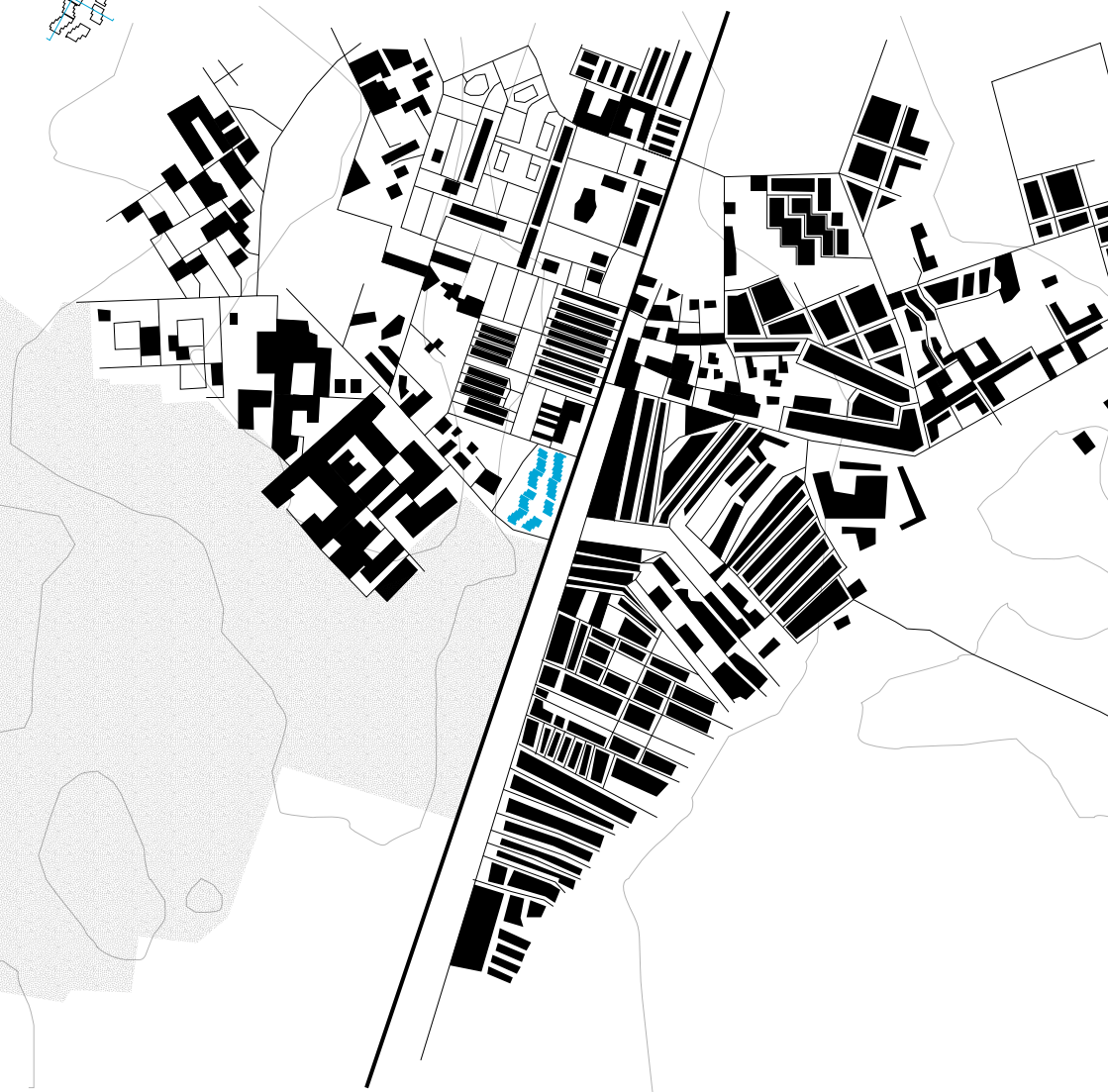
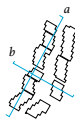
I  
Site location and main connection to the city  
centre of Delhi

2 km

10 km

Section b

+ 2.4m Section a



II

Site location within the context of the  
Guru Ravidas Marg Street



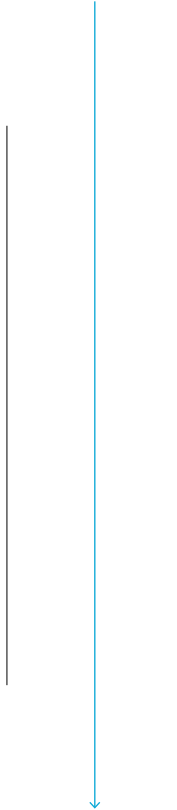


### ***The Evolution of the Architect's aim***

*Since the site points towards the Jahanpanah city forest, the architect could have designed the dwellings in straight line facing the park.*

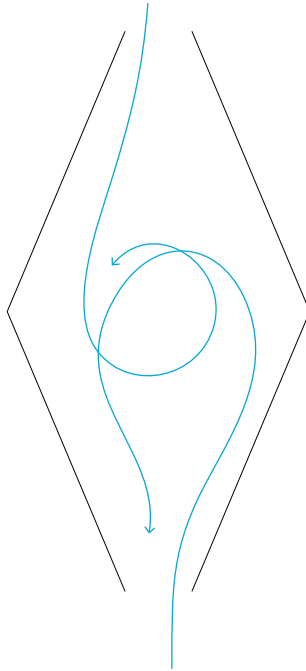
*On the contrary, Charles Correa aimed to focus on the inner public space created by the shifting movement of the apartment units. At the centre of the neighbourhood a core of the public space is created by the arrangement of the units.*

*Furthermore, the addition of public facilities within the community space creates different views diversifying the perception of the environment.*



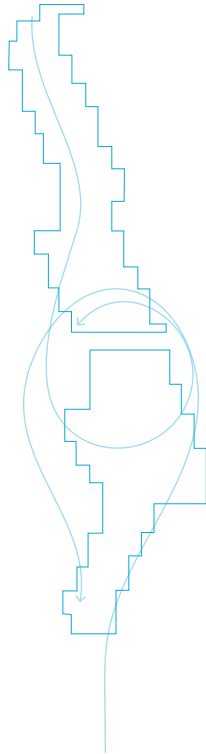
*I Phase*

*The project points along a main axe creating  
a public space that misses of identity and  
diversity*



