



# ASSEMBLING PLURALITY

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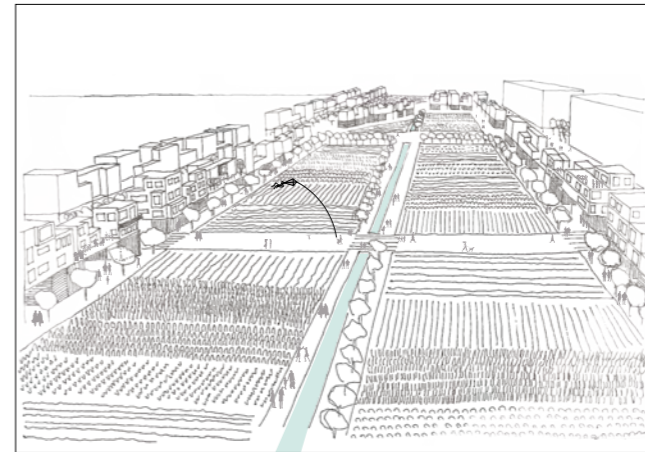
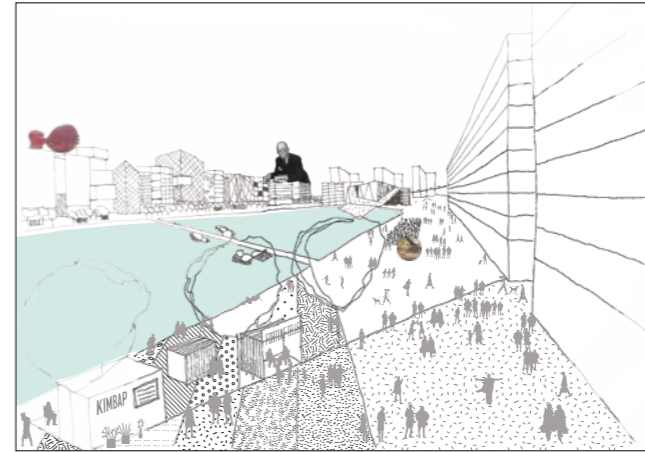
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## ASSEMBLING PLURALITY



” Dass es wahr ist, wissen wir nur, weil wir es beide geträumt haben.  
Das nämlich ist die Wirklichkeit.  
Ein Traum, den alle gemeinsam haben.“

Jeffrey Eugenides in “Middlesex“

# PREFACE: ASSEMBLING PLURALITY

Since 2009, more than 50% of people live in cities, with an increasing tendency. Particularly Asian cities are growing incredibly fast and I am convinced that architects have to pay more attention to develop more encompassing models on how to arrange and shape cities for the heterogeneous needs of our heterogeneous culture and diverse society.

At first sight, modern cities, in particular financial and business districts, of modern Asian societies are “anywhere” places without any distinctive features. They could be located anywhere else in the world. One recognizes many familiar things and habits of western civilizations and in general, people are used to foreigners and their behavior and customs. These “anywhere” places are often criticized because of their lack of sense of space.

Korean economy increased after the Korean War (1950-53) and industrialization in cities, particularly within the greater area of Seoul, acted as a magnet to absorb rural population. The rapid increase of urban population extended city borders and required redeployment of inner districts with monotonous apartment settlements at the cost of demolishment of urban villages. Oriented towards international cities eastern Asian countries imported ideas of Modern city planning from the West.

On closer consideration, one can notice processes which are ruled by people who live there! Close inspection reveals many different paths of action. People use different social and cultural codes, the structure of networks is in a different order, decision making is related to foreign values - mainly values of Confucianism, such as social harmony, respect for authority, collectivism - or preferences.

Globalization has lead to interconnection of political, economical and cultural fields while it has to be managed to retain their distinct identities. Therefore, the relationship between sharing and compromising is central.

The problem regarding this globalized phenomenon is that there are no memories and modern cities are urbanized in a similar way, because of a lack of sense of space.

In Architecture we can read ideas of a culture. All elements in architecture are recreations of cultural elements. Places are different, even though the functions might resemble those from other cultures. Architecture should not be uniform, because then places are without memories and without soul.

The following thesis examines the question of form.

What is the matter of form? - the matter of form in terms of influence on the performance? How does shape influence processes within a city?

Things and places need humans to be discovered and explored. Places are shaped and transformed by their occupants. Who are the occupants? They belong to the Korean society and their actions are based on its values and experience. It is a never-ending process of adoption.

Architecture and landscape are our stage, where we perform every day. They provide the platform for our daily actions and achievements and at the same time, the landscape itself becomes an active part of the process.

Mies van der Rohe has asserted in his thesis "On form in architecture" in 1927 that "only intensity of life has intensity of form".

This single sentence provides answers to all the questions mentioned above - a vibrant and thriving city is not created by architecture itself. Just humans and their actions are able to do so.

## WHY ASSEMBLING PLURALITY?

The French term "**ASSEMBLAGE**" stands for an artistic process "**BY PUTTING TOGETHER FOUND OBJECTS**" IN A TWO- OR THREE DIMENSIONAL COMPOSITION. "IN LITERATURE, ASSEMBLAGE REFERS TO A TEXT BUILT PRIMARILY AND EXPLICITLY FROM EXISTING TEXTS IN ORDER TO SOLVE A WRITING OR COMMUNICATION PROBLEM IN A NEW CONTEXT."<sup>1</sup>

In order to build a link to this thesis, a variety of urban typologies will be analyzed in order to sample and place them in a new context.

Interest in how Modern European structures work in daily life lead me to do some investigations of their performance. Attempting to point out their essentials or in other words trying to illustrate their uniqueness and figuring out why they are so exceptional was an important part of my thesis. Let's explore the outcome of sampled and overlaying structures. How could they encourage local and henceforth social actions?

Why studies and implementation of Modern European urban typologies?

Isn't it anachronistic to sample modern typologies for the 21st century? Can Modern typologies put to work to form a diversity of urban life?

Their form is not just copied, but rather their enabled performance is intended to give inputs and to sustain and support local practices.

It is my interest to show the performative potential of these typologies rather their limitations.

The thesis within my thesis is to ask whether these typologies can invite for a revisit and reinterpretation of modern urban typologies rather than discarding them.

I am interested in features of Korean cities. What is the difference compared to European cities and why are they working so well? Which understanding of way of life is related to the form? What can we learn from each other? What does village stand for in an urban context?

<sup>1</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assemblage\\_%28art%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assemblage_%28art%29), read March 29th, 2013

Instead of maintaining existing structures, I am forcing the exploration of the assemblage of the provided plurality from a different angle. What will happen when we mix ideas which might assume opposite points of view or just do not match at first sight?

The diversity of each neighborhood and its unique identity does not separate between social matters. Rather it creates plurality according to way of life or just perception of space. The new city does not want to separate and isolate functions as it is the case in Modern urbanism.

Different characters of neighborhoods invite to diversified social practices and the utilization and put the cities' inhabitants in a position to acquire space.

Architects also have to ask themselves about the correlation to the current trend of single and two person households, which is based on demographic shifts. Apartment buildings are like a storage rack, hosting rooms the size of bigger hotel rooms. Do people really want to live in a shelf?

Why is it worthwhile to pay attention to the Korean, so called "bang"-culture, a distinctive culture which uses collective space? This thesis attempts to explore models of minimal private space, which are attached to shared areas.

Mainly, community space is located on the ground and that is the space where publicity takes place. Due to a high ratio of plots and thus densification, the ground can no longer support a thriving community. Therefore we have to find new ways of how to encourage community based life on upper floors as well. Could the house itself be designed as an extension of the city or the other way round?

This thesis should be understood as a scenario. It does not want to act as a master plan or "complete" urban design. No, it rather encourages the exploration of qualities and features of different typologies in terms of the performance they provide. What does a form or shape mean related to opportunities and the quality of life? It should

be conceived as a kind of game, supplying rules for a contemporary city in Korean context.

I am well aware that working on a project with a cultural context that is not mine poses a challenge. The European way of thinking is part of me and I can only propose ideas, which are marked and influenced by my background.

Maybe the answers can be found in **ASSEMBLING PLURALITY ...**

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# (DE)CENTRALI ZATION — CAPITAL & COUNTRYSIDE

Looking at a map of Korea one can see a *strongly centralized country*. Half of the population is concentrated around the greater area of Seoul where roughly 25 million people live.

Along the north-south axis, connecting Seoul and Busan, cities are beaded at the rail line.

On the one hand this circumstance is related to geographical conditions (about 70% of Korea's surface is covered with forest and mountains), but on the other hand it traces back to history.

The centralized structure is of significance because it is the result of 600 years of history, based on values and ideas of Korean people.

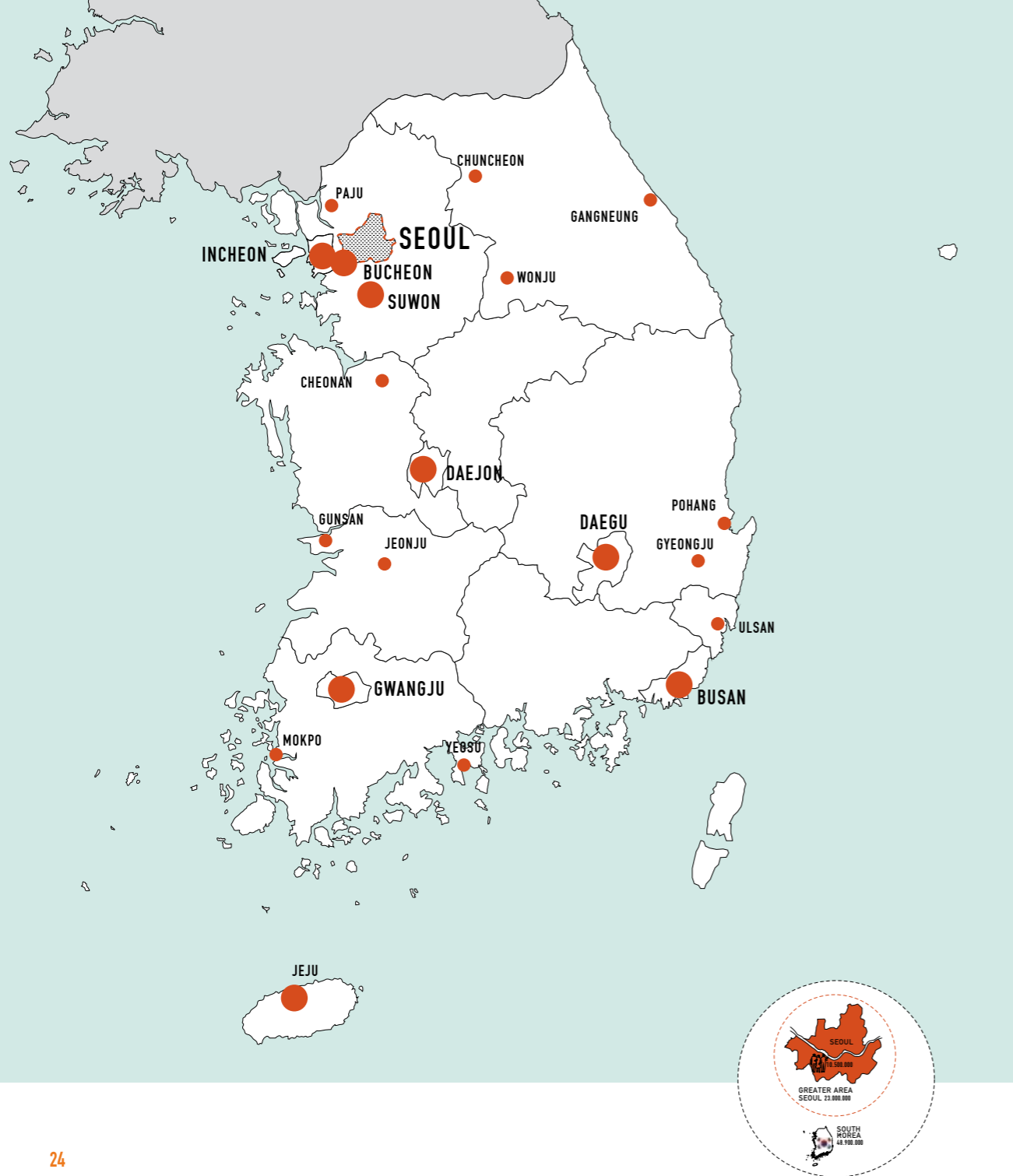
Gregory Henderson, an American diplomat in Seoul (1968), uses the image of a massive gravity head oriented towards a centre and a norm caught in a “roll over of culture” to describe the identification of the people of “The Land of the Morning Calm”. Therefore he imposes pluralism and decentralization to break out, whereas Jun-man Kang mentions some aspects as, for example the leader cult, the urge for better education, the idea that successful life could be enforced, the “the-winner-takes-it-all” mentality, the readiness to take risks, faithfulness in the ideology of capitalism and tiring rhythm of life, which are opposed to it.<sup>2</sup>

“*Balli-balli*” – “quick-quick”, a phrase you hear at every corner in Korea, was (and still is) a strategy for survival during hard times of occupation, war and political turmoil. Balli-balli represents a collective power – it could be understood as a fighting spirit, a battle call.

Regardless of their (Koreans) success, I realized that Koreans are very interested in American or European ways of thinking and habits. Comparisons and evaluations of cultures are common. The effort of being the first or best establishes a sometimes aggressive competitive culture. Therefore, moments of inferiority complex and pride alternate.

<sup>2</sup> cf. Kong, Chul: “Die Konstanten und Variablen in der koreanischen Gesellschaft”, in: “Stadtbauwelt” 179, 36, 2008, p. 42





Incheon, for instance calls itself “the world’s best city”. Not to put too fine a point on it, it feels like if the city is aiming for becoming an “Asian Dubai”: the first, the best, the biggest ...

Still, there is no urban sprawl or suburbanization in Korea. Satellite towns were originally planned as commuting towns. But in the meantime, they have expanded rapidly to a recognizable size and have got more and more important, in as much as they can be considered as an extension of the capital. They do not have suburban structures.

In spite of the density of population, which is in some cases higher than in Seoul’s, we can talk about periphery. These places are character- and charmless – they are sleeping towns.

*Seoul’s superiority* leads to the concentration of cultural, economical and social aspects of Korean life in the capital. Seoul is the political, educational and economical centre. As a consequence the unbalanced growth of Seoul led to emigration from rural regions. Towns lost their inhabitants and manpower, respectively, and therefore its vitality.

At the same time, the distinct urban-rural-gap results in an even stronger desire in Korean people to move to the city.

At present, Korea has started to put its *efforts in decentralizing* industry and population to other regions of Korea in order to ease congestion in the capital city of Seoul. Saemangeum at the west coast of Korea, south of Incheon, is a reclamation project addressing urban infrastructure, high-tech industry, farming, food industry and tourism.

For this purpose, the last three decades, the government called for diversification of the administrative body, which had its center in Seoul, to units to grant the local authorities more influence and control. The entire political and economical administrative structure of the country was reorganized.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> cf. Choi, Helen: “Die Hauptstadt und das Land”, in: “Stadtbauwelt” 179, 36, 2008, p. 50





YEONGJONG  
ISLAND

CHEONGNA

NEW  
CHEMULPO

INCHEON

SONGDO

BUCHEON

SEOUL



# INCHEON: A POSING CHALLENGE

**WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGES IS THE CITY OF INCHEON ADDRESSING? WHAT ARE THE KEY ASPECTS OF URBANISM IN INCHEON?**

**>> INCHEON IS FIGHTING FOR A POSITION IN THE GLOBAL MARKET.**

As aforementioned, Incheon struggles about how and where to position, due to the centralized organization of Korean structure.

The metropolitan city does not put its efforts in strengthening its position within Korea, but rather addresses global standards. There is a notable “battle” between other cities against the capital of Seoul. Regional cities would like to “become as good as” Seoul, or even better. But these other cities cannot draw on prosperity or history like Seoul can. In order to trump Seoul, the other cities define themselves by visions for the future – they present images of how the city should look like, which character the city is supposed to gain, how the global audience would like to perceive the city and how the world would be pleased. Cities sell themselves via events, products and spectacles.

Landmarks usually are sold out easily – marketing communicates keywords, such as the most luxurious, highest and best tower all over Korea and more expansive than in Seoul.

With a driving determination, cities and their planners follow an idea - perhaps an image of a “Korean Dubai”. These cities love to refer to “urban factor” of them. So their attempt is to create a pure image, an icon. It is all about the image of the city, about the visible.<sup>4</sup>

I would like to call in mind that these brand new cities often are re-used (rice) fields or reclaimed land from the sea. From my point of view the scale of some projects and the manner of bottom-down planning are a problem. In many cases the preconditions have not been created.

In order to densify the population and meeting the enormous demand of housing, the cities politicians decided to ruthlessly demolish low rise settlements. As a consequence, they are rare nowadays - they are like aliens in urban fabric. Some of

<sup>4</sup> cf. Choi, Helen: “Die Hauptstadt und das Land”, in: “Stadtbauwelt” 179, 36, 2008, p. 46ff

them are protected, as Incheon's Chinatown or neighborhoods in Bukcheon, Seoul, but others, as the fishing village at the harborfront are in bad condition.

Existing factories and primitive dwellings of fishermen, even if they are (almost) ruins, are not able to meet today's requirements, but are very important to understand the city of Incheon. They tell us about former times – in the case of Incheon – a time just 100 years ago.

The existing city landscape offers opportunities to transform old structures; landscape is telling a story of the past and at the same time it initiates transformations for the future. A system was created by occupants for a special situation and based on the results, ideas for further development were born. Ruins bear witness to ideas from the past for the future. In a broader sense they represent some people's future.

Closed door politics in the past and different cultural backgrounds lead to the circumstance that Korea and also Japan are still quite homogeneous compared to America or Europe.

Vast development contributed to adoption of urban models from the West without reconsidering.

Yusuke Obuchi, a Japanese architect and designer, explains modernism as a kind of reply to unification. Globalization leads to interconnection of political, economical and cultural fields while it has to be managed to retain their distinct identities.

There is a question about "Asianness" discussed in Eastern architecture discourses – the term is often used as an opposing notion in comparison to Western values and systems. So cultural differences, or Asianness, acts as source of identity.

"Asian cities resume the debate on the search for a lost identity out of a shared fear that economic prosperity and the dominance of a Westernized lifestyle would strike the local culture off its historical trial."<sup>5</sup>

Urban development evolves over time – it is a social process that forms communities and neighborhoods. Evolutionary processes produce highly coherent orders while concurrently generating variations, specifications and adaptabilities.

That is why architects and urban planners should pay attention to existing structures. We should try to balance out preservation and redevelopment with the interests of the community – designing space with the opportunity for acquisition and promoting local practices.

As noted above, urbanism was previously practiced ruthlessly according to political values and instructions. Particularly during the regime of President Park Chung Hee, the main focus was on the development of industrialization.

During the period of reconstruction and development, all high political positions, the mayor of Seoul or other positions in the government or administration, were held by people with military backgrounds. Thus state-owned enterprises and the government became hybrids of military organizations and businesses.

Chaebol are family owned and controlled business conglomerations acting in different fields.

They appeared in the 1960s, when President Park Chung Hee supported large businesses to strengthen industrialization and to develop new markets. Chaebols were guaranteed loans from the bank.

In South Korea several dozen large corporate groups exist. They are very powerful and influential due to their broad diversification. Chaebols have paralleled the rapid transition of a labor intensive economy to a capital intensive economy. Well known chaebols are for instance LG, Samsung, Lotte, Hyundai ...

In general, there is no public space in Korea. Public space is always related to democracy. In Europe, political development led to democracies and cities are designed or used according to people's values. In a city, which is a place where many people gather, communication takes place!