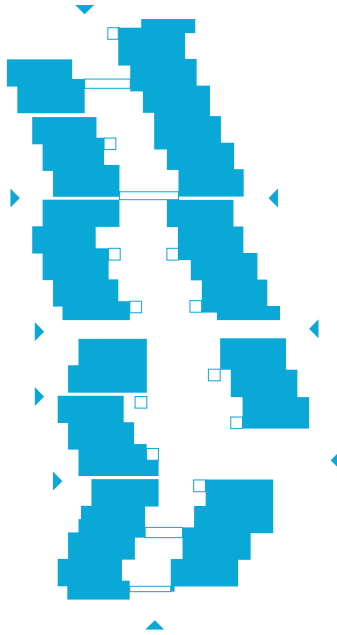
*II Phase*

*The Architect wanted to focus on the inner public space with a centre in the middle of the plot*



### *III Phase*

*The shifting movement of the units façades  
creates a diversified public space*

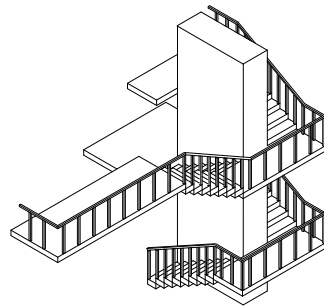
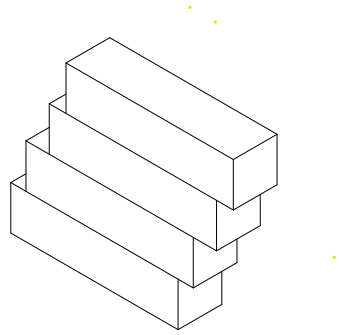
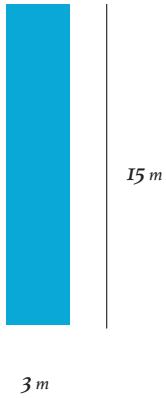


*IV Phase  
The addition of the buildings and the position  
of the entrances diversify the perception of  
the common space*

### ***The Module***

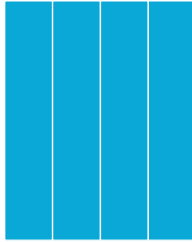
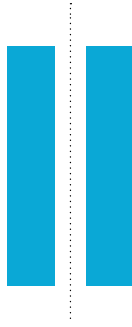
*The complex is composed by two tiers of maisonettes apartment dwellings 3 meters wide and 15 meters long. The apartment unit shifts both in section and in plan differentiating the perception of the inner public space. The block of the stairs affects the position of the module creating a unique whole between the apartment block and the circulation block.*

*There are 124 two bedrooms flat of 84 m<sup>2</sup> and 16 three bedrooms apartments of 130 m<sup>2</sup>. The latter interlock a L shape so that they cover one bay width on one level and two bays on the other. More, each unit is provided with a 10 m<sup>2</sup> open-to-sky terrace which is partially protected by a pergola. The position of the units, north-east south-west, protects each other against the hot dry climate of northern India.*

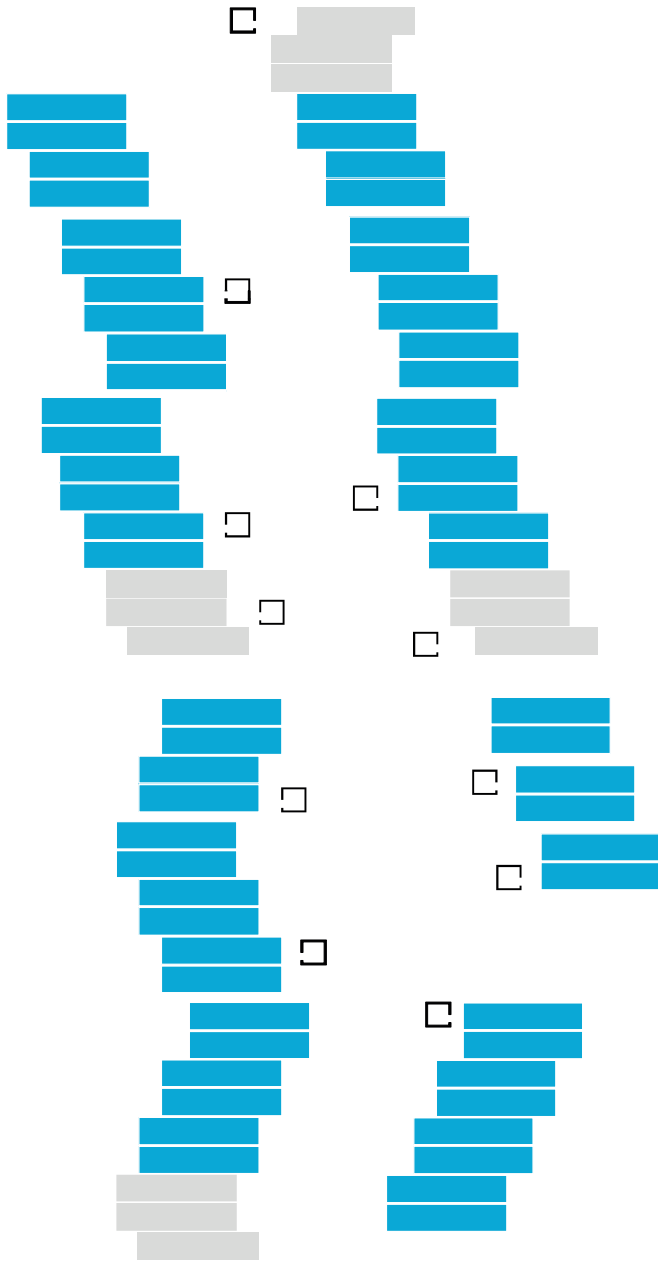


*I Elements*  
The composition of the module and the stair  
block contribute in defining the inner public  
space within the site

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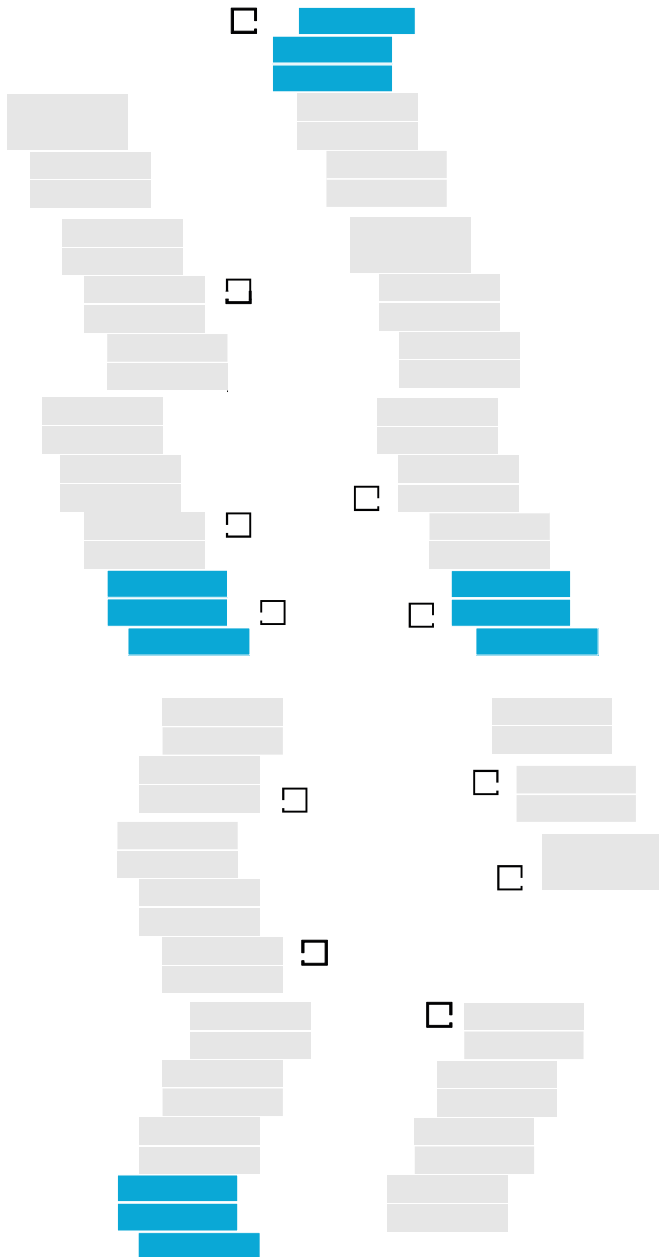




III

*The position of the Module throughout the plot*

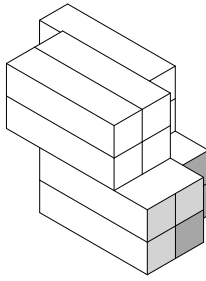
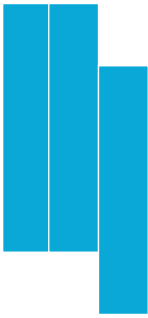
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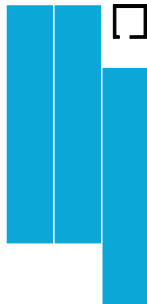
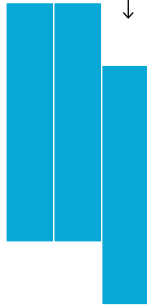
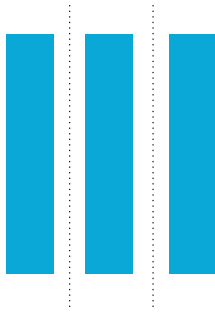


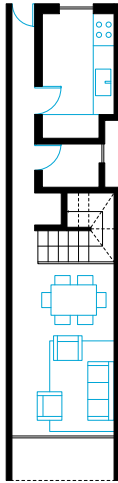
*IV The Exception*

*The three bedrooms apartment are located  
on the edges of the plot*

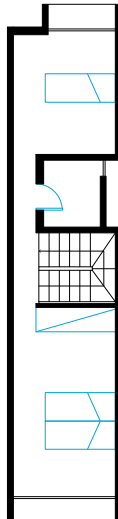
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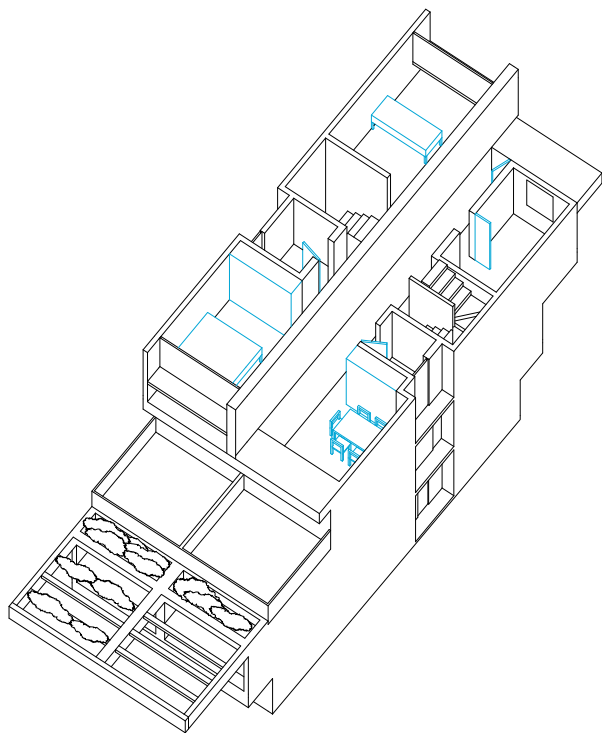
*Second Floor*



*Third Floor*

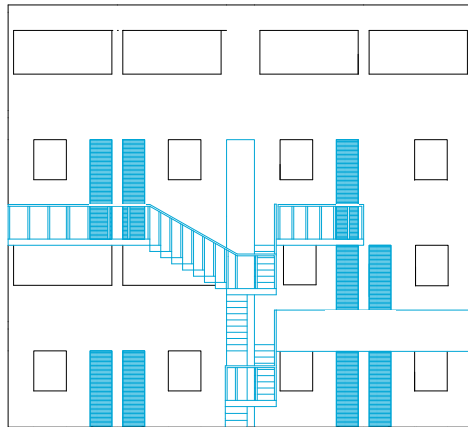
VII  
*Two Bedrooms Apartment*  
84 m<sup>2</sup>

Scale 1:200



VIII

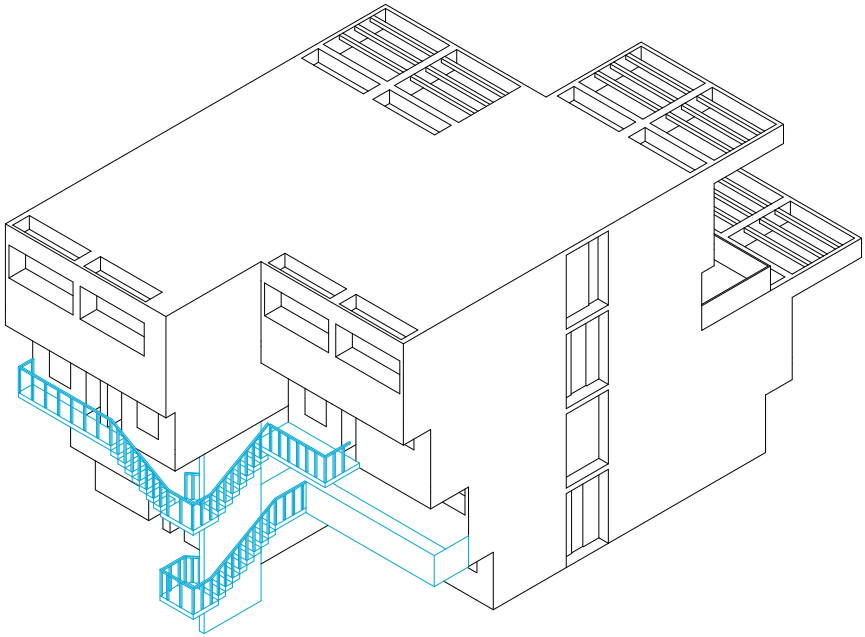
*Axonometry of the Two Bedrooms Apartment*