Korean democracy is still pretty young – quite recently designers and planners have been confronted with measures from below. Especially regarding the effort to decentralize, conflicts show up clearly. Online communication or protests on the streets give Koreans new media to publicly proclaim their voice. But urban realm and its attributes are based on societal confidence. They are analog and they cannot be transferred (released) with digital drama.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Lau, Stephen Siuyu: "Blurring the Boundary between Local and International-Hong Kong's Void City Syndrome", in: SPACE magazine, Oct. 2010, p.84

<sup>6</sup> cf. Kong, Chul: "Die Konstanten und Variablen in der koreanischen Gesellschaft", in: "Stadtbauwelt" 179, 36, 2008, p. 43

“Among a city of anonymous identities, it’s not easy to form a community since a community is based on its members’ identity. A city without any community can not build trust amongst its citizens. Due to the absence of trust in the community, citizens become afraid of expressing themselves and wish to remain anonymous. This vicious cycle makes the city further uniform and uncharacteristic.”<sup>7</sup>

For that reason it is even more important to create and design public space.

**“ZIEL MUSS ES SEIN,  
AUTHENTISCHE LEBENSÄRÄUME  
DES 21. JAHRHUNDERTS ZU  
ENTWERFEN,  
DIE VON EINER NEUEN VITALITÄT,  
PROZESSHAFTIGKEIT UND  
MENSCHLICHKEIT GEPRÄGT SIND  
UND DESHALB IM UNTERSCHIED  
ZU DEN SCHARF GEZEICHNETEN,  
ABER LEBLOSEN IDEALBILDERN  
DURCHAUS EINE GEWISSE  
UNSCHÄRFE AUFWEISEN DÜRFEN.”<sup>8</sup>**

# REPUBLIC OF APARTMENTS <> URBAN VILLAGE

In Korea modern residential architecture is based on designing large blocks, compared to house-oriented architecture in many other countries.

About 80% of Korean residents live in apartment housing complexes. French sociologist, Valerie Gelezeau, has named this unique phenomenon “The Republic of Apartments”.

In only 30 years, apartments have occupied everywhere in the cityscape of Incheon or in a broader sense the greater area of Seoul, “including mountain and river areas, and they have become Korea’s representative residential housing type and a major element of cityscapes.”<sup>9</sup> Therefore most of the villages have been destroyed and the city extended enormously where rice fields once had been in the past.

“The major causes of such drastic changes include political and social factors (an intensified housing supply policy to boost the nation’s economy, high-dense population resulting from urbanization, nuclearization of families, and expansion of the middle-class), as well as economic factors expecting profitability from the construction of apartments.”<sup>10</sup>

Therefore these apartments can be understood as the response to chronic housing shortage. The rapid development of industrialization - the so called miracle of the Han river - led to vast rural immigration and poor housing quality because a massive output of apartments, in order to accommodate a multitude of people, had been forced.

According to Gary Chang, an architect based in Hong Kong, urban planners in Seoul mention a rising demand for single and two person households from current 25.3% (2012) to 34.3% in 2035. The average living space in Seoul for one person is 20.1 sq m.

The common size of apartments counts about 40 sq m. That is comparable to a bigger hotel room. Current developments are dealing with minimal space while applied flexibility is promoted, like moving, disappearing or multi purpose furniture. Minimal space in Eastern Asian context means rooms of about 13 sq m.

<sup>9</sup> Lee, Chung Kee: “Apartment city, Seoul”; in “re.place.ing” Korean Pavilion 2010 Biennale di Venezia, p.71

<sup>10</sup> ibid. p.71

New Town Development Project.  
High-rise orientated development.

Introduced in 2002 by Lee Myung-bak, former President of Korea and mayor of Seoul, the New Town Development Project was intended to replace low-density neighborhoods with high-density new towns to meet the demands of the rapidly growing capital. Starting with projects in slum areas, Lee's effort is referable to creating better living conditions for low-income residents. But about 85% of the projects proposed have not been realized, due to speculations in real estate. Social deviations occurred because of the New Town Development. Owning an apartment implies advancement/progress. Every time a project was cancelled, development of the infrastructure got set back and as a result the neighborhood's slumification is imminent.

Another reason for their failure is due to the fact that many of the new towns were built somewhere in the periphery so that it takes a long time to go to work day by day.<sup>11</sup>

Most of the apartments are condominiums – owning an apartment is an equivalent to advancement. In the 1990s about 90% of Koreans lived in their own apartments. As a result of rising wealth the income of Koreans started to differentiate, leading to a diversification of the real estate market. The better the location the higher the price - facilities are/were not the determining factor.<sup>12</sup>

Economical success promoted the development of a mobile society. Media, technology and the “balli-balli” spirit are important factors of the new flexibility. The traditional way of life was related to one particular place and family. Everyone was attached to a village. Even nowadays it is still important to know where the other comes from. According to estimates, about 70% of current citizens grew up in the countryside.

We realize a strong divergence and gap of lifestyles and therefore opportunities for architecture, which is housing Korean people.

Brands.

„Property developers competitively adopted apartment brand names to represent their company image, now the sales of apartment can not be generated without using brand names.“ The success of brands incorporates the lifestyle and atmosphere of the apartment.

Vocabulary for sales texts includes words like wellbeing, health, nature, royal, noble, information knowledge, culture, art, family and harmony. Actors are hired to boost apartment sales as well. The image of beautiful, successful, young and rich people is associated with the desired lifestyle of many Koreans.<sup>13</sup>

The apartment typology is not able to soak up the atmosphere of a thriving community. Housing space and urban space have been segregated, leading to an exceeding change in cultivation of housing.

About 75-85% of the area of apartment houses with condominiums is private space. The price is oriented towards floor space. Therefore, at the expense of common space, publicity is limited.

Blocks are enclosed with fences acting as a barrier to public space. Local communities disintegrate.

At first sight it was a very curious discovery: Many of the apartment buildings show roofs as we know them from ordinary houses – pitched roofs and gable. I was wondering if this statement could have a deeper meaning. And yes, perhaps it is a kind of yearning and represents familiar forms which people are not able to find anymore in their surroundings.

Anonymity.


Due to politics and Korean history there is no public space in urban context. As a relict of military based politics and a closed culture of communication, private actions are hidden behind the walls of the own apartment. It is still not tolerated to showcase privacy.

<sup>11</sup> cf. <http://www.theatlanticcities.com/housing/2012/02/seoul-ends-failed-new-towns-project/1149/>, Oct. 12th, 2012

<sup>12</sup> cf. Jeong, In-ha: “Insadong, Shinchoon und Gangnam”, in “Stadtbauwelt” 179, 36.08, 2008, p. 36

<sup>13</sup> Hah, Tesoc: “Differential life, integral city”; in “re.place.ing” Korean Pavilion 2010 Biennale di Venezia, p. 91ff





A SURVEY BY THE KOREAN HOUSING INSTITUTE SHOWS " MORE THAN HALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF LOW-RISE HOUSING IN SEOUL WOULD PREFER TO LIVE IN HIGH-RISE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS. " <sup>14</sup>

DO THEY REALLY PREFER HIGH-RISE BECAUSE OF CONVENIENCE? KOREAN ARCHITECT LIM JEA YONG MENTIONS PEOPLE'S INTEREST IN INVESTING IN PROPERTIES WITH BETTER INVESTMENT VALUE. " LOW-RISE DENSIFICATION IS IDEAL, BUT NOT VIABLE FOR CURRENT PROFIT-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENTS, DUE TO THE DECREASE IN FLOOR AREA RATIO. " <sup>15</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Han, Yoon: "Architecture in dialogue with neighborhoods" in: SPACE magazine, APRIL 2012, p. 92  
<sup>15</sup> Han, Yoon: "Architecture in dialogue with neighborhoods" in: SPACE magazine, APRIL 2012, p. 86ff



# STRUCTURE OF KOREAN CITIES & THEIR QUALITIES

When exploring a Korean city, I discovered some very particular features. They explain the fortitude and intensity we know and love about East Asian cities.

*Sustainability in Asian context* can be understood differently than in Western context.

Sustainability is based on efficiency of the entire system – consisting of density, diversity and quality of interconnectedness. Minimal space, the use of space in a collective and flexibility due to small interventions turns into a sustainable way of living.

East Asian cities are rich, adaptable mosaics. They are open towards change, to react locally and to adapt to new conditions.

People are diverse, spontaneous and they change. Thus architecture does not have to last forever.

Korean cities are a *meshwork of not exactly defined areas*, so called gray areas; a mixture of clean square and informal elements.

This concept also exists in a single house. The neutrality of using rooms in a house and flexible application in housing, as well as in public areas, are an important aspect in Korean architecture.

Metabolism of space in-between.

Streets are the *place where communication happens*. Ground floor, basement and 1st floor are used for commercial purposes, offices and housing is situated further up. You will find a pc bang, cafe, plastic surgery, church, norebang (Karaoke) in the basement ... and all of these different facilities could be hosted in a single urban house. The house is more or less the extension of a city - it works like a city.

Parks or green public areas are not common – if there is green space then it most likely is a hill with a temple or monument. Many streets are lined with ginkgo trees.

In residential areas you will find supermarkets around every corner. Sometimes it occurs that there are 3 supermarkets at one crossing. Supermarkets provide everything for daily use – usually they do not offer fresh groceries. Many of them

are family-owned and operated. The shops are open until 3 or 4 in the morning and open again at around 7 to 8am.

Besides selling groceries they provide services like picking up the post ...

*Inside is not in contrast to outside.*

Glass doors of shops are open nearly all the time – even if it is winter. The house is extended to the street or the other way round; the city is extended to the house. Markets are roofed streets. The borders between inside and outside are sometimes blurred.

Of course the density of low-rise housing is not as high as the density of apartment blocks. Up to 5 story houses are dense because of compaction of facilities and minimal living.

But compared to apartment blocks, which provide a high range of privacy, the essential difference is that the Korean urban low-storey-houses offer the *possibility of adaptation because of open public space*. Being able to adapt makes people feel responsible for a place and let them identify with it.

On the following pages let us attempt to figure out what are the essential aspects a Korean city is based on and let us try to allocate them to some key words. The investigations are based on self-experiences and studies as well as on publications by The Why Factory, MVRDV and ARCH+ journal No. 208.



## 1. MASS

There is no distinction between center and periphery. A city is considered as a region. Of course the metropolitan area is divided into administrative areas, but they are not reigned from a central control point.

A district is called “Gu” and is further split up in “dong” or neighborhoods.

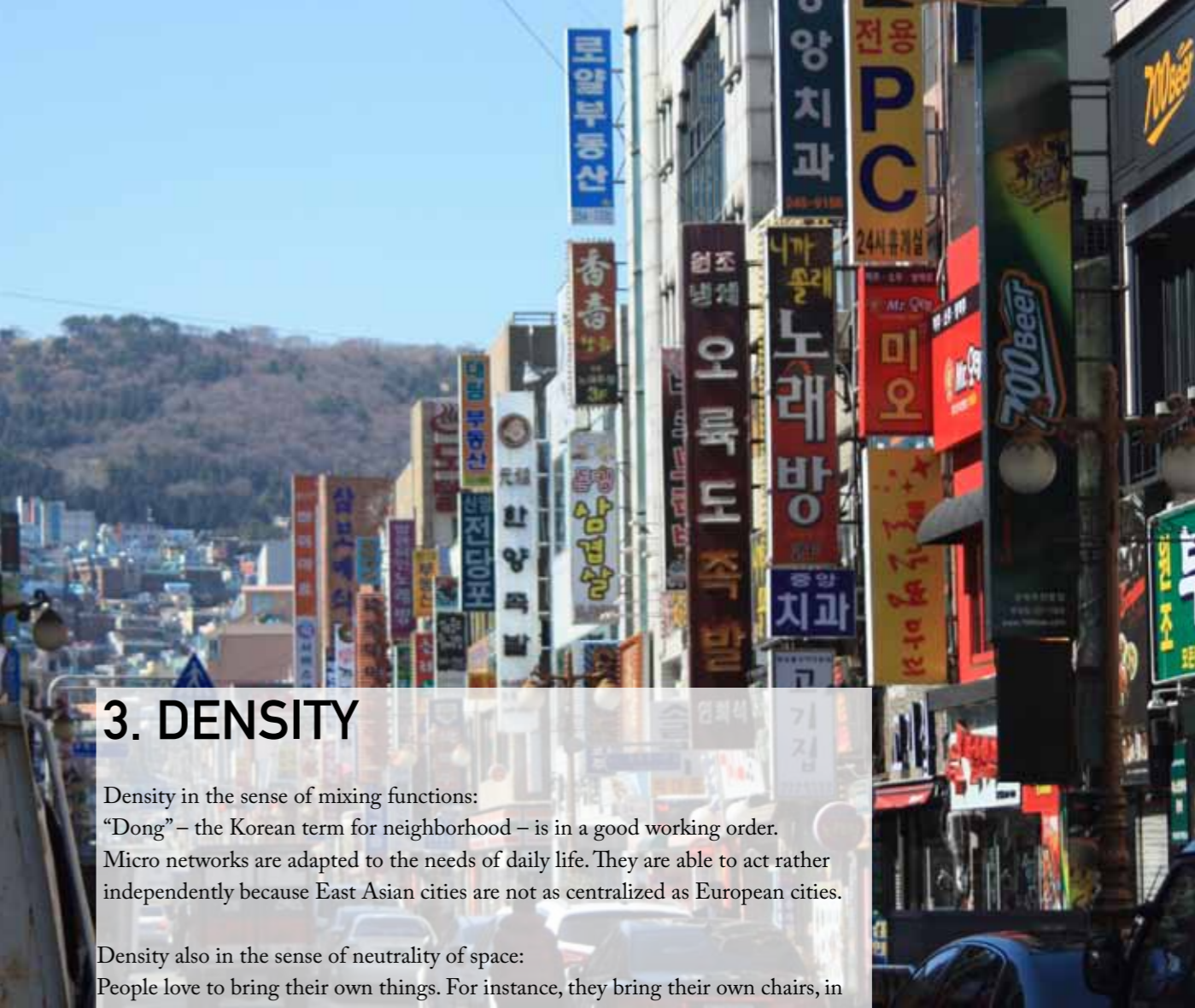
To think in small areas gives you the chance to act local. Thus people identify with “their neighborhood” and become active citizens. Participation of residents creates a thriving community and further intensifies local practices.





## 2. SEGMENTATION OF SITE

Many small allotments enable a lively and thriving street area. Due to proximity and densification, a mass of people and numerous attractions at a relatively small space, a dense mixture is created. Short paths enable a flexible network. You are able to experience the intimacy of a village in a metropolis.



## 3. DENSITY

Density in the sense of mixing functions:  
“Dong” – the Korean term for neighborhood – is in a good working order. Micro networks are adapted to the needs of daily life. They are able to act rather independently because East Asian cities are not as centralized as European cities.

Density also in the sense of neutrality of space:  
People love to bring their own things. For instance, they bring their own chairs, in order to contribute to a good and successful gathering and being part of the group. It makes them feel active or do something to enable that. This simple principle does not work in transit places with circumstances like nicely designed seating. So citizens adapt space easily to their own needs!  
Further space is not determined in traditional housing, which allows enormous flexibility of using space.





## 4. PROXIMITY

Due to extremely minimized living conditions, people are forced to use collective space. On one hand, citizens extend interior space to the exterior. There usually are no clear boundaries in public areas.

On the other hand, people using shared space has always been an element of vernacular architecture . For instance, even if nowadays everyone is able to afford their own bathroom and there is no need to visit public bathrooms anymore, people still practice it because it is a very important social act for Koreans.



## 5. UNDERSTANDING OF URBANISM

East Asian people have a different understanding of coexistence than Europeans. Their thinking is oriented towards a collective whereas Westerners tend to think in an individualized way.

Although Korea is governed democratically, the term democracy has a different meaning. Living together is still related to values based on ideas of Confucianism. A city always represents the ideas and values of a community.

## NETWORK

Most big Asian cities do not have city centers like European cities do. They provide *polycentric structures* – districts preserve their autonomy without being subordinate to the greater whole. Every district has its own city hall. They are not focused on a main “centre”. For instance in the 1960s, the vicinity of the company Daewoo Motors was a new hotspot. Residential concentration is associated with industrialization, or a new hub of trade.

Transport connection to railway and well working *junctions* are of top priority, so urban centers can avoid traffic congestions. “The higher the frequency and hence the transitory character of a place, the more durable and important it is within the urban process of change.” Centers of these places absorb neighbors like a magnet – neighborhoods of individual character gathering there establish a lively community of similar businesses. Citizens establish *micro networks* characterized by enormous flexibility. There are areas, sometimes just one street or up to bigger quarters, specialized in one service. By doing so, they enjoy synergetic advances because of being part in a community in a structure without receiving precise orders. At the same time you can be sure the supplier will do his job well because the competition is just next door.<sup>16</sup>

Due to logistical reasons the downtown of Incheon was transferred about 8 km eastwards of the harbor (closer to Seoul) in the 1980s – now there are shopping malls, a agricultural whole sale area, a main bus station ... Further three international free economic zones generate new hot spots of the city. The *former downtown area is losing a great deal of activity*.

Addresses.

Also the address system is based on the structure of networks. According to the logic of the chronological and topographical system of the network an address is made of:

postal code, city  
urban district GU 구, neighborhood DONG 동, city block and building number  
building name, floor, room number and finally the  
Name of the recipient

It is almost impossible to find a house without a map, because the East Asian system does not follow the idea of spatial proximity as Western countries do.

Gil (Alleys) – semi public space in-between.

Small winding alleyways lined with two story buildings offer an intimacy with things being of human scale: bikes, furniture, plants ... They could/can be understood as the extension of private space! Passing through that intimacy of a neighborhood sometimes feels like entering someone’s house. These streets represent the identity of residents and reflect life patterns of people.

Usually they are irregular, winding and without any consistency in width. Gils have a dead end and the intersections of paths are mainly three-way instead of four-way stops.

## MINIMAL LIVING

Individual space is minimal – usually private space is quite limited in Korean cities. Therefore as many daily life-functions as possible are shared with neighbors. For instance public baths (jimjilbang), dvd bang, pc bang, restaurants, services in convenience stores ... This phenomenon could be called *collective use of facilities*. The publicness of these also provides occasions for social interaction. Collectively using facilities has a long tradition in East Asia – it is not a new phenomenon.

<sup>16</sup> cf. Gruber, Stefan: “Tokio Von der Zugangsökonomie zur kollaborativen Stadt” in ARCH+ 208, 2012, p. 95



Due to a demographic shift the *demand of single housing* rises enormously. Also the change of lifestyle results in the use of private space as a storage area and a place to sleep. *We learn that living space is not a single spatial unit, but rather a temporary network of space on demand, which can spontaneously be made accessible, based on specific requirements.*<sup>17</sup>

This kind of minimized living encloses many positive aspects of living in a city. *It encourages people to become active and provides many occasions to make use of space temporary.* Collective space initiates a lively community.

At the same time this typology could easily be misused, because it provides cheap accommodation. For some poor people it turns out to become a precarious alternative of a home. For instance, a Jimjilbang (public bath) is open full time. Also the Goshiwon - tiny cell for studying - is sometimes used as a miserable housing option.

## THE CITY OF BANG

bang 방 = room

The term is also used for rooms in traditional residential houses, hanok, but it has a deeper sense than the simple translation to western understanding of room. “Bang” includes an implication of privacy and individualism.

Banghas are spreaded over the entire urban landscape of commercialized space while in traditional context the bang has been considered a walled space in a domestic space.

Bang provides the feeling of togetherness in times of anonymity which has gone due to the fast spirit in the “republic of apartments”.

In the same time the development of the enormous spread of Internet (pc bang) occurred. Basically there is no need to enter a pc bang because Koreans have Internet

access at home. However they are popular and represent an social aspect - they are part of the culture.

Layering of those spaces.

Noraebang in the basement, restaurant on 1st floor, pc bang, church, plastic surgery ... and those all accommodated in a single house. Facades showcase with chaotic colorful flashing signs the services offered in this building.

„The city of bang“ is extremely dense and hosts random spatial configurations. It's beyond the control of urban planners or architects.

Banghas offer a *location for socializing*. People catch up to socialize and to cultivate their friendship to fix their close relationship. They gather for public activities indeed in protected atmosphere and separated space from publicity. Most of those gatherings take place in invisibility. As paradox as it sounds - bangs are a kind of private space in public space. Consequently the greater meaning of bang is located in collective activity and experience.

Besides that banghas are commercial facilities.

As a response of fast pace of life today noraebang is described as “primeval cave festival in the midst of the contemporary city”. The traditional understanding of bang was directly transferred from the village to the context for information technology in urban agglomerations – “without passing through the utopias of the modernist city”.<sup>18</sup>

Korean values mainly related to Confucius are still alive in modern bang. Visiting banghas represents an important aspect of group membership. There is no excuse tolerated not to participate ... In banghas those very Korean values often are exhausted into the perverse.

“The Jjimjil bang (A/N public bath) blurs the lines between the collective and the individual, normal and deviant behavior, privacy and voyeurism. The bang is an incarnation of the room, the house and the city, but it does not belong to any of them. The city of the bang oscillates between the domestic realm, institutionalized place, and urban space.”<sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> cf. Gruber, Stefan: “Tokio Von der Zugangsökonomie zur kollaborativen Stadt” in ARCH+ 208, 2012, p. 96

<sup>18</sup> [http://www.korean-pavilion.or.kr/04pavilion/e\\_2004\\_02.htm](http://www.korean-pavilion.or.kr/04pavilion/e_2004_02.htm), Okt 16th, 2012

<sup>19</sup> ibid.



## POJANGMACHA - ELUSIVE & INFORMAL ARCHITECTURE IN THE URBAN FABRIC OF KOREA

Pojangmacha, 포장마차, are tents, sometimes gathered in groups or just single plastic tents, hosting eg. stalls, straying soup kitchens, fortune tellers, ... The tents are an opposite of planned urban design. They are beyond the organized planning and control. They disappear as fast as they have appeared. Pojangmacha are like weed - if they are dispersed they will show up again and again. Therefore they could be described nomadic, elusive, informal and unexpected:

Po-jang = to wrap in paper

Ma-cha = horse, vehicle

Cities in Korea are brand new and you will not find a building which has more than 30 years of age. Therefore the tents could be understood as a counterpoise to the furious development of the city. This kind of architecture represent a lively relict of traditional street culture.

It does not matter if they are located in super hip districts or in ordinary neighborhoods - they are part of daily life. Compared to controlled areas, Pojangmatchas do not differ socially. Etiquettes become unhinged there. Everyone in Korea understands them - maybe we could take them as places of yearning.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>20</sup> cf. Godinho, Laurent Penreira: "Pojangmacha oder die Kunst des Einnistens" in "Stadtbauwelt" 179, 36, 2008, p. 43

# THE PRINCIPLES OF URBAN VILLAGES & COMMUNITIES

## ALTERNATIVE "VILLAGE"? – NEW VILLAGE PROGRAM

Community-based development.

Based on the outcome of former Programs and the recognition of their results a new program, launched by the Seoul Metropolitan Government, is estimated to protect neighborhoods of redevelopment by entire site demolition and construction of apartment complexes.

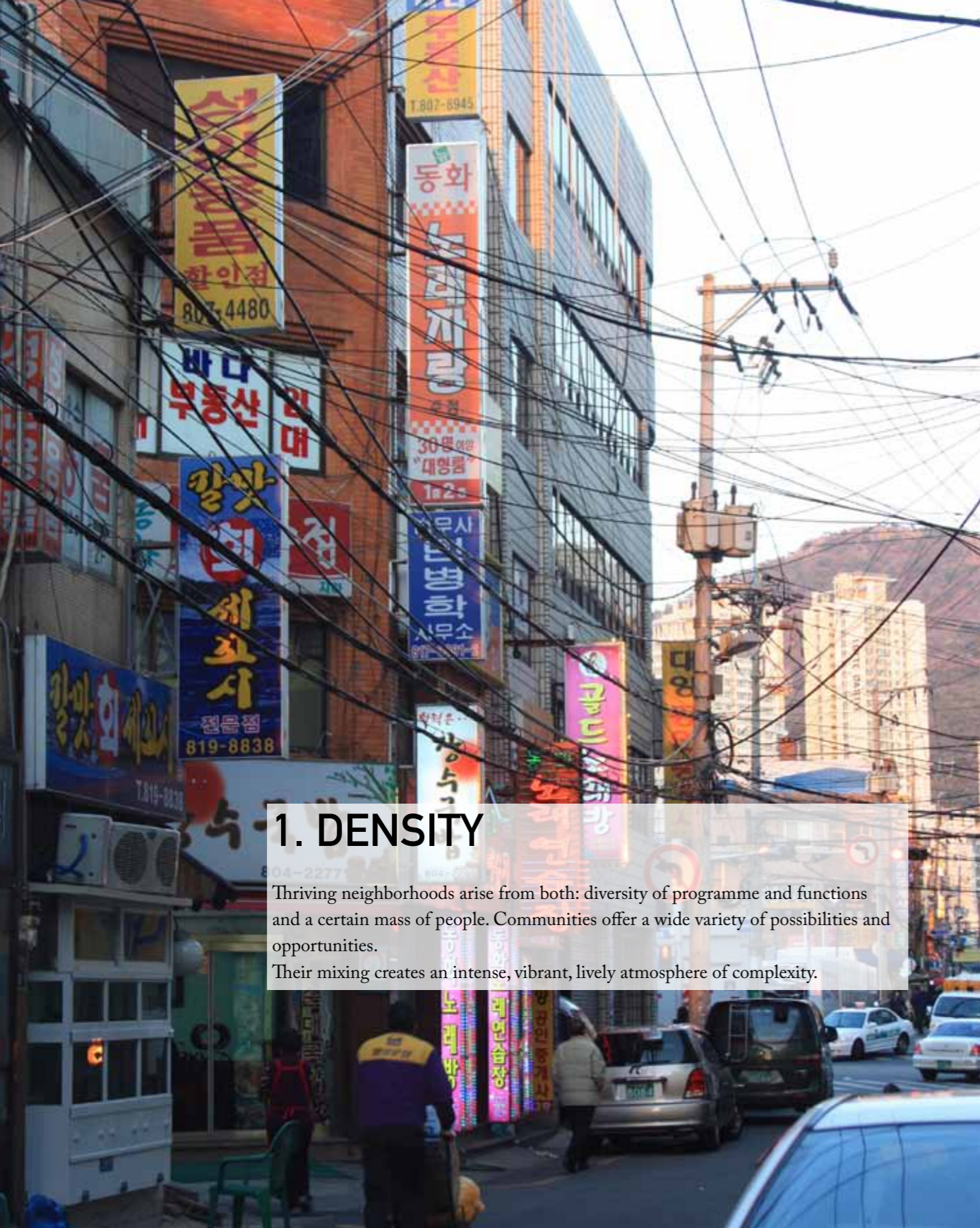
*“The major trust of the policy is to encourage an active community-based lifestyle through the participation of local people and to bridge local resources effectively. It emphasizes two main activities, residential environment improvements and communal welfare programs. Subordinate programs, such as local cultural activities, urban farming and village businesses are also supported. In addition, the policy provides physical aid for the recovery of the natural environment, the preservation of local history and cultural heritage, old building remodelling, encouraging communal life in apartments, village landscape improvement and building public facilities.”<sup>21</sup>*

**WHAT DOES THIS PROGRAM OR ITS INTENTION MEAN FOR INCHEON?? WHAT DOES COMMUNITY-BASED LIFESTYLE STAND FOR? HOW DOES A COMMUNITY WORK? WHY IS IT WORTH TO PAY ATTENTION TO THEIR FEATURES? WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE TO HUGE BLOCK BASED HOUSING?**

So let's have a closer look to Korean neighborhoods and let's do some investigations in the way they work ...

The following results of investigation are based on the publication “The vertical village” of MVRDV and The Why Factory and own explorations.

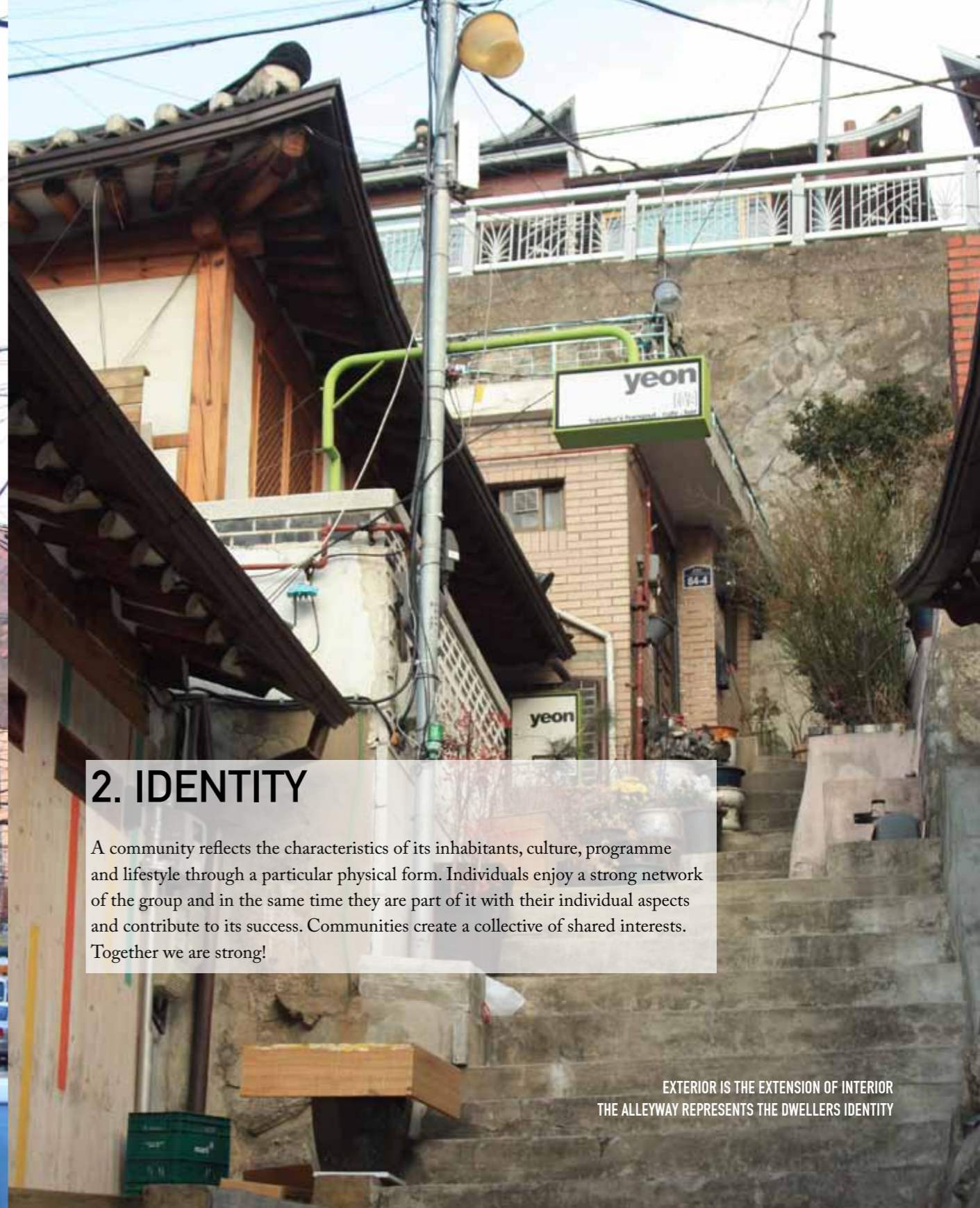




## 1. DENSITY

Thriving neighborhoods arise from both: diversity of programme and functions and a certain mass of people. Communities offer a wide variety of possibilities and opportunities.

Their mixing creates an intense, vibrant, lively atmosphere of complexity.

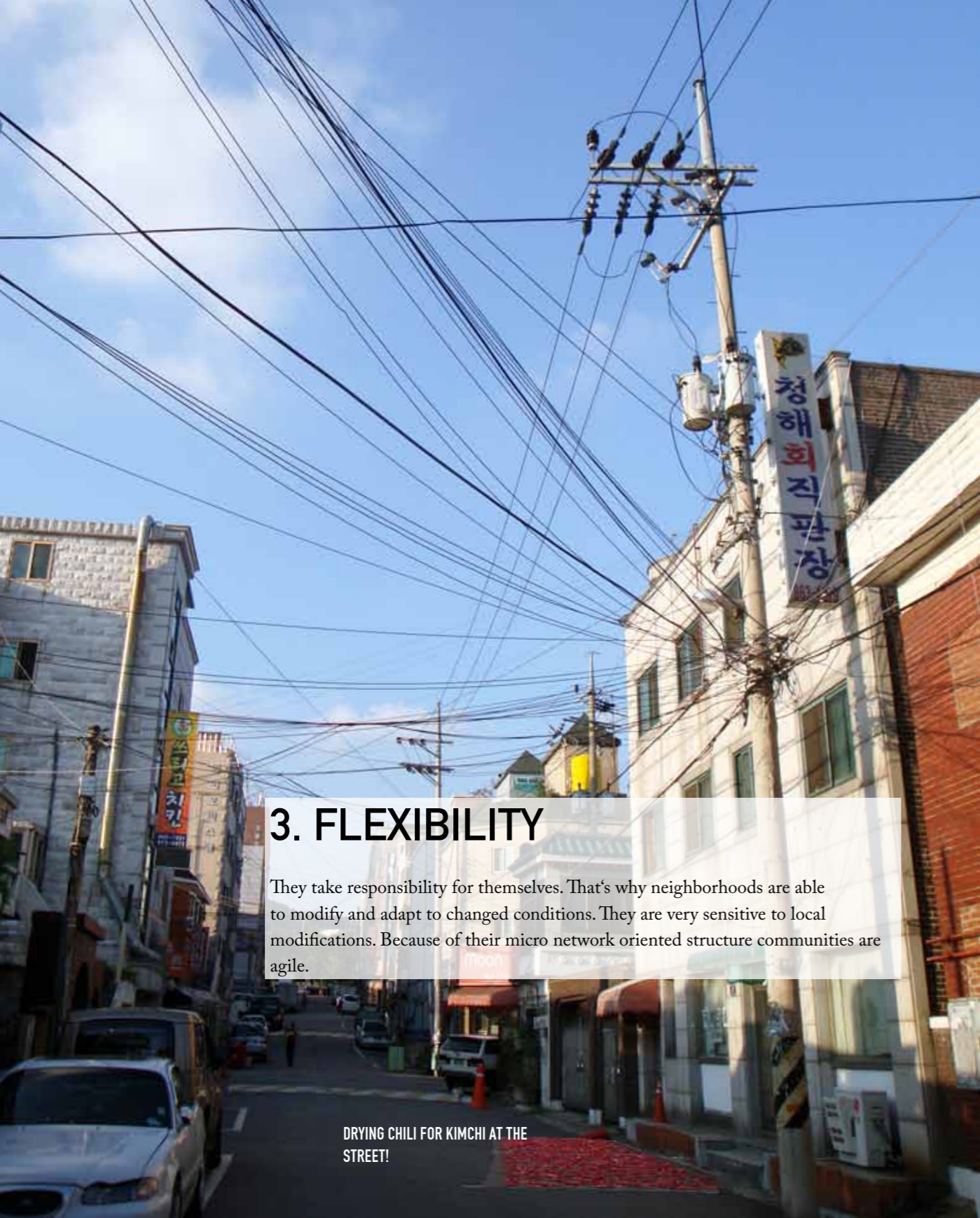


## 2. IDENTITY

A community reflects the characteristics of its inhabitants, culture, programme and lifestyle through a particular physical form. Individuals enjoy a strong network of the group and in the same time they are part of it with their individual aspects and contribute to its success. Communities create a collective of shared interests. Together we are strong!

EXTERIOR IS THE EXTENSION OF INTERIOR  
THE ALLEYWAY REPRESENTS THE DWELLERS IDENTITY





### 3. FLEXIBILITY

They take responsibility for themselves. That's why neighborhoods are able to modify and adapt to changed conditions. They are very sensitive to local modifications. Because of their micro network oriented structure communities are agile.

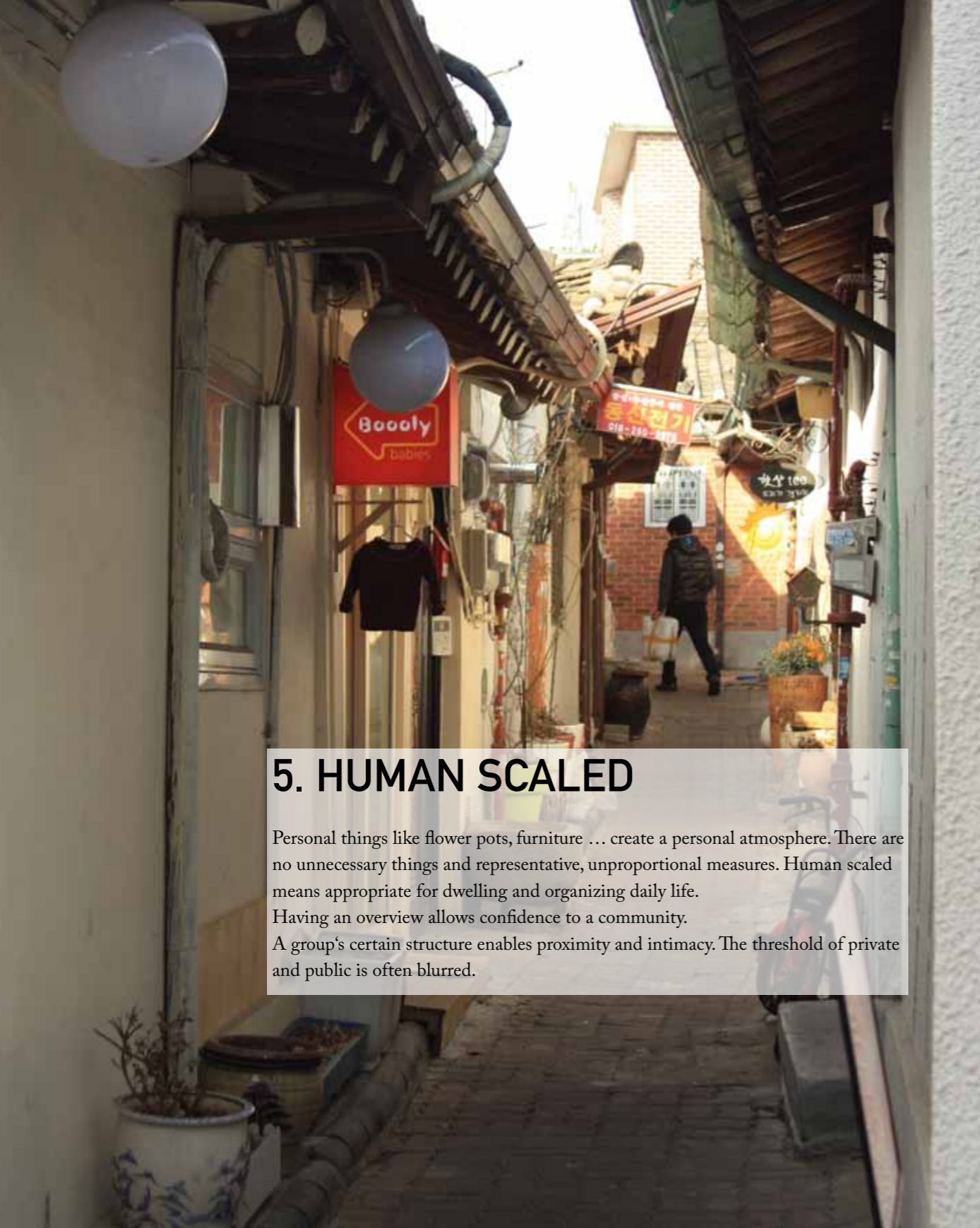
DRYING CHILI FOR KIMCHI AT THE STREET!