IX

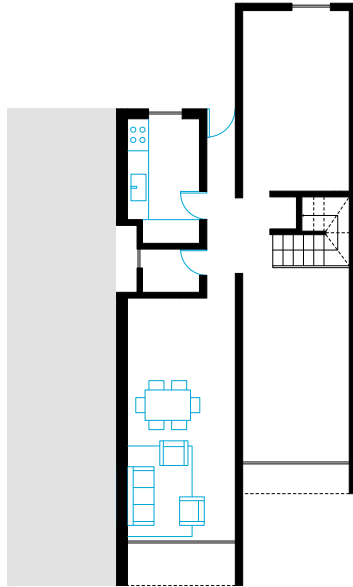
*Inner Elevation of the Stair Block*  
*Each stair block serves 9 apartments*

Scale 1:200

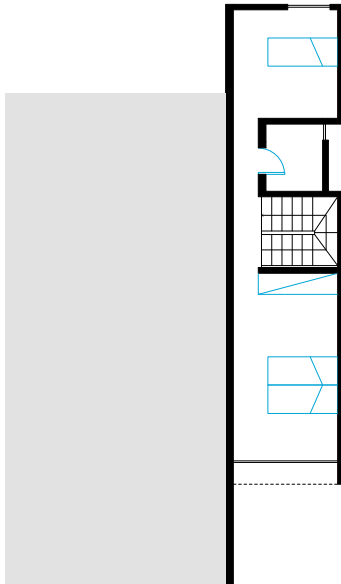


X  
*Axonometry of the Stair block*





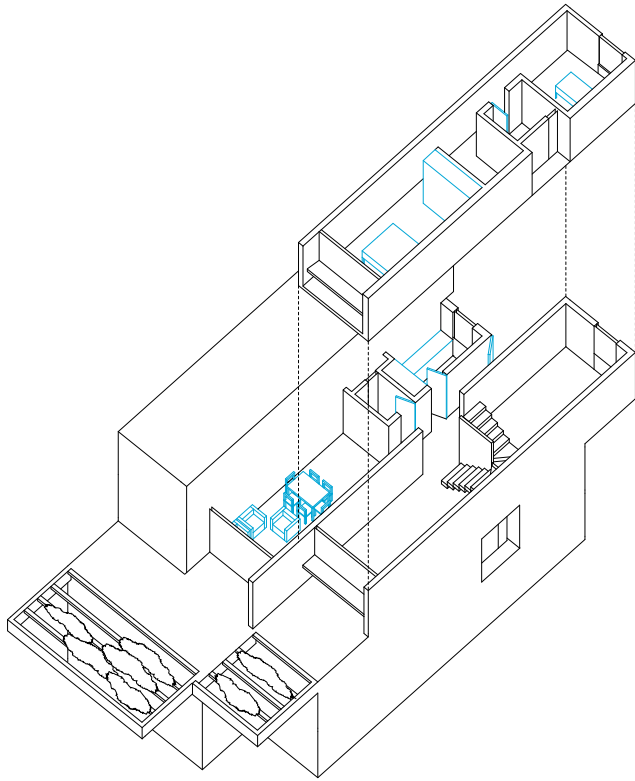
*Second Floor*



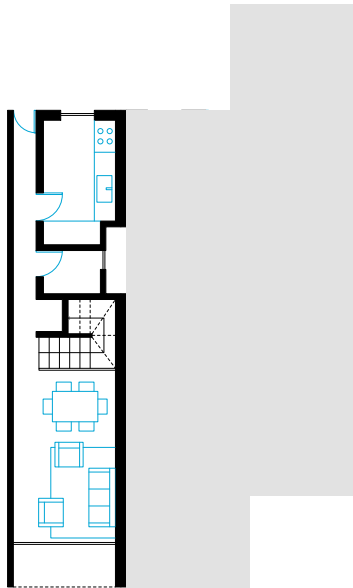
*Third Floor*

XI  
Three Bedrooms Apartment A  
130 m<sup>2</sup>

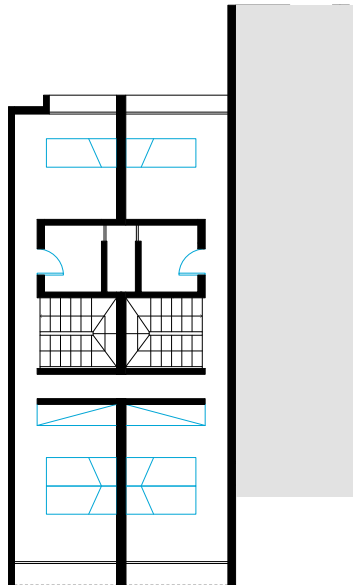
Scale 1:200



XII  
*Exploded Axonometry of the Three Bedrooms Apartment*



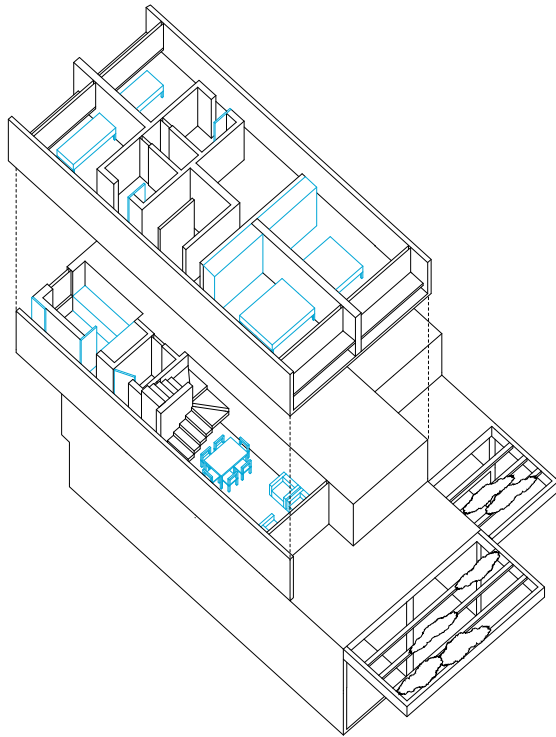
*Second Floor*



*Third Floor*

*XIII*  
*Three Bedrooms Apartment B*  
*130 m<sup>2</sup>*

*Scale 1:200*

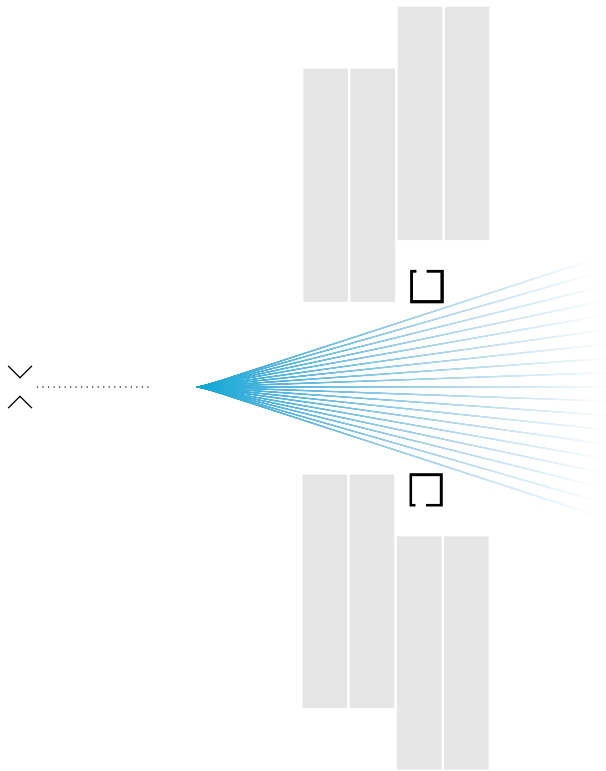


XIV

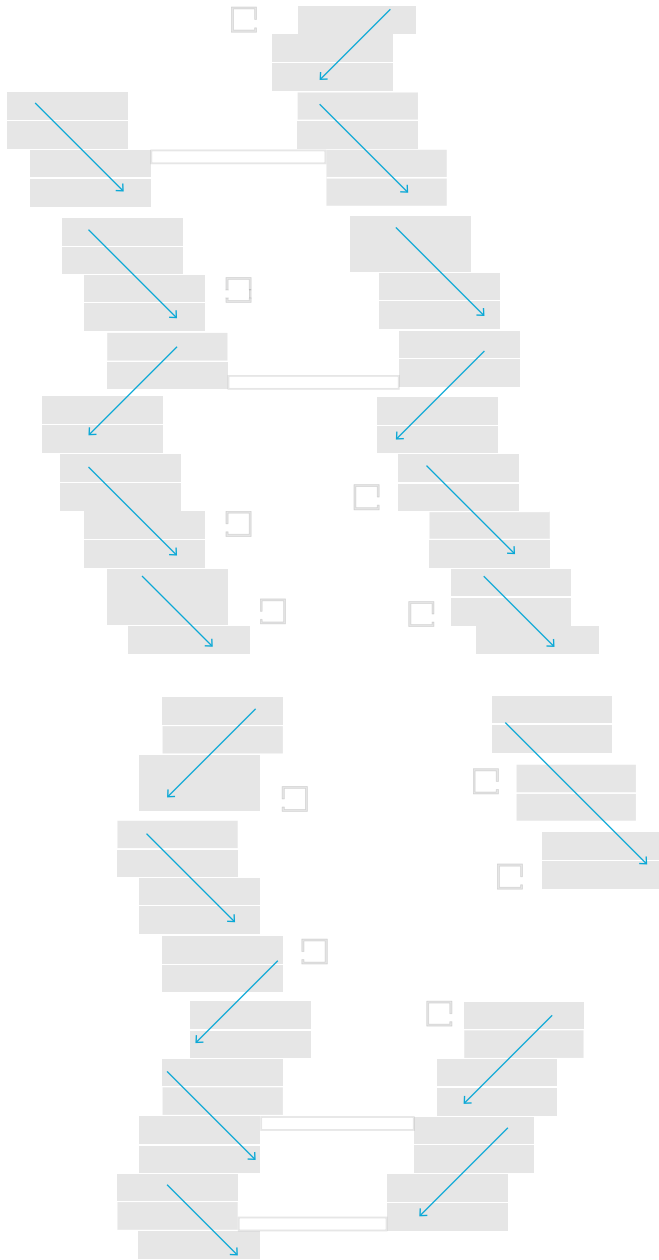