### 4. EVOLUTIONARY GROWTH

Communities evolve over time by bottom-up organized decision making. Change is adapted to local conditions and appropriate to local requirements.





## 5. HUMAN SCALED

Personal things like flower pots, furniture ... create a personal atmosphere. There are no unnecessary things and representative, unproportional measures. Human scaled means appropriate for dwelling and organizing daily life.

Having an overview allows confidence to a community.

A group's certain structure enables proximity and intimacy. The threshold of private and public is often blurred.



A SLIGHTLY RAINY AFTERNOON AT AN ORDINARY SUNDAY IN SEOUL.  
PEOPLE BRING THEIR STUFF TO ENJOY A PICKNICK WITH THEIR FRIENDS WHILE FACING THE SKYLINE OF HANGANG.

## 6. SPONTANEITY

Through their informal and open structure enough space for spontaneity is provided. Space can be used and adapted easily to certain requirements.

RAUMLABOR BERLIN. SOME IDEAS FOR BETTER CITIES.

“CITY IS THE GENERATOR OF A SOCIETY. THE PROCESS OF A PLACE BECOMING A CITY IS URBANITY. URBANITY IS NOT CREATED SIMPLY BY BUILDINGS BUT MERELY BY SPACES IN-BETWEEN. CITY AND URBANITY ARE CONSTANT IN TRANSFORMATION TRIGGERED BY THEIR INHABITANTS TRUSTING THEIR CITY ON A SEARCH FOR POSSIBILITIES OF FULFILLING THEIR DESIRES. WITHOUT **TRUST** THERE IS NO CHANCE FOR URBANITY. THE CONTEMPORARY CITY, ITS BORDERS, ITS APPEARANCE, ITS RULES ARE RAPIDLY CHANGING. INHABITANTS ARE LOOSING AN OVERVIEW OF THEIR CITY. THEY ARE LOOSING A SENSE OF INFLUENCE SHAPING THEIR OWN ENVIRONMENT. THE FEAR OF A RAPIDLY SHRINKING OR GROWING CITY, OF A DANGEROUS LOURING CITY, A FEAR OF A CITY OF ITS CLOSING GENTRIFICATIONS, SLUMIFICATION, SURVEILLANCE AND RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM IS GROWING. THE INHABITANTS STRUCTURE THEIR LIFE IN RELATION TO THEIR FEARS RATHER THAN THEIR POTENTIALS.

THE RESULT IS DRAINED PUBLIC SPACE. URBANITY BECOMES LOST.

WE LOVE TO REFLECT AN URBANITY AS IT APPEARS IN REAL TIME, IN REAL PLACES WITH REAL PEOPLE. WE LOVE TO MAKE JOURNEYS INTO THE REAL WORLD, NOTE OUR EXPERIENCE AND TAKE OUR DECISIONS FROM HERE. IT'S IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT SOLVING PROBLEMS DOES NOT MEAN OFFERING SOLUTIONS, BUT ASKING QUESTIONS. SLIGHTLY AMPLIFYING SITUATIONS MIGHT HELP FURTHER THAN ARCHITECTURE OF GOOD INTENTION. ARCHITECTS SHOULD BE THE MODERATORS, CURATORS OF REURBANIFICATION. WE LOVE TO CREATE SPACE OF NEGOTIATION. WE MUST BE THE QUARTER BAGS FOR PIONEERS OF THE NEW URBANITY. WE MUST OPEN DOORS, FIND GROUPS AND RULES, DESCRIBE PERSPECTIVES AND VISUALIZE SCENARIOS. WE LOVE TO DESIGN THE TRAINING GROUND FOR EXPERIENCE FOR THINKING AND DOING. WE LOVE TO PROPOSE IDEAS FOR BETTER CITIES.”<sup>22</sup>

<sup>22</sup> RAUMLABOR BERLIN, RICK, MATTHIAS: [HTTP://VIMEO.COM/19825728](http://vimeo.com/19825728), KÖLN, 2011





INCHEON, DONGINCHEON | AGILE URBAN STRUCTURE



SEOUL, JONGNO GU, INSA DONG



SPACE IS OFTEN LIMITED ...





SETTLEMENT AT THE PORT VICINITY IN INCHEON



PROXIMITY AND EXTENSION OF LIVING SPACE ALLOWS CORRELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS





2 SIDES OF THE BRIDGE  
HOUSING, URBAN SETTLEMENT <=> CLOSED OFF AREA FOR INDUSTRIAL UTILIZATION



PROTECTED SPACE UNDER THE BRIDGE IS USED AS CAR PARK, PLACE FOR MARKET ...







MARKET IN BUPYEONG



SIMPO MARKET IN INCHEON DOWNTOWN



MARKETS ARE ROOFED STREETS

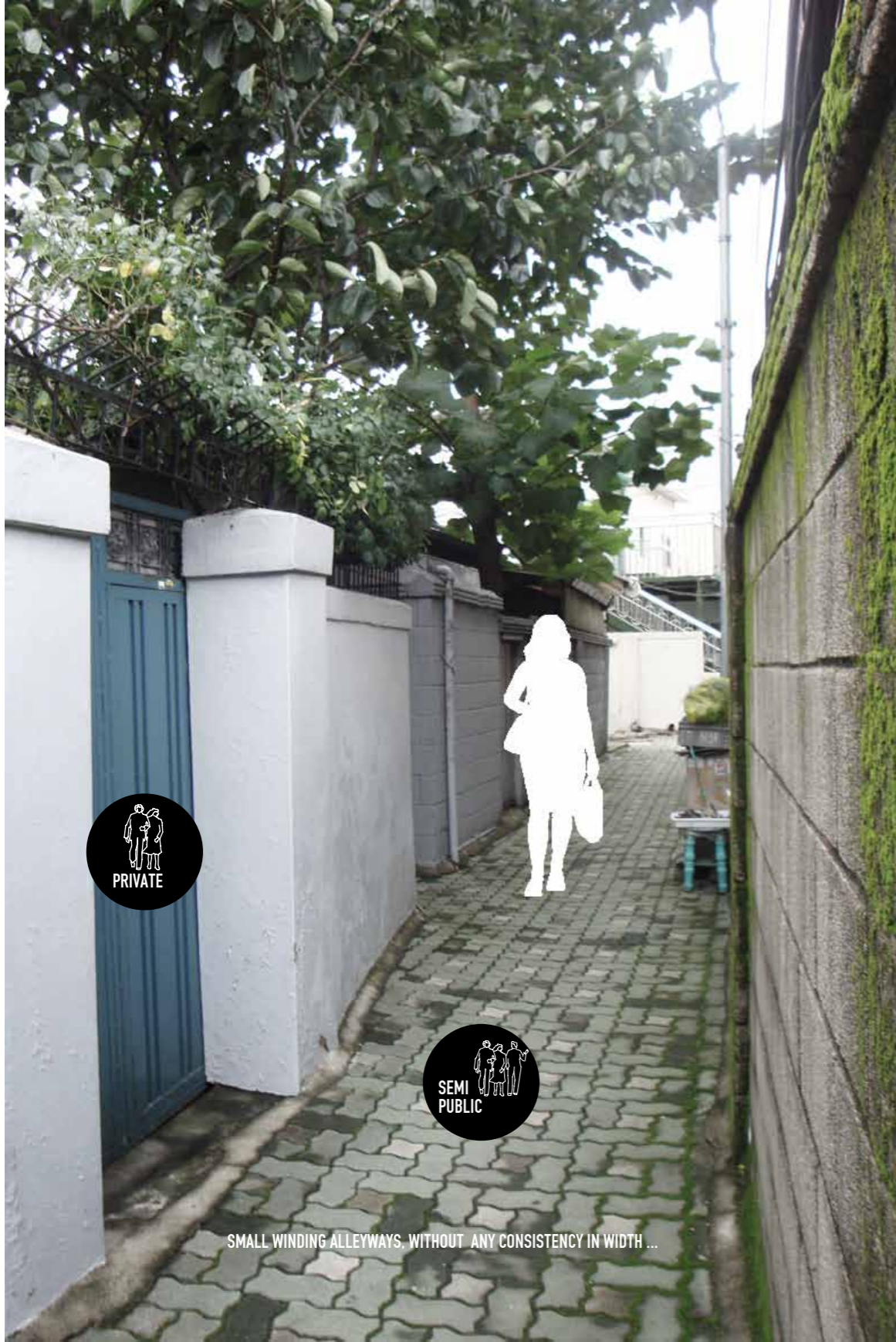




LAYERING OF PUBLIC, SEMI-PUBLIC AND PRIVATE.  
IN TRADITIONAL PRIVATE AREAS WALLS DEFINE PRIVATE HOUSES FROM SEMI-PUBLIC SPACE. YOU ENTER A HOUSE VIA A TRESHOLD, THE GATE.







SMALL WINDING ALLEYWAYS, WITHOUT ANY CONSISTENCY IN WIDTH ...



NARROW GAP IN-BETWEEN SINGLE HOUSES  
EXTENSION OF PRIVATE SPACE TO THE EXTERIOR







POPULAR AND WELL KNOWN FISH MARKET IN NORTHERN PROXIMITY OF THE SITE



FOOD OR THE PLEASURE OF IT IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF KOREAN CULTURE



SIMPLE FOOD STALLS NEXT TO THE MARKET FACING INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS



# BLOCK ATTACK<sup>23</sup>



IN ONLY 30 YEARS, APARTMENTS HAVE OCCUPIED EVERYWHERE IN THE CITYSCAPE OF INCHEON OR IN A BROADER SENSE THE GREATER AREA OF SEOUL. "INCLUDING MOUNTAIN AND RIVER AREAS, AND THEY HAVE BECOME KOREA'S REPRESENTATIVE RESIDENTIAL HOUSING TYPE AND A MAJOR ELEMENT OF CITYSCAPE."<sup>24</sup> THEREFORE MOST OF THE VILLAGES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED AND THE CITY EXTENDED ENORMOUSLY WHERE RICE FIELDS HAD BEEN IN THE PAST.

<sup>23</sup> Maas, Winy et al. (ed): in: "The vertical village", 2012, p. 10ff

<sup>24</sup> Lee, Chung Kee: "Apartment city, Seoul"; in "re.place.ing" Korean Pavilion 2010 Biennale di Venezia, p.71





# uniform MONOCULTURE

PLANNED APARTMENT COMPLEX BUILDINGS IN THE PARK ...



NO CONNECTION OF APARTMENT AND OUTDOOR SPACE



PRIVATE AND OPEN SPACE ARE TOTALLY SEPARATED. OPEN SPACE DOES NOT ENCOURAGE COMMUNICATION AND INDIVIDUAL ACQUIREMENT!

... BUT in general SPACE IN-BETWEEN is used as a PARKING LOT

Daddy, WHERE is OUR apartment?

IDENTIFICATION???



# vibrant PLURALITY

EVOLUTIONARY GROWTH A MESHWORK OF IDENTITIES, FUNCTIONS ... > URBANITY



IN URBAN CONTEXT STREET SPACE IS THE EXTENSION OF GROUND FLOOR. THERE ARE ALWAYS PUBLIC FUNCTIONS AT STREET LEVEL.

STREET IS USED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSE AND ACTS AS A PLATFORM FOR SOCIAL INTERACTION.

# TRADITIONAL KOREAN HOUSING > HANOK

The traditional Korean house is called Hanok. This type of house was constructed at the countryside as well as in urban context.

Nowadays almost all Hanok villages have been destroyed due to recent developments in urbanism. Apartment complexes are the answer of politics and city planning.

These days they have occupied everywhere in the cityscape of Incheon.

“Old quarters” are perceived as neighborhoods not coming up nowadays desired requirements of lifestyle. Those districts adhere a romantic touch, which is kept “conserved”. They became museums which showcase local “Korean culture” for tourists as locals as well. As an opposition to international areas they pose to point out the “difference”.

“The spatial configurations of urban hanok at the time of urbanization is *flexible* around the *central governing space of the garden* or yard. Although small in size, it embodies a *microcosm with a delicate sense of scales and most significantly an abundant spatiality*. The sequence set away from an alleyway, through a *threshold* and the patio, to that of the rooms, constructs *individuated time-space narratives* and a transformation from urban space to that of personal ones. In spite of those architectural concepts, the *hanok failed to evolve a contemporary production system*. As a result it cannot cope - in an economic sense - with the contemporary demands for spatial density and performance.”<sup>25</sup>

Demographic shifts based on aging society and declining birthrate influenced housing typologies. As in western countries demand for single and two person households is rising.

Even if they are not common anymore, Hanok villages still tell about codes and cultural background. The change of values and ideas of a society takes much longer than the rapid change in politics and urban planning particular in East Asian context. Unpredictability and speed of modernization are challenging design processes.

<sup>25</sup> Kim, Seunghoy: “Archetype housing: Our houses should reflect our time”, in: SPACE magazine, Oct. 2012, p.22



In my point of view changing lifestyle and consequently housing typologies could be the new chance for those structures accommodating alternative housing concepts. People addressing varied reasons establish a community, form a comprehensive mix of life form and hold an enormous potential for a vibrant and lively atmosphere. Ideas and concepts of “traditional” East Asian housing face an other point of view and provide adaptations for nowadays requirements.

Minimal living, flexibility, collective space, openness for spontaneity, mix of functions and network are the new keywords for innovative and smart housing concepts.

To understand the Korean “basic” housing typology lets have a closer look at traditional urban villages.

The basic element of Hanok is the center governing space or courtyard called *Madang* 마당. Rooms are arranged around it. Madang implies on the one hand a multi-purpose outdoor place to hold various events and also a performance place and on the other hand a courtyard at the center of a house. The plan is deeply associated with the Korean way of life in terms of the people’s needs, functional, practical, spatial, visual, climatic, social and cultural aspects. Life is interwoven with the cycle of nature and human beings are part of it – in a courtyard your senses are mobilized and you are able to experience the change of seasons, rising and passing of nature. The void or empty space offers extraordinary experiences in the context of ordinary. So Madang is more than just a courtyard- “it’s a positively-charged void”.<sup>26</sup>

Traditional housing in Korea does not point out the difference of *in- and outside*. Those terms are not a disagreement. We can read the courtyard as a room without roof. There are no clear boundaries between indoor and outdoor. So it merely serves as an extension of dwelling space.

The courtyard serves as a buffer zone – almost all rooms of the house have oriented their openings toward it. Architecturally, the courtyard functions as a threshold from public to private domain.

In Asian understanding the function of a house is based upon *protection from weather and danger but not to exclude nature*. The house is not just focused on homogeneous and controlled inner space seeking for comfort. Modern civilization is based on the idea that living space needs to be installed to a comfort zone that separates us from nature and environment.<sup>27</sup>

The house implies *human scale*. Basic measures and segmentation of rooms provide a flexible structure.

“Kan was a term used to count the number of spaces between columns, and so provided the basics for a kind of *modular system*.” It is not a fixed length but usually between 1.80m to 2.75m. According to this modular system the house was adaptable to changes of an ongoing process – to add new space or rooms.

The only constant is *change!* Change is immanent in Asian architecture and thinking.

Unlike the Korean way the Greeks and Romans made efforts in emphasizing everlasting architecture. Architecture was supposed to act as a manifest or monument.

Comparing European and East Asian architectural typology we discover a significant difference in the meaning of walls. In the West the roof is bearded by walls while in the East columns do it. Korean houses basically consist of pillars attached with a roof. Walls are made of wooden panels or paper.<sup>28</sup>

**ALLEY IN BETWEEN**



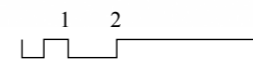
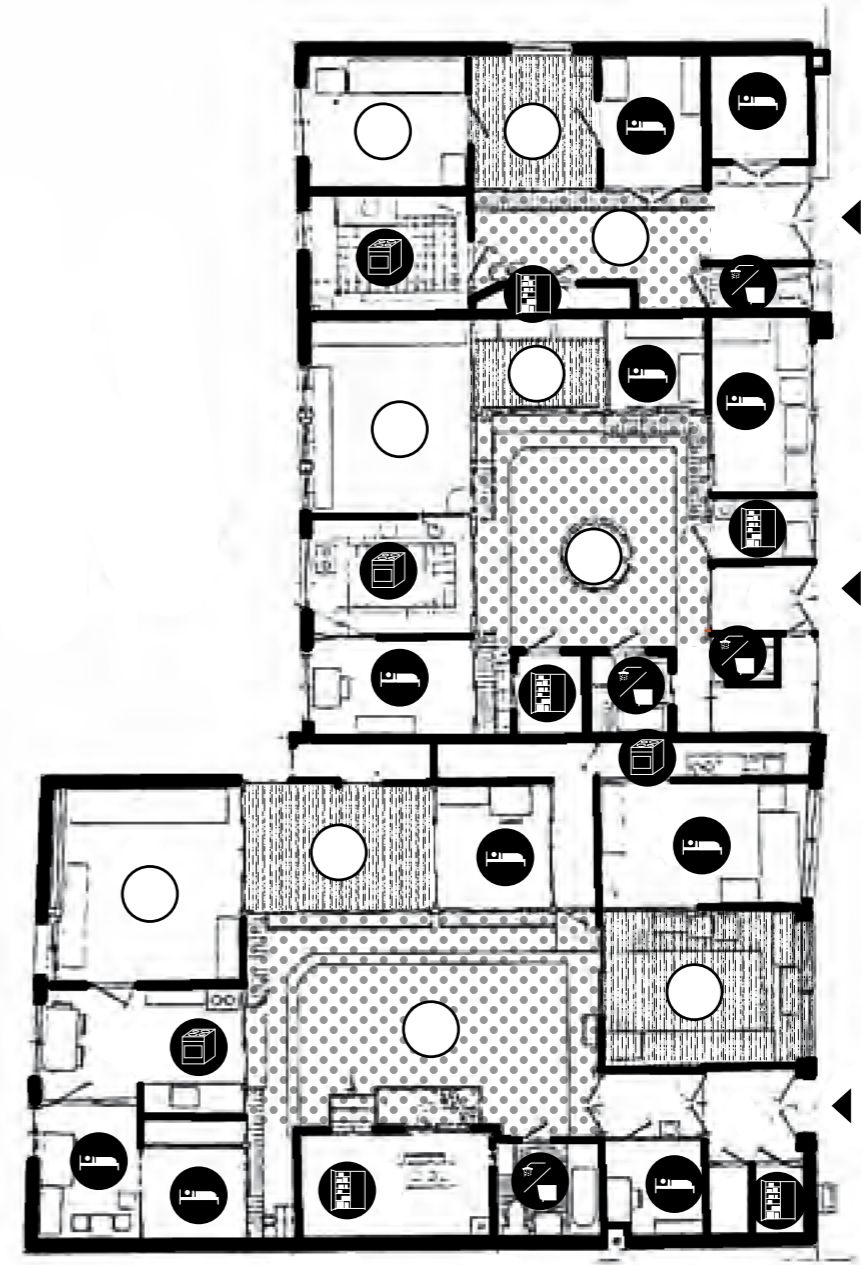
**HUMAN SCALED**  
= streets are the extension of living area



**OUTSIDE =  
EXTENSION OF INSIDE**



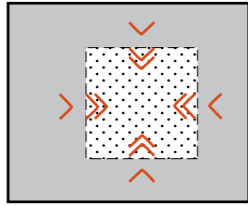
**COMMUNICATION**  
= streets are the extension of living area  
= distinction btw. private and public is blurry



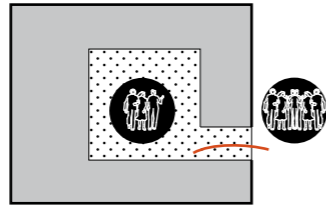
flexible space without determined function

Source: Kahoedong Hanok  
Chosa Bogoseo (Report of  
Kahoedong Area Field Survey),  
Muae + OB Seminar Study  
Report 1, 1986

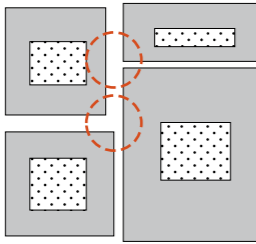




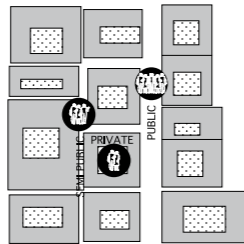
**COURTYARD**  
 = extension of interior space  
 = room without roof  
 = micro climate controllers



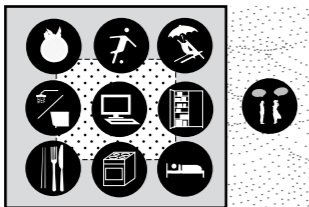
**GATE**  
 = break through the wall  
 = treshold between public and private



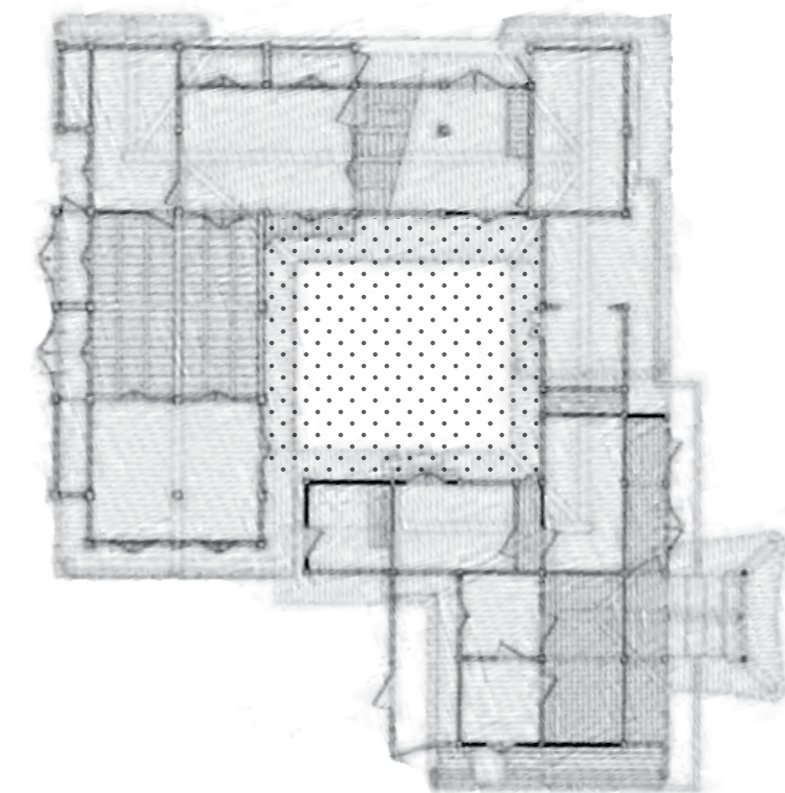
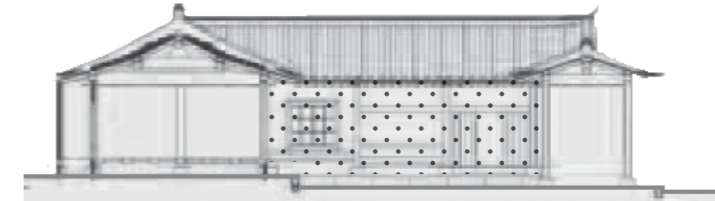
**STREETS | ALLEYS = GIL**  
 > usually intersection of 3 alleys  
 > mainly death end  
 > no squares  
 > irregular, winding, without any consistency in width



**MESHWORK OF URBAN FABRIC**  
 > density through segmentation of site  
 > clear definition of private and public space in housing areas. semi public space belongs to neighbors  
 > empty space in between



**INSIDE = OUTSIDE + OUTSIDE**  
 minimal living inside  
 + extension courtyard  
 + neutrality of use  
 -----  
 PLENTY OF SPACE



GROUND FLOOR AND SECTION OF A TYPICAL HANOK IN SEOUL



# 하루 만에 시공 가능한 조립식 한옥 유닛 모듈 주택 The Prefabricated Modular Hanok can be Constructed in One Day

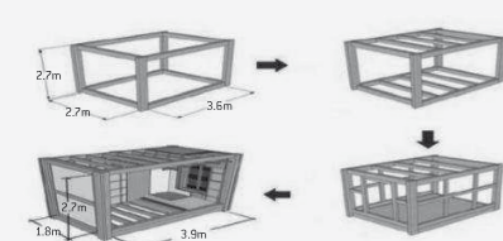
Courtesy of Korea Institute of Construction Technology



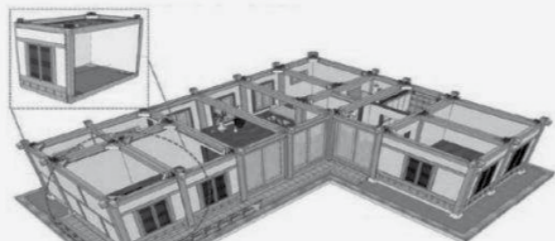
The prefabricated modular Hanok at the 2012 Seoul International Construction Fair



Assembly of the prefabricated modular Hanok



A box-shaped unit module of the prefabricated modular Hanok



The modular system can be assembled for easy reconfiguration of internal space according to user preference

지난 달 열린 2012 서울국제건축박람회에서 평당 공사비 400만 원으로 하루 만에 시공이 가능한 조립식 한옥이 많은 관람객의 주목을 받았다. 이는 한국건설교통기술평가원의 국가 R&D 사업의 일환으로 한옥기술개발연구단, 한국건설기술연구원, 다담건축, 마에스트로건축이 함께 개발한 한옥주택 공법의 결과물이다. 연구진은 한옥 주택을 보급하고 확산하기 위해서 관련 규정과 지원 제도를 보완하는 것뿐만 아니라 무엇보다 한옥의 가격을 낮추는 것이 시급하다고 보았다. 우선, 한옥 자체의 비규격화로 인해 상승한 비용 문제는 설계 표준화를 통해, 그리고 현장 수작업 공사로 인한 높은 비용과 일정하지 못한 품질 문제는 자체 및 시공 표준화를 통해 해결하고자 했다. 이에 따라 공장에서 표준화된 유닛 모듈을 생산해 시공 현장으로 가져와 하루 만에 접합해 완성시킴으로써 기존 건축비의 40% 가량을 낮추는 한편, 그간 다량으로 배출되었던 폐목재가 거의 발생하지 않는 성과를 보였다. 유닛 모듈은 정·작업연체의 박스 모양으로 전기선, 수도관, 온돌 등이 모듈 벽과 바닥에 설치되어 있다. 또한 이 한옥 주택은 건축주의 취향에 따라 건축 및 해체가 쉬워 내부를 쉽게 변경할 수 있으며, 해체 후 유닛 박스와 주택

부품을 재사용할 수 있다. 연구진은 이번 한옥 유닛 모듈 주택이 아직 대량생산 공장 시스템을 갖추지 않은 중간 단계라며, 앞으로 완성도를 높여 일반 국민들도 비용에 구애 없이 한옥을 선택할 수 있도록 할 계획이라 밝혔다. The prefabricated modular Hanok was introduced at the 2012 Seoul International Construction Fair last month. The modular housing can be constructed in a day at a cost of no more than 4 million KRW (approximately 3,600USD) per sqm. It was developed as a national R&D project of the Korea Institute of Construction and Transportation Technology Evaluation and Planning, in collaboration with Hanok Technology Research Center, Korea Institute of Construction Technology, Dadam Architects & Planners, and Maestro Build. The research team considered lowering the construction cost of the Hanok to be their primary task as it is the best way to disseminate Hanok to the general public (along with

ensuring complementary regulations and policies). Therefore, they established design standards to reduce the high cost of non-standard materials for Hanok and construction standards to reduce the high cost of on-site human labour and the irregular qualities of materials. Consequently, the new method of construction, using prefabricated modules, was able to lower construction cost by 40% and to reduce waste of construction materials to virtually none. A box-shaped unit module is equipped with wires, pipes, Ondol inside walls and floors. The modular system can be assembled and dismantled for easy reconfiguration of internal space according to user preference; moreover, dismantled frames and components can be reused. The research team speculates that the mass-production of more refined Hanok modules in future could be an accessible housing option for the general public.

# 한옥, 도시 건축으로 정착시키기 위한 건축계의 논의 Discussions Continue about the Settlement of Han-ok as Urban Architecture



The forum entitled 'Han-ok, can it function as an urban housing?'

최근 전통 건축에 관한 관심이 높아지고 있는 가운데 현대 한옥을 미래 건축으로 이어가기 위해 건축계가 함께 고민하는 자리가 연달아 열렸다. '한옥, 도시주거로 작동할 수 있는가?'라는 포럼과 '한옥의 오늘과 내일' 워크숍이 바로 그것. 현대건축을 공부한 건축가들은 한옥을 전통문화 계승이 아닌 설계 대상으로 보고 기존 형식에 자기 나름의 해석을 더한다. 전문가들은 더 나아가 새로운 주거문화로 자리 잡기 위해서 한옥을 새롭게 정의하고, 법과 제도를 현실적으로 정비하고, 새로운 정책이 마련돼야 하는 사정이라고 입을 모았다. 건축도시공간연구소(이하 au) 국가한옥센터가 지난 5월 14일 서울역사박물관에서 제3차 한옥포럼 '한옥, 도시주거로 작동할 수 있는가?'를 열었다. 포럼은 한옥이 지어지는 장소와 한옥에 담는 기능에 구체적으로 접근했다.

**THESE DAYS THERE ARE DISCOURSES OF KOREAN ARCHITECTS CONCERNING THE MEANING OF LOOSING VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE!**

**DOES IT MAKE SENSE TO COPY HOUSES AS SHOWN HERE AND PLACE THEM IN A TOTAL DIFFERENT CONTEXT???**

**THE QUESTION SHOULD BE HOW TO ADAPT TO MODERN LIFE!**

**IT IS NOT ABOUT CONSERVING TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE OR TO SQUEEZE CHANGED LIFESTYLE INTO OLD FORMS!**

Architects specialising in modern architecture came up with their own interpretations of the Han-ok design, viewing it not as a succession of traditional culture but as an object of architectural design. It can be said that new light has been shed on the Han-ok as a singular work of art. The attendees voiced the same opinion; it is high

time that architects came up with a new definition of the Han-ok, amend the rules and regulations realistically, and make new policies in order to establish the Han-ok as integral to a new residential culture. On the 14 May 2012, the National Han-ok Center of the Architecture & Urban Research Institute ("auri") held its second Han-ok forum, entitled 'Han-ok, can it function as an urban housing?' at the Seoul Museum of History. Forum participants held detailed discussions about the typical places and positions of the Han-ok, its built reality and its functionality.

Changbok Lim, Honorary Professor of Sungkyunkwan University and Technical Adviser of Architecture at GS Construction, paid particular attention to the potential changes in the Han-ok in an overview of recent history. Our lifestyles have changed in the process of accepting western culture, and the Han-ok that remains today is NO! IT IS ABOUT KEEPING FAMILIAR AND WELL PROVED ELEMENTS ALIVE AND ESTABLISHING AN EVEN MORE COMPREHENSIVE ARCHITECTURE!

DOES IT MAKE SENSE TO COPY HOUSES AS SHOWN HERE AND PLACE THEM IN A TOTAL DIFFERENT CONTEXT???

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there is an urgent need to establish the relevant laws and regulations in the near future". He also added that "The Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs is making efforts to work on new technologies and train professionals to make Han-ok more popular among the Korean public through its Han-ok R&D project". Architects shared their feelings in the Han-ok workshop held at The Clayarch Gimhae Museum on the 11 May and the 12 May 2012, which was entitled Today and Tomorrow of Han-ok.' The Korea Land & Housing Corporation and Yongmi Kim, the President of G.S Architects & Associates who successfully developed 'Modular Han-ok', have expanded the possibility of combining Han-ok with modern architecture by presenting a wooden construction technology that can be applied to an apartment building. Junggoo Cho, President of Guga Urban Architects, said that 'Considering there are a lot of people looking for Han-ok these days, it is more important to make creative designs,' and he added 'It is possible for Han-ok to continue its life as a house, when it effectively communicates with people today, while maintaining its unique traditional taste and reflecting modern life styles.' Doojin Hwang, President of Doojin Hwang Architects, further motions that 'Han-ok is now at the crossroads of either keeping its conventional style or else being reborn as a fully-fledged part of our urban landscape.' He then added that 'If its style does change, however, it is not certain if our society will accept it.' The workshop served as an occasion for architects to engage in in-depth discussions on the future of Han-ok, and shared the need for the establishment of a social space where architects could actively work on projects involving Han-ok. The Gallery is looking into the possibility of maintaining and developing Han-ok through its special exhibition, entitled 'Contemporary Han-ok,' to be continued through until the 26 August. The workshop was held as part of this special exhibition. <by Shim, Jane Misun>



Kim, yongmi, Modular Han-ok

Courtesy of Gigaarch Gimhae Museum

# THE CONCEPT OF EMPTINESS

In conversations with Koreans about space I noticed a big difference in the way of understanding and using space compared to the way we do it in Europe.

Kong-gan, *공 간*, the Korean word for space, translated to English is “emptiness”. The term is based on a Confucianist idea.<sup>29</sup>

Emptiness does not mean “nothingness” or “energy-less”; rather it indicates a condition which will likely be filled with content in the future. An empty vessel represents the idea of its capability to be filled with something.<sup>30</sup>

So what does it mean – to fill an empty vessel? What is the matter of the filling?

*Space is filled with social practice which is based on action and communication.* Hence space is considered as a *social product*. On the one hand it provides and initiates occasions to make use of it and on the other hand space is open (or empty) to be refilled or changed with new ideas. Architecture is supposed to create relations and to encourage communication!

Herman Hertzberger talks about the idea of *polyvalency* adhering the production of “*forms* that are in themselves lucid and permanent, but can *change* in the sense of that you can *interpret them differently*.”

Different interpretation in matter of time overlays a further complexity. In the course of time interests and functions change and forms should owe the capacity and flexibility to absorb new requirements. Program is only a temporary thing and in course of time it can lose its validity.

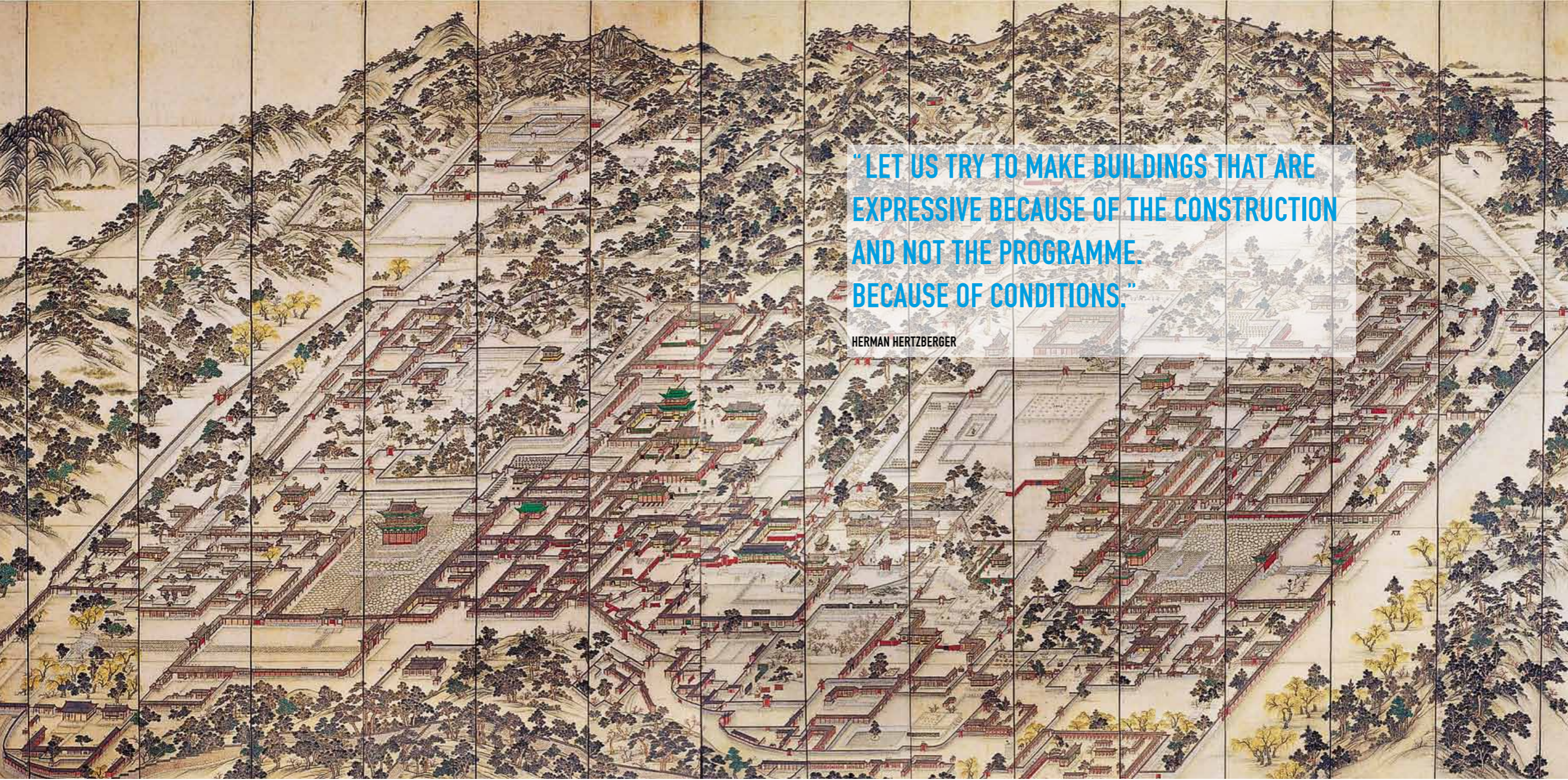
Of course it is too less to produce empty boxes which you can use and fill as you want. The challenge of empty space is the production of realms that *invite humans for social practice and usage and to provide the possibility for acquirement implying people’s way of life*.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>29</sup> cf. Beigel / Christou, 2010, p. 12

<sup>30</sup> cf. Hara, 2007, p. 36

<sup>31</sup> cf. Herman Hertzberger in “Time-based buildings” in Leupen, Bernard et al. (ed.): “Time-based Architecture”, 2005, p. 82ff





"LET US TRY TO MAKE BUILDINGS THAT ARE EXPRESSIVE BECAUSE OF THE CONSTRUCTION AND NOT THE PROGRAMME. BECAUSE OF CONDITIONS."

HERMAN HERTZBERGER

PALACES IN SEOUL | Sequence of squares and courtyards composes a pattern of empty realms



# THE CITY OF INCHEON

TOWARDS SEOUL

JAPANESE SETTLEMENT

CHINATOWN  
down the hill

PORT

HILL IN WOLMIDO

SITE !!!  
INDUSTRIAL AREA

OPEN SEA TOWARDS  
CHINA





FIRST URBAN PLAN OF DOWNTOWN INCHEON IN 1920  
JINSEN: JAPANESE NAME OF INCHEON "CITY AT THE RIVER"

## THE METROPOLITAN CITY OF INCHEON

Incheon's strategic position at the seaside close to the capital caused the city's role as a gateway to Seoul and for introduction of foreign civilization. The city developed as one of South Korea's major industrial centers.

Particular under the rule of Japan (1910 – 1945) the city of Incheon started to change. Before that, in 1883 Chemulpo (Incheon's name during Choseon Dynasty) was a small fishing village of 4,700 dwellers.

The construction of Kyongin road and Kyonginson railroad marked the beginning of land transport and improved the lack of infrastructure. Along that road a development corridor, Kyongin Industrial Region, occurred.

As a consequence industry settled in the port's neighborhood. Economy is heavily dependent on transshipment and shipping of goods. Infrastructure symbolizes the levels of infrastructure of the city.