*Exploded Axonometry of the Three Bedrooms Apartment*

### ***The Interconnection between the Module and the Public Space***

*Apparently, the Public Space could look like the chaotic result of the shifting movement of the apartment units. On the contrary, the Module (four apartment units + stair block) contributes to the definition of the inner public space. Indeed, the configuration of the module itself and its position within the site allows a wider perception of the community space.*

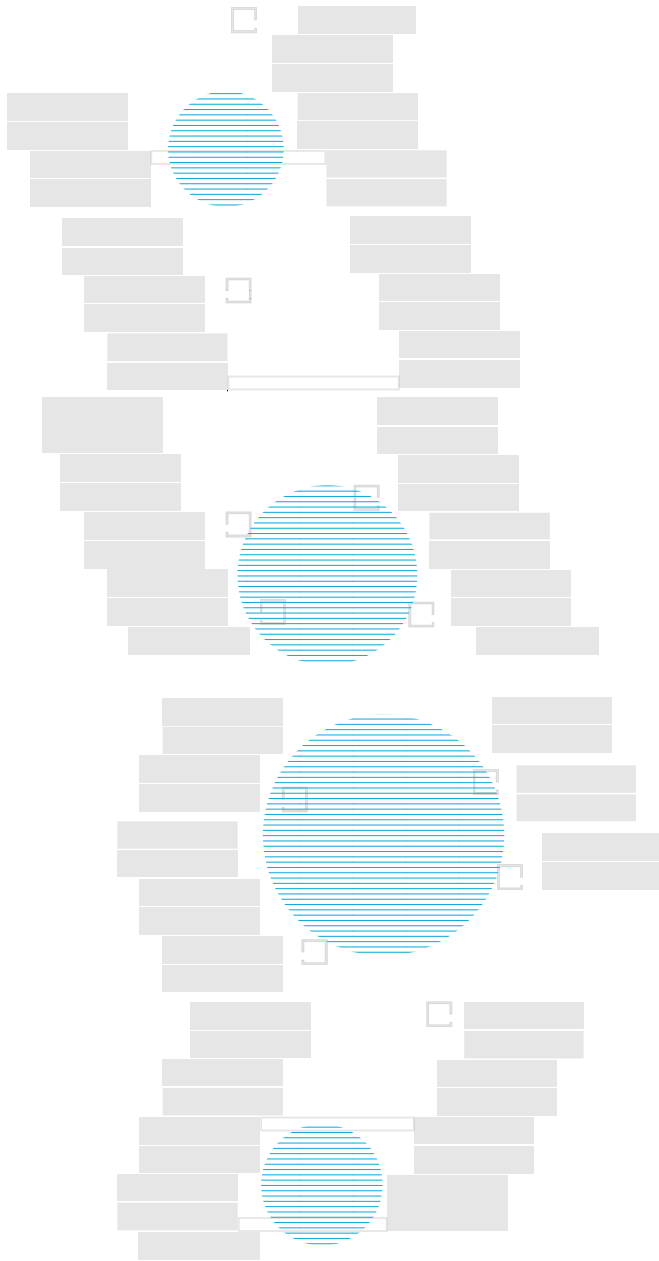


*I The definition of the outdoor space through the Module  
The Architect shifted back the apartment unit to give space to the  
stairs allowing to have a wider perception of the plot*