Under Japanese pressure Korean Government was focused "on developing load center functions between Southern and Northern peninsula, through land reclamation, waterfront and port development" to secure the enlargement of the port. In the course of time industry for cleaning rice and brewery, weaving and milling, heavy industry and ammunitions were based in Incheon.

Rural immigration and industrial employment lead to fast extension of the city.<sup>32</sup>

The first city development plan was created from the Japanese governor's Act of Town Planning in Korea. This plan introduced a zoning system with housing, scenic and green area zones, networks of streets, parks and squares.<sup>33</sup>

When Bupyeong, a district eastwards, was attached to downtown Incheon, city boundaries extended in the 1940s. The base of Japanese war industry was based there. The orientation eastwards kept on when the Expressway Seoul-Incheon was finished in the 1970s and Juan and Guwol were added to the city development.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>32</sup> cf. Ducruet, n. d.

<sup>33</sup> Urban Planning in Incheon, 2004, p. 10

<sup>34</sup> Urban Planning in Incheon, 2004, p. 16-17



Until 1945 Incheon port was the leading port in Korea but due to technical reasons as the disadvantages concerning the muddy sea and high tidal range, the impact decreased.

However, Incheon is still a port and industrial city. The point is that Incheon failed in diversifying its economy. In Seoul nationals core businesses and tertiary activities are centralized while Incheon is remaining its industrial business. Korean development is due to some reasons strongly centralized.<sup>35</sup>

New developments as IFEZ force the development of a global informational and technological city to get out of Seoul's influence. The city puts strong efforts in decentralizing and creating its own image. This image is based on international standards and is oriented towards its reputation in global position.

Since the last 20 years Incheon downtown has undergone significant demographic shifts since a number of people have been leaving the city. Consequently Incheon suffers from a loss of vitality and decline of local economy as the economy of the suburbs has developed. The development started in the 1980s when people were attracted by new jobs and new housing by the government's promotion in land development projects. Built-up areas extended the city borders more and more. Many buildings and factories of the heart of Incheon have been neglected.

At present Incheon downtown represents a relict of times which has gone. Large warehouses, old factories and shabby houses along railroad tracks shape the image of the city. Heavy industry is sourced out to China or Vietnam due to lower production costs.

A survey conducted by the city in 2006 indicates "that 71.5% of respondents think that downtown impoverishment is a severe problem."<sup>36</sup>

The so-called severe problems are caused to a lack of jobs, lack of investment in infrastructure, environmental pollution, bad housing, cultural and educational conditions and lack of open space.

## URBAN PLANS OF INCHEON METROPOLITAN CITY

The City Planning Institute puts its efforts in very ambitious development proposals. „Re-establishing future visions“ to improve living conditions, globalization and the construction of the IFEZ project are the key aspects of the enterprise.

The image of a shabby industrial region should be managed to be repositioned by an exclusive one.

As part of "THE 2020 INCHEON CITY PLAN" downtown area is planned to be revitalized. Important traffic intersections and their surrounding are going to be new designed. Tourism, historic preservation and parks are forced as well as improvement of conditions for commerce and culture.

The inner port will be relocated – it has already been done partly – to the north port and in future to Songdo port. So downtown port will be a clean port in near future.

## INCHEONS VISIONS

### WON-NA-BE INCHEON 2025 | EYED BY THE PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

Wonder: wonderful success in regeneration of the city

Navigator: A pioneer of urban regeneration

Benefactor: regeneration beneficial to all citizens

## STRATEGY

Strengthening cultural power of the city

Improving value of the city from regeneration

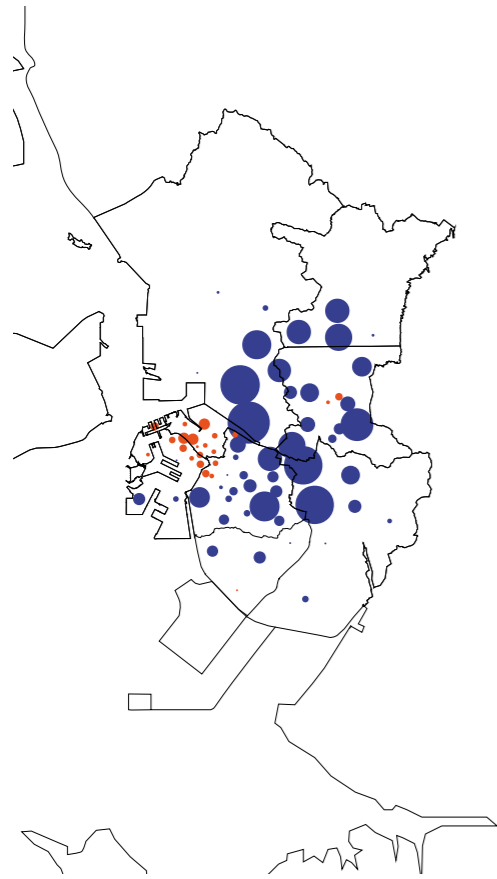
Comfort and convenience for all

Harmonizing humans and nature

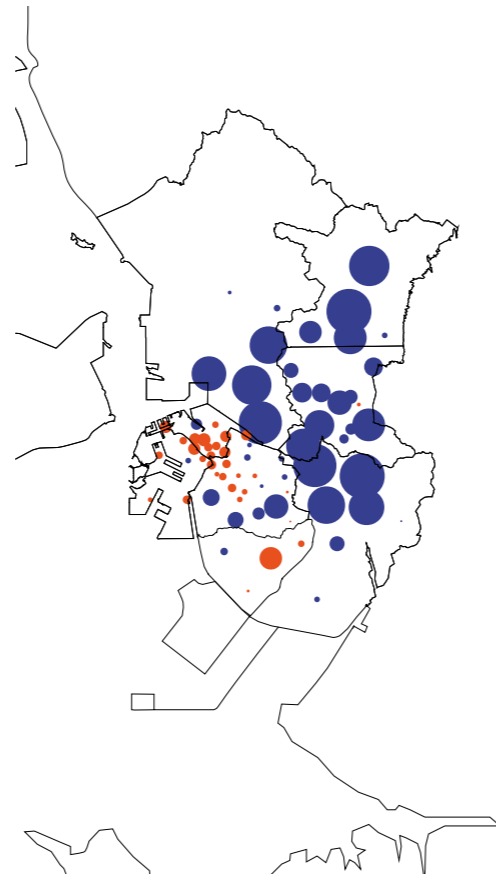
New growth engines from industrial restructuring

<sup>35</sup> cf. Ducruet, n. d.

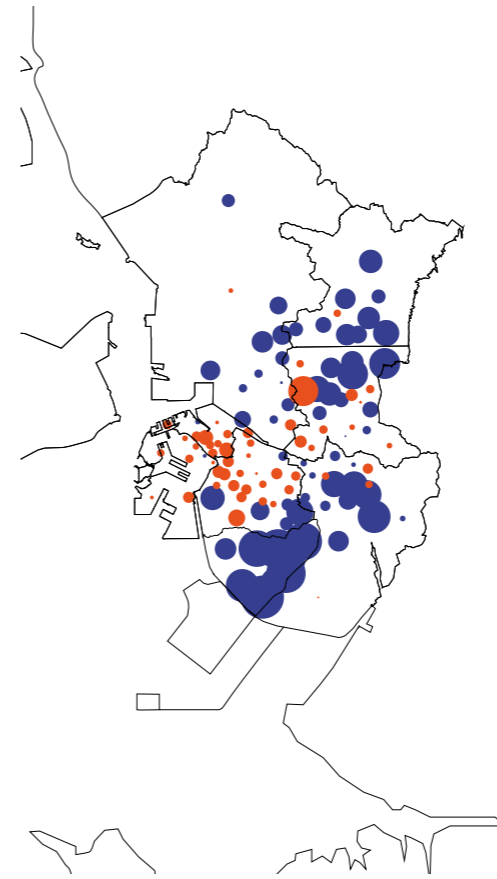
<sup>36</sup> Kim 2007, p. 14f



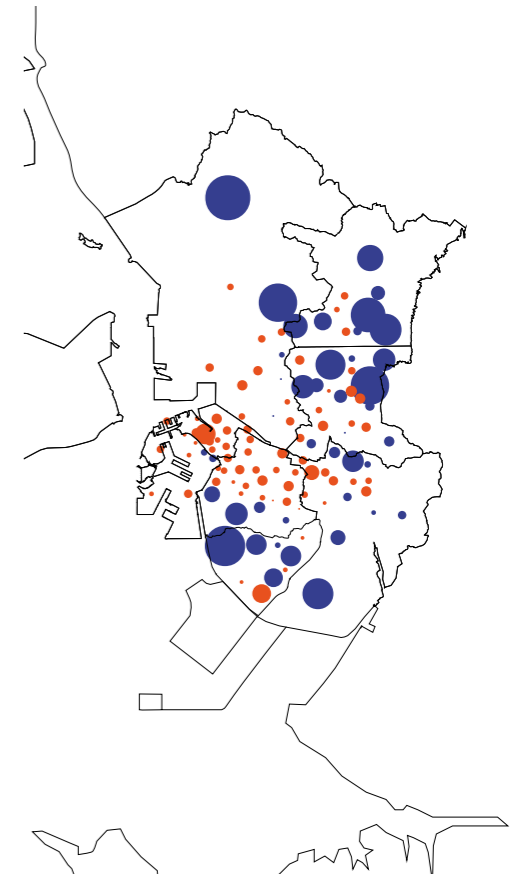
1980-1985



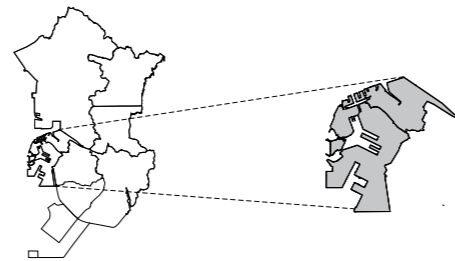
1985-1990



1990-1995



1995-2000



	INCHEON		DOWNTOWN	
+26%	2.071.000	1990	201.460	-24%
	2.562.000	2000	149.500	

### POPULATION IN- AND DECREASE



Source: Incheon Development Institute, 2004



Incheons regeneration projects are mainly located at subway stations and their surroundings and at strategic intersection areas connected to infrastructure. Highway axis connecting the IFEZ and Seoul operate as infrastructure for industry and commerce!

#### HISTORICAL PRESERVATION

Historic designation and preservation raises property value and could act as a magnet for future investment and tourism. Unfortunately historical preservation is quite often understood in maintaining physical facades while the social one has been displaced. Museum like characters, as in Incheons Chinatown, have nothing in common with thriving and lively communities.

“Old quarters” are presumed to be low-rise vernacular architecture districts adhering a romantic touch, which is kept “conserved”. Those places became museums which showcase local “Korean culture” for tourists as locals as well. They pose as opposition to international areas or want to be point out the “difference”.

There is no sense in preserving the ghettos along the railway as “THE Korean style”. No, it is about the archetypical elements which we recognize and are familiar. These elements should be maintained and transformed to architecture we understand and fit our requirements of daily life.

**“MOST URBAN REGENERATION PROJECTS LED BY THE GOVERNMENT ARE ABOUT PHYSICAL REGENERATION AND THEY RARELY DEAL WITH VALUE REGENERATION. THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN VALUE REGENERATION IS THE SOFTWARE THAT TRULY INVIGORATES THE COMMUNITY! [...] NUMEROUS RESTORATION AND REGENERATION PROJECTS TAKING PLACE THESE DAYS ARE ONE OF THE CONDITIONS FOR THE SO-CALLED “ZERO-CITY.” AS A SATIRICAL EXPRESSION REFERRING TO A FUTURISTIC CITY, THE “ZERO-CITY” IS WHERE THE VALUE OF “HISTORY AND CULTURE” IS ADDED TO THE VISIONS PRESENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMIC PROFIT GENERATION. IN OTHER WORDS, “HISTORY AND CULTURE” ACCORDING TO THIS FORMULA IS DESIGNED TO TARGET THE SO-CALLED HOLLYWOOD EFFECT. LIKE MODERN ARCHITECTS PURSUED DREAMS OF UTOPIA, THE HISTORICAL RESTORATION AND REGENERATION TAKING PLACE TODAY IS SOMETIMES ACCOMPANIED BY THE DANGEROUS NOTION THAT EVERYDAY LIFE AND ROUTINES CAN BE ELIMINATED IN THE NAME OF “HISTORY AND CULTURE.”<sup>37</sup>**



# THE FUTURE OF INCHEON

ACCORDING TO INCHEON DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE



YEONGJONG SKY CITY



GREEN: SKYSCRAPERS IN PARKS



GAJEONG OGEORY REGENERATION

SKYSCRAPER CITIES WITH A DENSITY UP TO 30.700 INHABITANTS/SKM



WORLD TRADE CENTER



AIRPORT RAILWAY CONNECTION OF THE AIRPORT AND INCHEON RAILWAY STATION (DOWNTOWN) WITH A SEA BOTTOM TUNNEL BY 2016.

EXTENSION OF SUBWAY LINE NO. 1 TO AIRPORT

HIGHWAY CONNECTING CHONGNA AND SONGDO BY 2020 PASSES THROUGH DOWNTOWN INCHEON AND THE NORTH PORT.



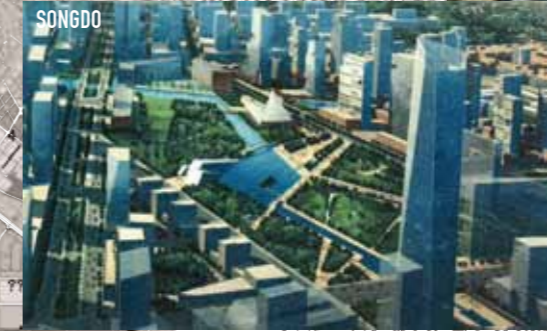
REGENERATION INCHEON STATION



ROBOT LAND



THEMATIC CITIES: LEISURE, SPORT, BUSINESS, ...



SONGDO







GATE TO CHINATOWN IN DOWNTOWN INCHEON



FORMER JAPANESE SETTLEMENT



PLURALITY ...





MOST OF THE HOUSES ADDRESS TOURISTS  
SHOPS, RESTAURANTS ... IN GROUND FLOOR  
UPPER FLOORS ARE OFTEN UNINHABITED





# IFEZ > INCHEON FREE ECONOMIC ZONE

IFEZ is intended to be the first designated Free Economic Zone in East Asia and Songdo, the main focus on the project, is the first sustainable city acting as an international business centre in the world. “The map of Asia has changed from a collection of fortress nations to a network of interconnected gateway hubs.”<sup>38</sup>

Moreover IFEZ’s ambitious efforts in becoming an international hub, particular East Asian centre for trade and business, mark a significant development in city planning. IFEZ’s goal is to address multi-national corporations and foreign direct investment. An entire cityscape is taken into consideration and master planned according to international standards to offer a healthy and enjoyable place for residents.<sup>39</sup>

The project is about the development of three parts:

1. *Songdo* in the south of Incheon hosts international businesses, IT, Research and Development
2. *Yeongjong*, the island on the west, with the airport, international logistics, tourism and leisure
3. *Chongna* in the north: international business, sports and leisure

<sup>38</sup> cf. Whitman et al., 2008

<sup>39</sup> *ibid.*

## SONGDO

Songdo City development covers about 600ha of reclaimed land in the south of Incheon and will host about 65,000 residents. The site is located in between the capital city Seoul and one of Asia's largest airports and seaports – one third of the world's population can be reached within 3.5h flight. The master-planned development is a sustainably designed, high-tech, international business zone with a budget of US\$25 billions.

Both, foreign and national investors finance the prestigious project which is owned by New Songdo City Development, a 70:30 joint venture between Gale International and Korean-based POSCO Engineering & Construction Co. Ltd, the second largest steel company.<sup>40</sup>

Design is based on international studies, mainly US American and European cities. The approach to design a sustainable city, planners are efforting ideas of the LEED certificate, the green building rating system. Aspects as water efficiency and conservation, energy conservation, sustainable materials and waste reduction were considered in the design.

1. Green space: 34% of the land area will be open space and landscaping
2. Pedestrian friendly: car-free, bicycling | public transport
3. Sustainable building design

Concerning me, I recognize an overemphasis in strengthen economic growth in cost of the plurality of adaptable cities. Songdo is an entire new planned and designed city based on ideas of Modern urban typologies without the possibility of modification or acquirement. In this case the term sustainability is related to facts and figures but the term basically includes much more. IFEZ's interpretation of sustainability does not involve social responsibility, maintenance and goes along with destruction of the environment, a productive wetland and ecosystem.

According to Whitman, a sustainable city should “ideally achieve an environmental, social and economic equilibrium. Societal indicators like inclusion (lack of

discrimination), cultural amenities, universal access, architectural beauty, user comfort, and health and safety need to be considered along with economic indicators like diverse employment and skills base, and environment indicators like land utilization, air quality and pollution, construction materials, and energy and water usage.”<sup>41</sup>

Due to mainly foreign settlement and location of international schools, hospitals and businesses social barriers and segregation will probably arise. The new city will attract and accommodate especially the rising middle and upper classes who are able to escape from urban villages to the “safe haven” in the suburbs of the metropolis.



SONGDO, SEPTEMBER 2010



IS THIS THE PROPER ANSWER?

# EXTENSION AND LAND RECLAMATION

Since Incheons birth as a port city in 1883, the city has been reclaiming its wetlands – within 100 years (to 1999) about 134km<sup>2</sup>. From 2000 to 2008 33.2km<sup>2</sup> have been reclaimed, mainly in Songdo. As a paradox during this time citizens showed up with bigger awareness to the tidal ecosystem and as a result, a “Charter for Tidal Flat Preservation” was established. Moreover until 2020 47.7km<sup>2</sup> are planned to be filled up.<sup>42</sup>

Intensive land reclamation in Korea goes along with industrialization. Because of the lack of space due to mountains and forest (about 70% of Koreas surface) Koreans had to extend land into the wetlands to reclaim land for agricultural fields and sites for industry to comply the needs of development.

## GREEN GROWTH PROGRAM

In 2008, President Lee Myung-bak announced the Green Growth Program. South Korea’s version of green growth is defined as “growth achieved by saving and using energy and resources efficiently to reduce climate change and damage to the environment, securing new growth engines through research and development of green technology, creating new job opportunities, and achieving harmony between the economy and environment.”

According to the definition of sustainability as an idea of balanced economic growth, environmental protection and social justice, Green Growth is focusing rather on economic growth than on sustainable development.<sup>43</sup>

### Boosting green economy

Incheon shows an extreme case of the controversy between renewable energy generation and habitat preservation because of a new national policy on energy.

> tidal power plants, new city development „green city“ in Incheon (Songdo – IFEZ)

Ironically, these initiatives require a significant loss of tidal-flat wetlands

Korean government is conscious of its enormous carbon emissions and addresses the challenge of achieving a low-carbon growth. Climate change impacts such as sea level rise, flooding and heavy rains and reduced forest density are forcing the outcome of environment saving programs.

<sup>42</sup> cf. <http://www.environmentmagazine.org/Archives/Back%20Issues/2011/May-June%202011/conflict-of-greens-full.html>, May-June 2011, read April 24th, 2012

<sup>43</sup> ibid.





“The country’s energy challenges are enormous, as it imports 97 per cent of its total energy requirements. The rapid industrialization and urbanization have resulted in a significant pressure on the environment and natural resources such as forests and water resources, biodiversity and the urban environment. Freshwater scarcity remains a critical challenge facing Korea.”<sup>44</sup>

Tidal flats are the world’s most productive ecosystems. Plants and micro organisms are part of a complex food chain. Seagrass holds the soil together and prevents the loss of soil. They act as a natural filter and clean the water of the rivers discharging into the sea. Micolalgae perform photosynthesis. Wetlands are breeding sites for water birds and offer migratory birds a place for rest to feed at their flyway.

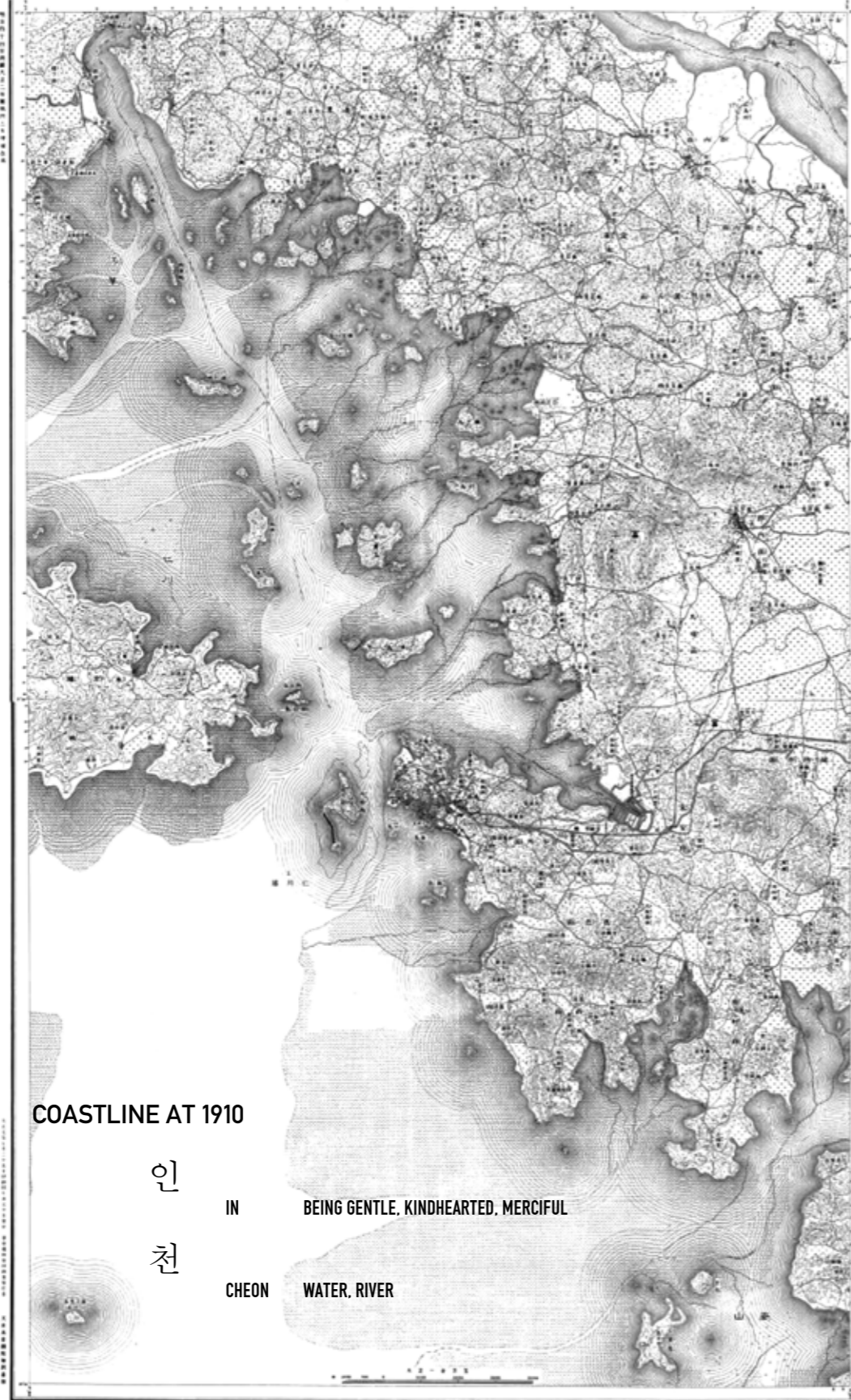
Outcome of destruction of the ecosystem.  
 > Severe ocean contamination due to destruction of the natural purification system  
 > Decline of endangered shore and water birds

Destruction of fish farms and hence, traditional fish farms and villages are disappearing. In the late 1950s Korean Government promoted fish farming in Songdo. A thriving fishing village occurred due to the abundant salt and nutrition from the inflow of rivers and extensive scale. At that time, the tidal flats were filled with seashells. The peak of fish production was in the 1970s and just 10 years later, in the 1980 government denied the extensions of the existing farms and prohibited the construction of new facilities because of the starting reclamation process.<sup>45</sup>

Economic value of tidal flats.  
 According to a study by the Korean Ocean Research and Development Institute in 2006, the average value of Korean tidal flats was estimated US\$ 32,660/ha/year. This amount includes marine products (US\$ 9,993), ecosystem preservation (US\$ 8,548), habitat (US\$ 7,533), water purification (US\$ 3,702), recreation (US\$ 1,443) and disaster prevention (US\$ 1,442).  
 Studies from the Korea Environment Institute in 2007 assume even higher values of Incheon tidal flats: for purification alone they provide US\$27,972/ha/year and carbon reduction at about 10tons/ha/year.

<sup>44</sup> UNEP: 2010, p. 43  
<sup>45</sup> cf. Do, n. d., p. 7

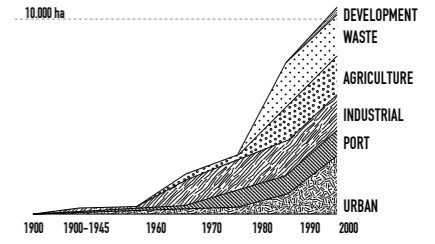




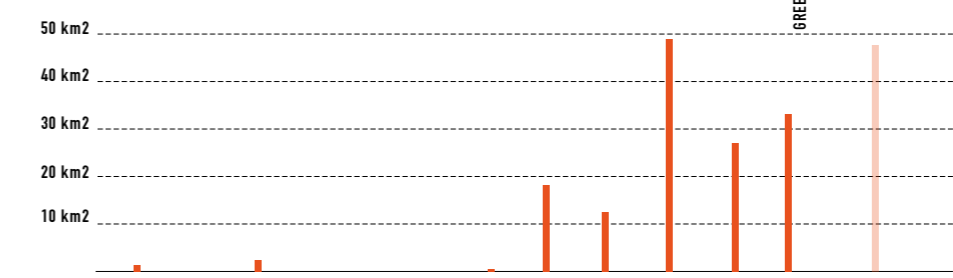
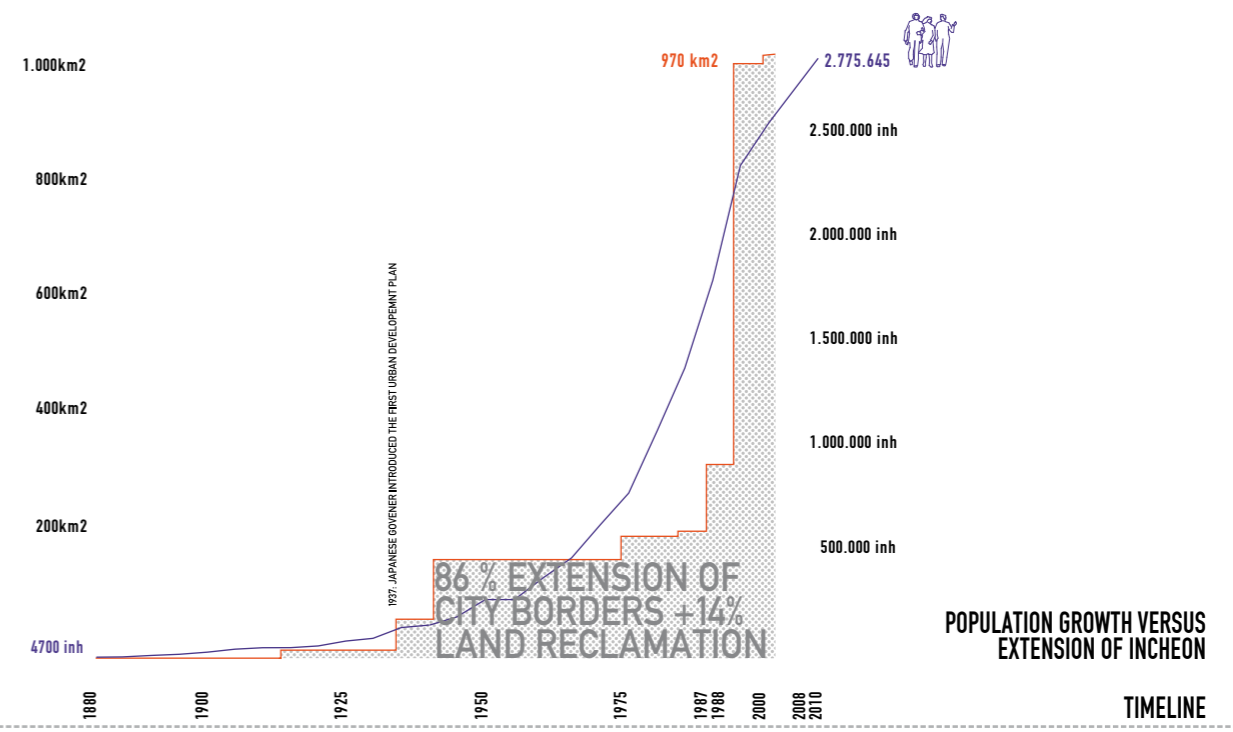
1910 >>> >



> >>> RECLAIMED LAND SINCE 1910



UTILIZATION OF RECLAIMED LAND



Source: Incheon Development Institute, 2004



# URBAN FARMING > AGRICULTURE IN KOREA

..AS AGRICULTURE IS THE SOURCE OF OUR LIFE. IT CANNOT BE DESTROYED OR REMOVED FROM OUR SOCIETY.” FORMER PRESIDENT PARK SAID. ..IF WE USE OUR IMAGINATION, EVERY PLACE INCLUDING THE HAN RIVER AND GWANGHWAMUN (A/N. MAIN GATE OF GYEONGBOKGUNG PALACE), WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR FARMING.”<sup>46</sup>

Since 2009 more than 50% of world population lives in cities, in Korea 83% (2010)<sup>47</sup> Due to this fact that people leave the countryside gaining for wealth, education, jobs, lifestyle in bigger agglomerations, we tend to separate production of food and settlement.

Development of cities is based on settlement and consequently farming. Until the 19th century in London or Paris it was common to farm within the city centre – nowadays in Hong Kong 45% of vegetable consumption is cultivated in the cityscape or in Shanghai even 85% (2005).<sup>48</sup>

As a paradox Western cities like New York are seeking for land to farm and in the same time some Asian cities are demolishing urban agriculture for the purpose of urbanization – both are convinced to build desirable cities for the future.<sup>49</sup>

## > WHY URBAN AGRICULTURE? WHY COULD URBAN FARMING CONTRIBUTE TO MAKE A PLACE BETTER TO LIVE IN?

Is it because of crisis as economy crisis, wars, ...?

In some cases yes: nowadays mainly societies in southern hemisphere are cultivating vegetables due to the lack of food.

In Europe and North America community gardens have a long tradition. So called Victory Gardens reached its peak during World War II.

Apart from that, American Community Gardens evolved as a matter of social and cultural problems and act as a tool to advance integration.

We can see that even nowadays there are many different motives and reasons for urban farming. The range of designations demonstrate the variety of the term urban farming: Victory gardens, Community Gardens, educational farms, Guerilla Gardens, Entrepreneurial Gardens

<sup>46</sup> <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/national/2012/02/07/36/0302000000AEN20120207007200315F.HTML>, July 2nd, 2012

<sup>47</sup> <http://www.laenderdaten.de/bevoelkerung/urbanisierung.aspx>

<sup>48</sup> cf. Lauinger, Holger: Urbane Landwirtschaft, 2005, in: Shrinking Cities 2, 2006, p. 156

<sup>49</sup> cf. Bohn & Viljoen Architects, in: Hands-on urbanism, 2012, p. 228



## URBAN FARMING in KOREA, Seoul?

SEOUL. Once intended to build an opera house at Nodeul Island in central Seoul, the city overturned the plan and promotes urban farming.

The island covers about 60.800 square meters - one third of the site is used to create an urban farm. Started in May 2012, half of the lots have been sold to citizens. The remaining land will be used for educational purposes and leisure time.<sup>50</sup>

In February 2012 current mayor Park Won-soon and 1500 citizens planted 70 different local species of rice at 1000 square meters. The fields are named after the whiptongue frog, which lives in the neighborhood.<sup>51</sup>

### PRO'S FOR URBAN AGRICULTURE

“The implementation of urban agriculture – the cultivation, processing and distribution of food within the city – would have the two-fold effect of making these processes transparent and offering a means for the re-establishment of food and its production as a social relationship rather than commodity.”<sup>52</sup>

#### ... *Social aspects*

- > “living” in the city – engagement with life, green and experience of nature
- > integration: probably will you come in touch with people you would never meet. Also exchange of experience in gardening, receipts ... gives the change to encourage social interaction!
- > aspects advancing identity of a community and a place. Identity straightens trust in the city!
- > activity of residents: they are part of the society with responsibility for a field; they are actively involved in the development of their neighborhood. So they become part of the “design” process of their neighborhood!
- > collective producing: mainly initiators are not able to comprehend: the result is the product of collectivity!

#### ... *education*

- > chance for kids to experience the circle of food production and life in general

#### ... *aesthetic aspects*

- > agricultural scenery in urban context

#### ... *ecological aspects*

- > CO2 reduction and fresh air contribute to a livable city
- > particular in Korea, a country without a culture of parks in cities, there are plenty of sealed areas. Urban farming acts as the “lung” of the city and is able to retain water.
- > Increases infiltration of rainwater, reducing stormwater overflows and flooding, decreases erosion and topsoil removal, improves air quality
- > Waste management – composting: reduces waste by the reuse of food and garden wastes as organic material and compost
- > Recent developments try to convince with systems for a sustainable urban development – systems without producing waste, reducing transport and offering health and education for the public.

#### ... *economical aspect*

- > increases surrounding property values
- > food security
- > securing one’s livelihood – self-sufficiency. In the same time producing food could become your new business and people can sell their products in a market.
- > fresh, healthy food just round the corner
- > food is produced where it will be consumed - decentralized cycle
- > Cafeterias in schools could be delivered with healthy food
- > Tourism

#### ... *self-determination*


- > People do not have to buy the food which is offered in supermarkets. You know what you eat and you define the quality of your food by yourself!

<sup>50</sup> cf. [http://world.kbs.co.kr/german/news/news\\_Dm\\_detail.htm?No=41221&cid=Dm&page=4](http://world.kbs.co.kr/german/news/news_Dm_detail.htm?No=41221&cid=Dm&page=4), read June 18th, 2012

<sup>51</sup> cf. [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2012/02/113\\_104302.html#](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2012/02/113_104302.html#), read June 18th, 2012

<sup>52</sup> Lim, CJ / Liu, Ed, 2010, p. 16



A woman wearing sunglasses and a dark vest over a patterned dress is standing on a rooftop. She is holding a bottle of liquid. The rooftop is covered with a large quantity of red chili peppers laid out on a white surface for drying. In the background, there are several multi-story buildings with balconies and laundry hanging on lines. The scene is set in a dense urban environment with a clear sky.

“AS EVOLVING ORGANIC ENTITIES, COMMUNITIES GROW, GERMINATING FROM UNLIKELY SEEDS AND REQUIRING CAREFUL NURTURE. THEY FLOURISH WHEN CONDITIONS ARE FAVOURABLE, AND WHEN FACED WITH A CHANGING CLIMATE, THEY ADAPT TO NEW ENVIRONMENTS OR MAKE WAY FOR BETTER-SUITED ALTERNATIVES; WHEN FACED WITH NEW ARRIVALS, THEY ARE EITHER CROWDED OUT OR CROSS-POLLINATE, SHARING RESOURCES AND BLENDING TRAITS. COMMUNITIES SHARE MUCH IN COMMON WITH AGRICULTURE, AND ONE CAN SHOW THE WAY FORWARD FOR THE OTHER.”<sup>53</sup>

DAYEONG KWON, 25  
drying pepper for gimchi

We have just harvested pepper from our own production and now we are drying it! My grandmother will use this pepper for gimchi, a kind of pickles made of cabbage, the 'national food of Korea'. We live in a three story house and the rooftop is shared with other residents of the house. Chili loves our sunny rooftop that's why it has flourished so well.”

<sup>53</sup> Lim CJ / Liu, Ed.: "Cultivating Community" in "smartcities + eco-warriors", 2010, p. 35



## AGRICULTURE IN KOREA

“If there is any country on the planet worried about its food supply, it is South Korea, which imports more than 90% of its food from overseas.”<sup>54</sup>

### WHAT ARE THE REASONS FOR LIMITED AGRICULTURE IN KOREA?

An important aspect is the Korean topography. Due to big forest areas agriculture is quite limited. 18% of the Korean territory is farmland and about 2/3 of it is used for rice cultivation. Although the self-sufficiency rate of rice is almost 100% due to protective measures, governments' investment in the production base and also decline in rice consumption.

Decline owing to changing diet that is shifting in parallel to economical success. Thus, eating Western cuisines is very popular. In the countryside meat is still considered luxurious whereas in urban areas consumption of meat is common. Western cuisines represent affluence and cosmopolitan lifestyle.

On the other hand history plays an important part.

When Japan had surrendered in 1945, any industrialization built-on by Japanese empire collapsed and 80% of South Korean population were engaged in farming. Any remaining industrial infrastructure was laid in the North.

Until the 1960s agriculture was the main industry in Korea. So agriculture was managed as a collaborative work of the entire community.<sup>55</sup>

Throughout the Post Korean War period the countryside was regarded as a cheap source for labor and food. Koreans have paid just little attention to the agricultural sector and focused on modernization of the country under the leadership of dictator Park Chung Hee who neglected the countryside for industrialization. In so far land was mainly reclaimed for industry and growing urban areas.

“Despite the low self-sufficiency rate of food, a considerable share of farmland under worsening farming conditions has become idle land or forest due to continued expansion of agricultural imports, and such a trend is projected to continue. In recent

years, about 40,000ha of farmland have become idle every year, and much of the deserted land have turned into a land that is difficult to use again. Apart from the idling of farmland, about 20,000ha of farmland are converted to other uses every year. As a result, farmland continues to decrease despite various efforts to create and preserve farmland.”<sup>56</sup>

“Korea's cultivated land per capita is 0.04ha, which is very small compared to major advanced countries (US 1.5ha, France 0.5ha, UK 0.3ha). Therefore, food sufficiency rate is low.”

Most of the food is imported throughout the world, mainly from the US (about 25% of all agricultural imports) followed by Australia, Canada, EU and ASEAN. So Korea is strongly dependent on import.<sup>57</sup>

Recently Korea bought more than 325,000ha farmland in Mongolia to secure the governments effort in developing an oversea food base. In Cambodia South Korean farmers are harvesting corn as well in 16 other countries. About 60 Korean companies are involved in tilling fields. According to Anders Riel Muller, Korea bought the Mongolian farmland shortly after the Daewoo chaebol was stymied to lease half of Madagascar's arable land for 99 years in 2008.<sup>58</sup>

<sup>54</sup> Berthelsen, John: [http://www.asiasentinel.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=3159&Itemid=234](http://www.asiasentinel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3159&Itemid=234), written April 29th, 2011, read June 18th, 2012

<sup>55</sup> cf. Korean Rural Economic Institute, Seoul, 2010, p. 406ff

<sup>56</sup> cf. Korean Rural Economic Institute, Seoul, 2010, p. 48

<sup>57</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>58</sup> [http://www.asiasentinel.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=3159&Itemid=234](http://www.asiasentinel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3159&Itemid=234), written April 29th, 2011, read June 18th, 2012



**DESIGN ...**



HOW DENSE A CITY HAS TO BE TO BE EXPERIENCED AS A “CITY” <> WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM OF DENSITY THAT A CITY WORKS?

WHERE IS THE LIMIT OF DENSITY LOCATED?