Scale 1:750

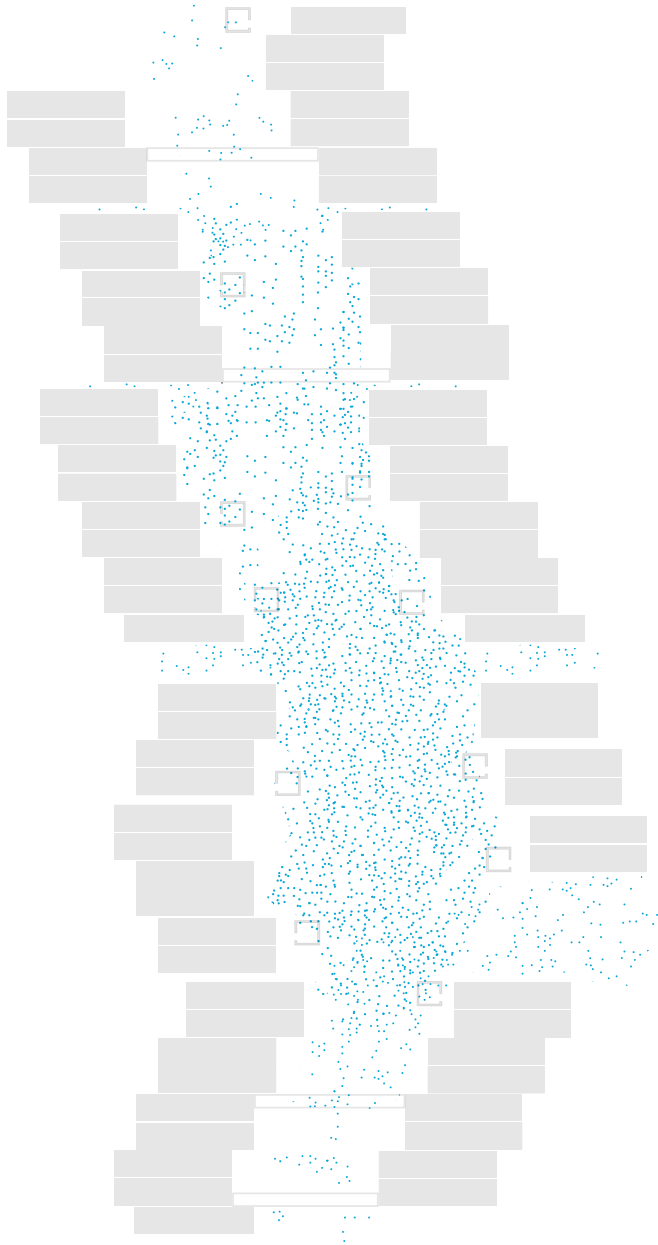
*II Position the Module  
The units shifts according to the Modules*



*III Intensity Areas  
The position of the modules defines four  
intensity points*

Scale 1:750

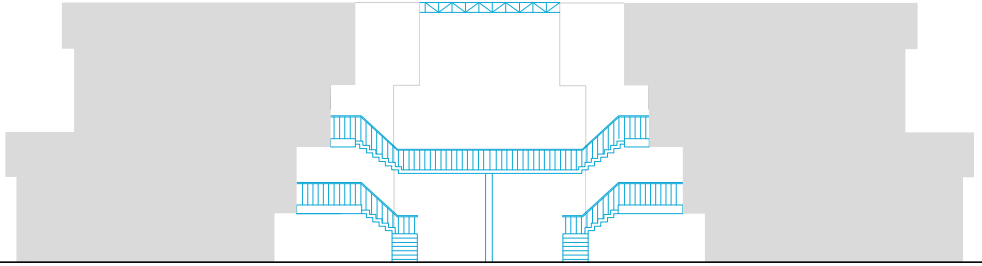




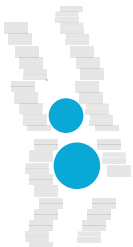
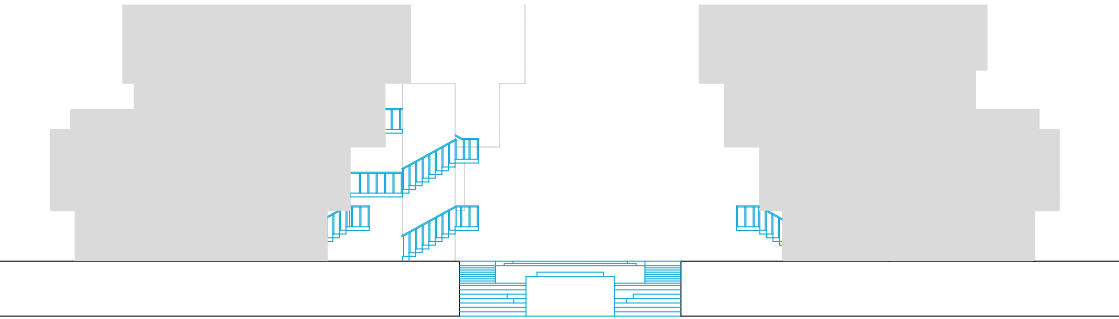
*IV Density*

*The modules position creates a hierarchy of spaces that varies in density*

*Scale 1:750*



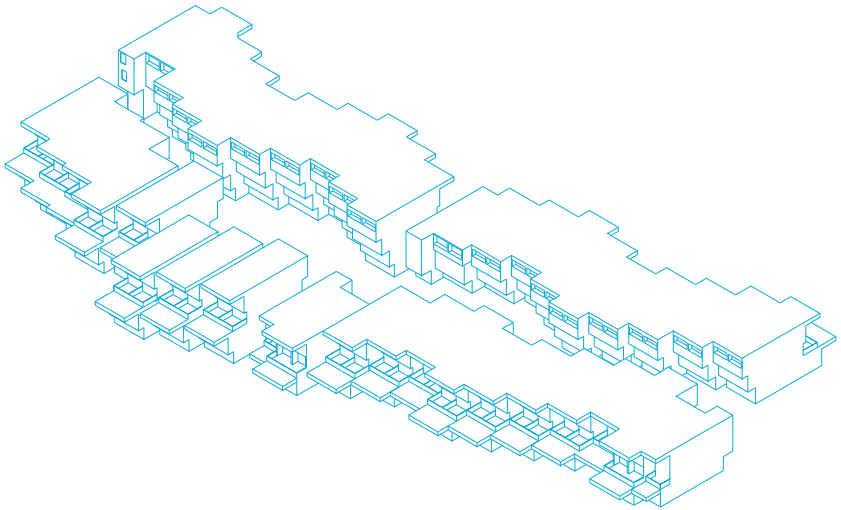
*V The Portal*  
*The circulation blocks define the entrance to  
the community space creating a threshold*



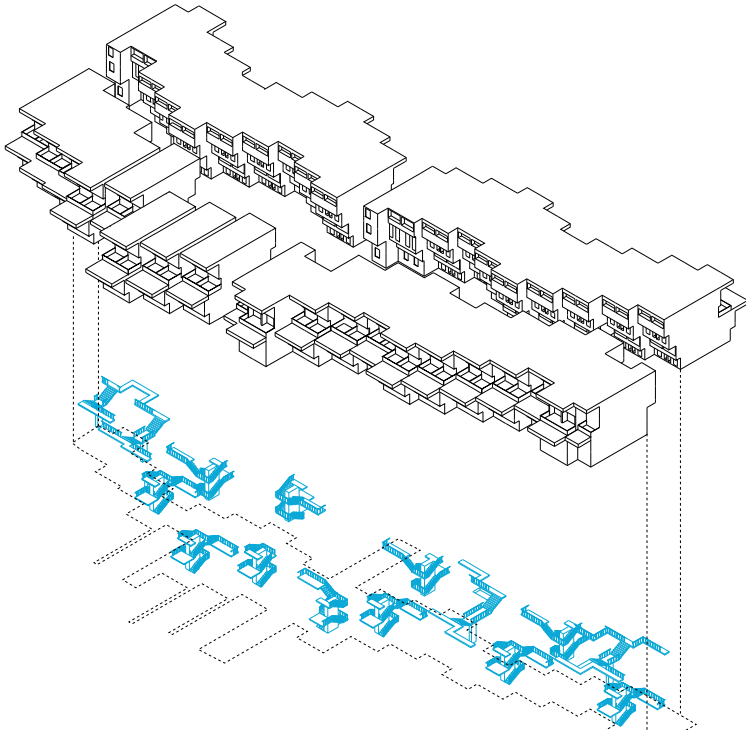
*VI The Palace*  
*The outdoor stairs and the community space define the  
entrance to the centre of the community*

## ***The Whole***

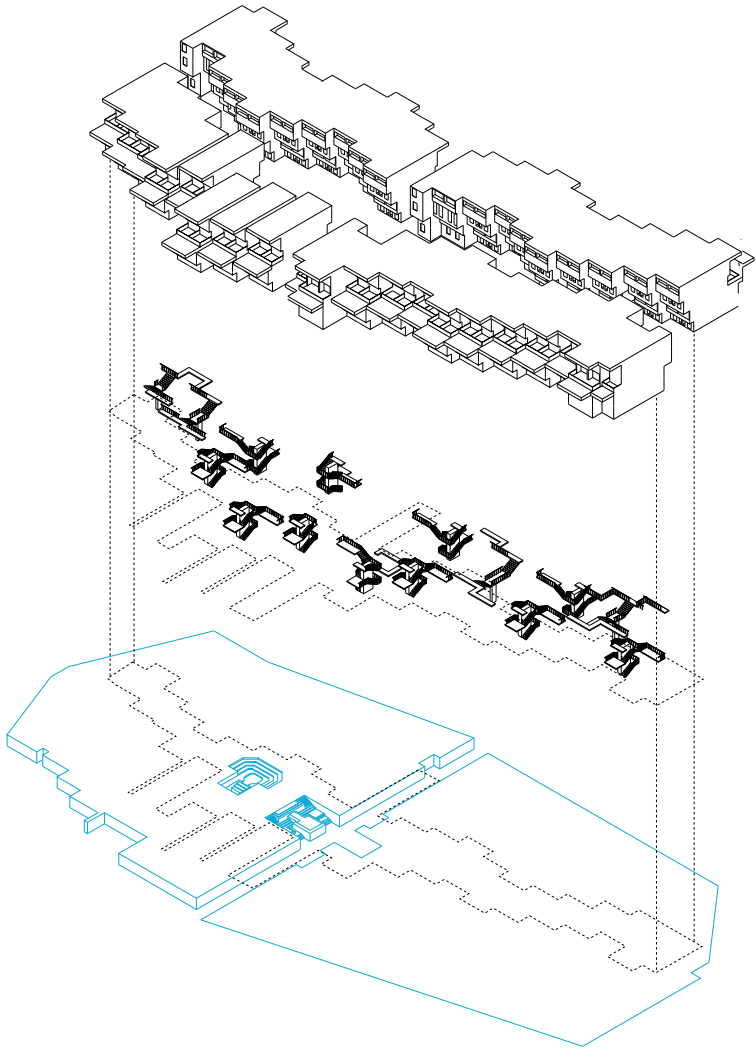
*Each element is strongly connected one to another. From the unit till the configuration of the public space, the different spaces and elements interconnect to each other and merge together in a unique whole.*



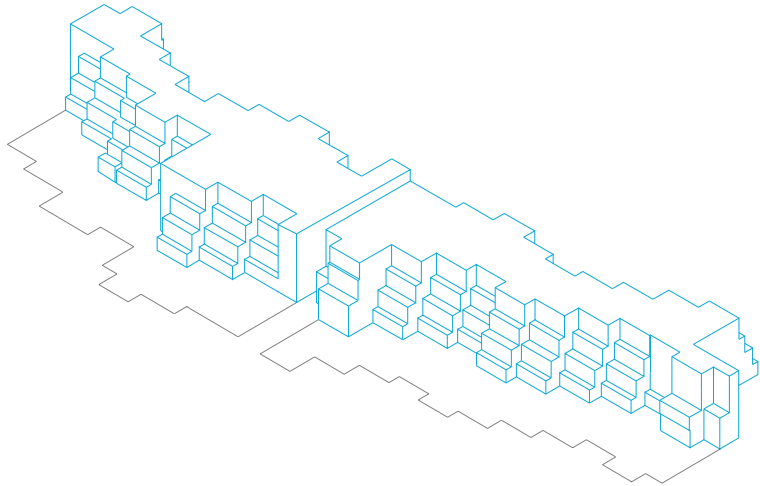
*I*  
*The Whole*  
*The Module*



*II*  
*The Whole*  
*The Circulation*



III  
The Whole  
The Stairs



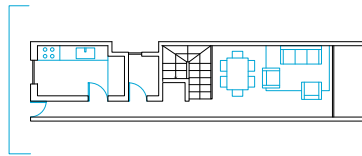
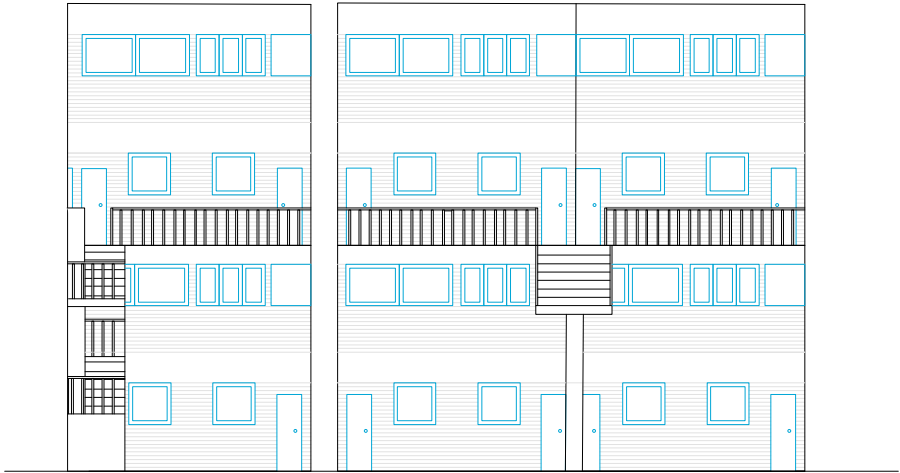
*IV*  
*The Whole*  
*The Public Space*



## *Pattern*

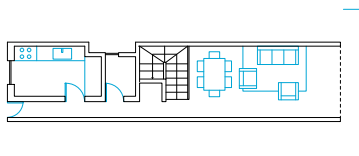
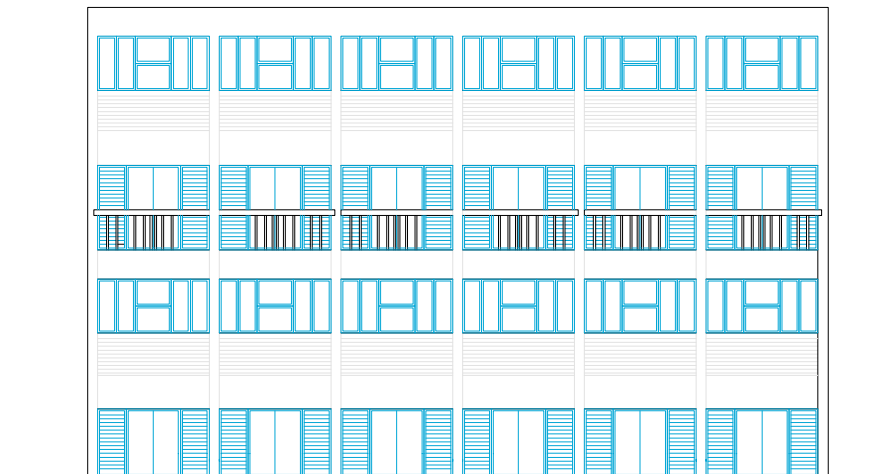
*“Building itself must, through its very form, create the controls the user needs”*

*Charles Correa*



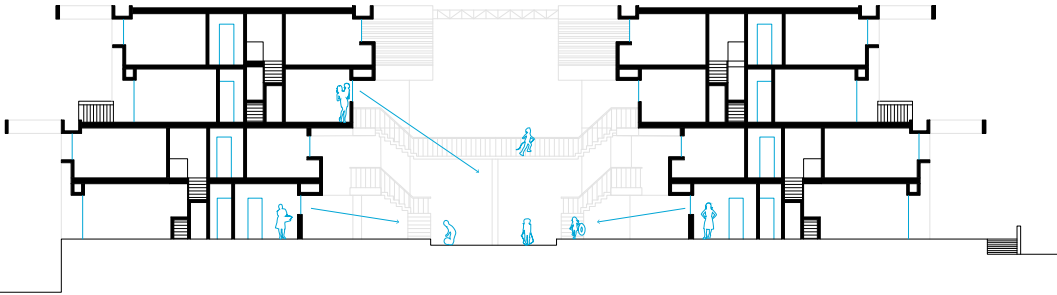
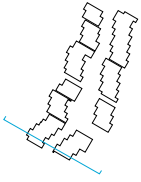
I

*The Internal facade closes itself to allow the privacy of each family*



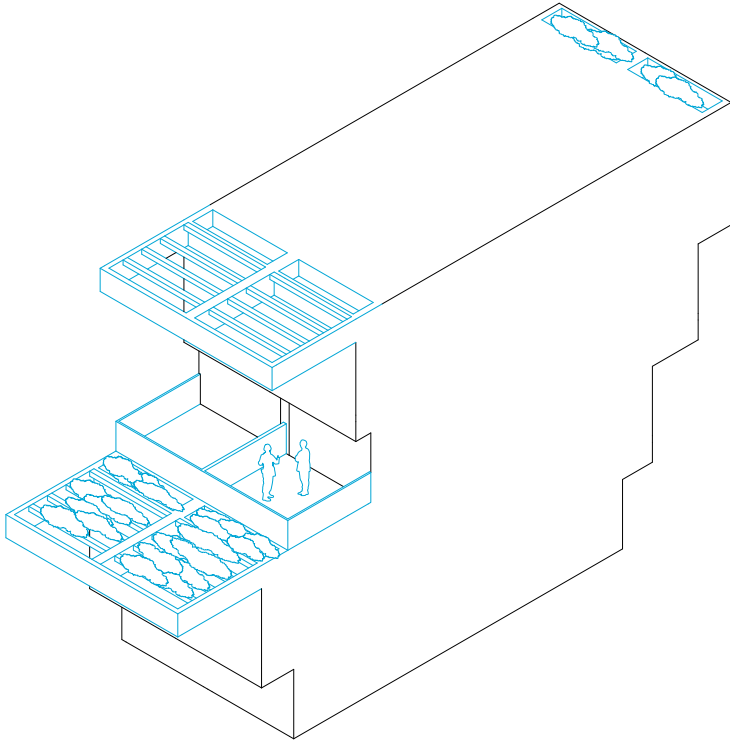
II

*The External facade opens up in a quiet and more relaxed side*



III

*The Kitchens faces the inner public space to allow women to interact*



IV

*The extension of the structure allows to have a shadowed terrace*