IF DENSITY IS TOO HIGH, A PLACE BECOMES A DEAD SLEEPING TOWN.  
IF IT IS TOO LOW, IT BECOMES A DEAD PLACE BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF INTERVENTIONS AND ACTIONS.

HOW CAN WE FIGURE OUT THE IDEAL MEASURE OF DENSITY? WHAT DOES THE TERM DENSITY INCLUDE?

>>> HOW TO DESIGN A GOOD CITY???



DENSITY in each GU (district)  
number of inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>

total population: 2.775.645  
average density: 2697/km<sup>2</sup>  
Source: Incheon Development Institute, 2004



# LANDSCAPE: ACTIVE PROTAGONIST

Denis Cosgrove

In traditional comprehension of landscape man has separated from nature and considered himself as “the artificial”. “Although in some way part of the system, the human being is not integrated in it, because basically the development processes do not require a human presence.”<sup>59</sup>

The thesis indicates man's power over nature and adjusted himself beyond nature. So he has emancipated from nature and its' constraints. The modernist paradigm of production/domination is based on the concept of producing subjects – man is the producer while his environment was considered passive. Environment destruction and contamination is grounded on the relation of man-nature because the idea of production was based on industrialization and exploitation of nature.<sup>60</sup>

In nowadays' term of Landscape the concept of the dichotomy of Nature and Culture is obsolete and without differentiating. The natural and the artificial are interconnected and interwoven. This idea implicates man involved into the process – so he is no longer the one, who produces “the artificial” rather than he takes part in the process. The theory of ecology does not involve binarities, rather favors ecology as a comprehensive concept.

Bruno Latours term of “political ecology” dissolves demarcation of fields and distributes players new. In this case nature is not going to be protected. No, on the contrary: thus the field becomes more complex and a greater plurality of entities is forced.

Latours thesis criticizes the orientation at the ideal state which is representing “ecological balance” and harmony because it does not consider disturbances. Disturbances do not comply with linear and organized progress of development and are not predictable. This behavior establishes uncertainty because the dynamic of hybrid processes are not predictable. Hereafter landscapes and their development can not be controlled.

Due to those disturbances man gets intervenes and is able to shape and design – he becomes an active part of the ecosystem.<sup>61</sup>

<sup>59</sup> Prominski, Martin: “Orchestrating Agencies of Landscape”, in: GAM 07, 2011, p. 186

<sup>60</sup> cf. Jeinic, Ana: “Towards a Landscape Idea for Urban Political Ecology. Landscape, Power and Ecology.”, in: GAM 07, 2011, p. 95

<sup>61</sup> cf. Prominski, Martin: “Orchestrating Agencies of Landscape”, in: GAM 07, 2011, p. 187

In the same time it is not a matter of repatriation to nature or reproduction of the primal state “but more the need to allude to a network of dynamic, material, and performative relationships and to foreground its characteristic as performative „working-system“ .“<sup>62</sup>

Denis Cosgrove describes landscape as an *active agent*. Landscape merges nature and culture as spatial agent. It connects, provides space for negotiation in form finding, discusses dependences and creates space of action.

*Landscape provides a dynamic platform for human activity and interaction.*

The existing city landscape serves occasions to transform structures - landscape is telling a story of the past and in the same time it initiates transformations for the future. A system was created by occupants because of a special situation and based on these results it provides ideas for further development. Ruins are related to ideas from the past for the future. In a broader sense they represent some people's future. And that's why they are beautiful and they are important for us!

Related to this idea people band together to develop alternatives and “reconnect with land itself – in economic, cultural and social ways” or alternatives to an abstract image of landscape.

Their social interventions are bottom-up oriented. Therefore success is based on factors like local conditions, networks, skills and culture. Sharing experience, innovations and resources are essential parts of their way of thinking.<sup>63</sup>

“If we are to deliver a sustainable built environment, we must create places that people will value and to which they can connect emotionally.”

Architects should learn about human systems and pay attention to. How does the landscape functions within the city? “We start to better comprehend the interrelated systems that influence the use, governance, economy, and social structure of a society that is underpinned by a specific urban landscape. [...] Human systems are part of ecology.”<sup>64</sup>

Active contribution encourages shaping awareness of landscape because participation goes along with direct confrontation of production and consumption or the destruction of environment.

„A restorative economy is about the creation of value without destroying natural and human assets. But it is not about a retreat into an imagined rural idyll. [...] On the contrary, what has been named regenerative design connects city dwellers with soils, trees, animals, landscapes, energy systems, water, renewable and the like.“<sup>65</sup>

## THE PRODUCTIVE SURFACE

What is a productive landscape? What does production mean in relation to landscape?

“Productive surfaces articulate a new public realm, and with that a new public - [...] it participates in the cultivation of its necessities, of its energy and food.” Landscapes cultivate and harvest and in the same time they generate byproducts which are integrated or distributed.<sup>66</sup>

So we become acquainted with a new perception of landscape which is much more complex and institutes new ways for us - us as architects and designers of space.

<sup>62</sup> Benett, Jane: “The Force of Things. Steps toward an Ecology of Matter”, in: Political Theory 32, No. 3, 2004, p. 365

<sup>63</sup> cf. Thackara, John: „From Landscape as Infrastructure to Landscape as Bioregion“, in: GAM 07, 2011, p. 269f

<sup>64</sup> Schwartz, Martha: “Ecological Urbanism and the Landscape” in: Ecological Urbanism, 2010, p. 524f

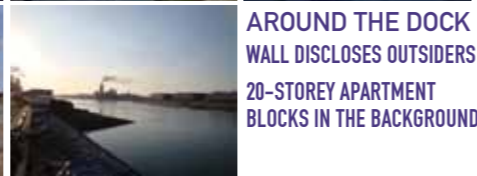
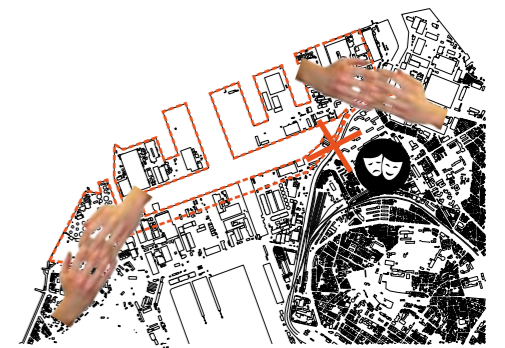
<sup>65</sup> Thackara, John: „From Landscape as Infrastructure to Landscape as Bioregion“, in: GAM 07, 2011, p. 272

<sup>66</sup> White, Mason: “The Productive Surface“, in: GAM 07, 2011, p. 107ff



# THE SITE > URBAN STUDIES

# CURRENT SITUATION



VIEW FROM INCHEON LANDING MONUMENT

PORT ENTRANCE TO INDUSTRIAL AREA

AROUND THE DOCK WALL DISCLOSES OUTSIDERS 20-STOREY APARTMENT BLOCKS IN THE BACKGROUND

OLD FISHERMEN'S SETTLEMENT AT THE BRIDGE AND NEXT TO THE FISHMARKET

FISHMARKET ATTACHED SIMPLE FOOD STALLS

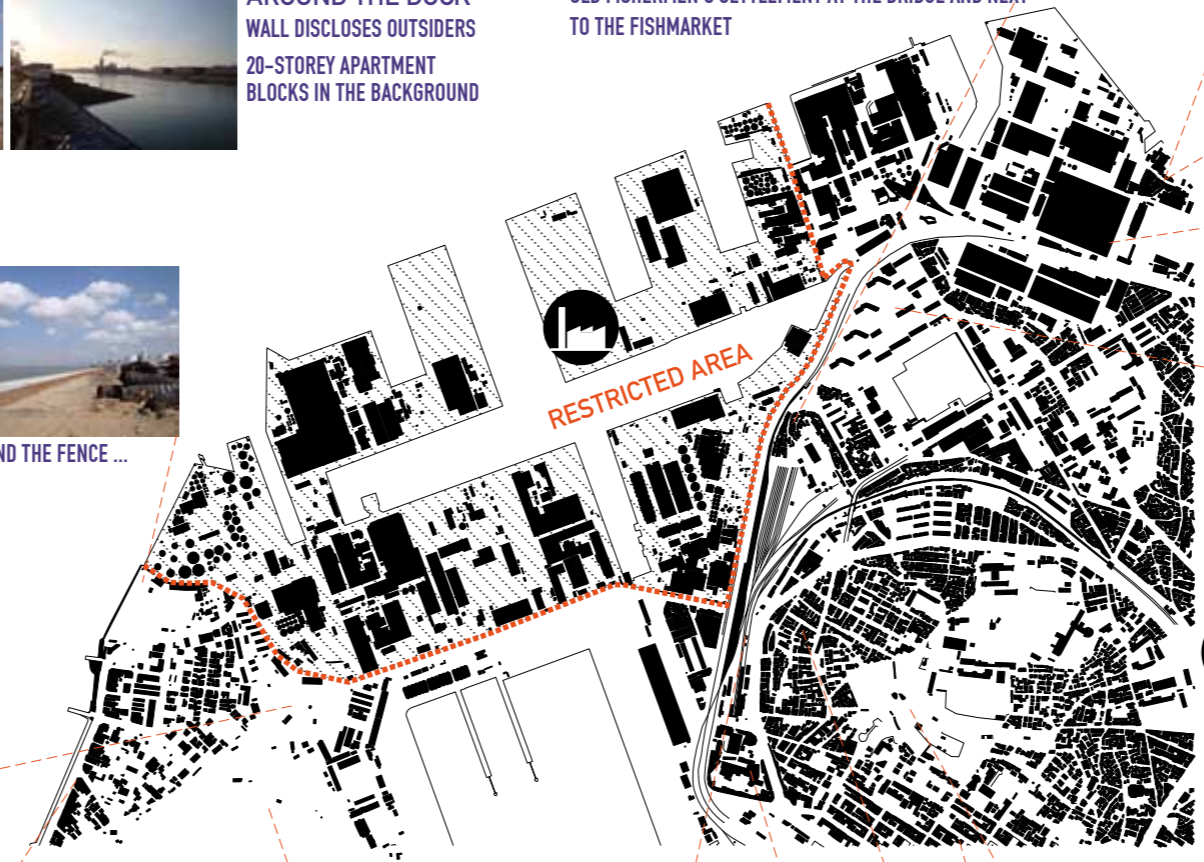
CONNECT RESTRICTED AREA WITH THE CITY  
> OPEN THE AREA FOR CITIZENS  
>> LINK BY CULTURAL FACILITY



ART CENTRE AT JAPANESE SETTLEMENT



BEYOND THE FENCE ...



FISH MARKET

INDUSTRIAL

TOWARDS SEOUL

TOWARDS SEOUL

HUB

PUBLIC

INCHEON STATION

CHINATOWN

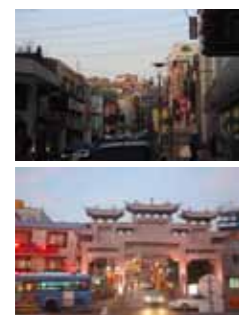
ART CENTRE

INCHEON LANDING

ART CENTRE

ART CENTRE

ART CENTRE



CHINATOWN



INCHEON LANDING MONUMENT



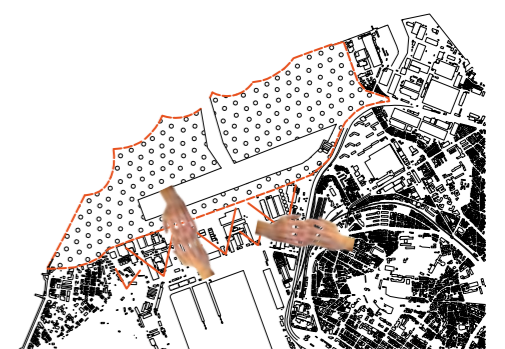
WOLMIDO

POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT PARK IN WOLMIDO > POJANGMACHA

THE HILL IS POPULAR ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS FOR SPORT ACTIVITIES AND LEISURE



DESIGN OF COASTLINE  
> CONNECTION OF PIERS  
MAINTENANCE OF CENTRAL DOCK: MEMORY OF INDUSTRIAL ERA

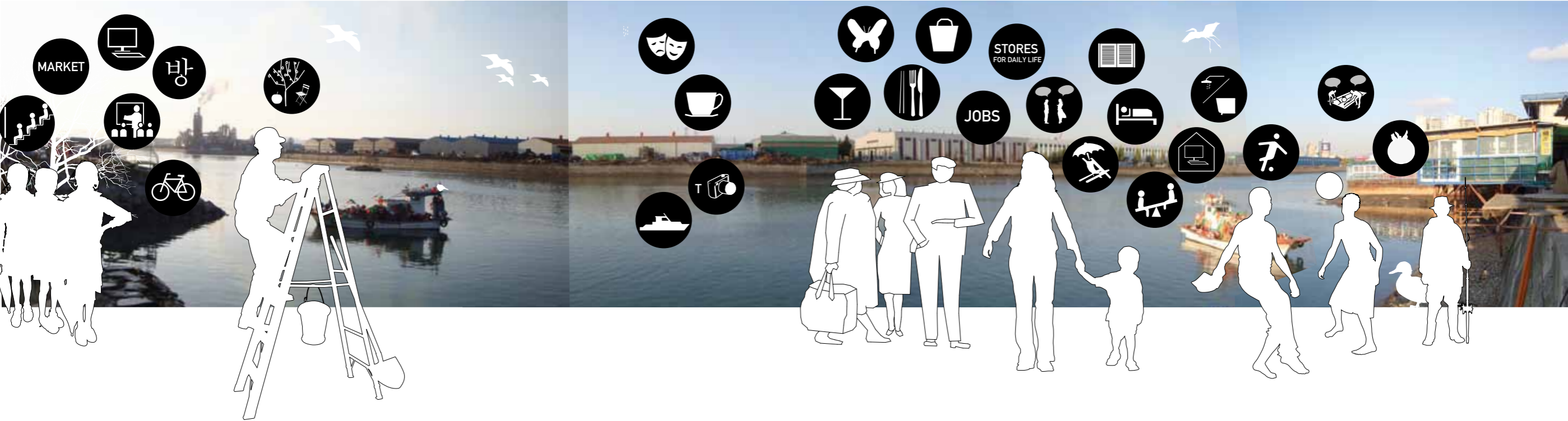


POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION TOWARDS THE HARBOR



# WHAT TO DO?

## HOW TO REUSE THE FORMER INDUSTRIAL SITE?



## HOW TO REFILL THE PLACE WITH NEW ACTIVITY?

# WHAT IF WE PUT TO WORK A PIECE OF ... ?

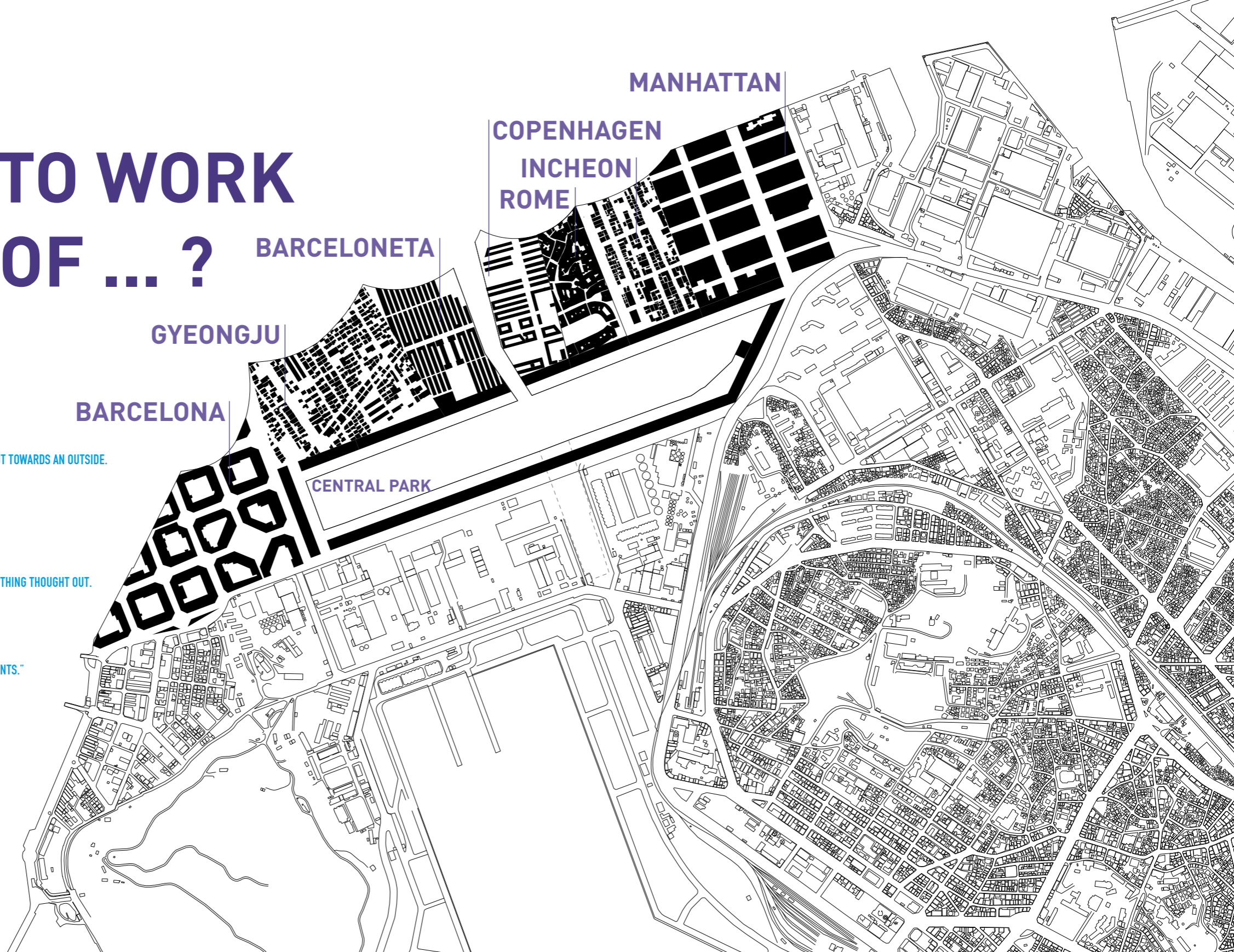
"FORM AS A GOAL ALWAYS ENDS IN FORMALISM.  
FOR THIS STRIVING IS DIRECTED NOT TOWARDS AN INSIDE, BUT TOWARDS AN OUTSIDE.  
BUT ONLY A LIVING INSIDE HAS A LIVING OUTSIDE.

ONLY INTENSITY OF LIFE HAS INTENSITY OF FORM.  
EVERY HOW IS CARRIED BY A WHAT.

[...]  
REAL FORM PRESUPPOSES REAL LIFE.  
BUT NOT SOMETHING THAT HAS ALREADY EXISTED, NOR SOMETHING THOUGHT OUT.

[...]  
LIFE IS FOR US THE DECISIVE FACTOR.  
IN ALL ITS FULLNESS, IN ITS SPIRITUAL AND REAL COMMITMENTS."

MIES VAN DER ROHE, LUDWIG: "ON FORM IN ARCHITECTURE", 1927





CITY

L'EIXAMPLE BARCELONA

GYEONGJU, KOREA

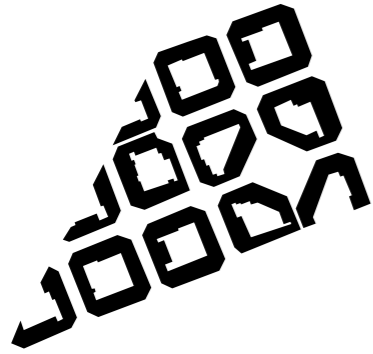
LA BARCELONETA

COPENHAGEN

PIAZZA NAVONA, ROME

INCHEON

NYC MANHATTAN



DESIGNED BY ILDEFONS CERDÀ  
1859



?



DESIGNED BY JUAN MARTIN  
CERMENO  
1749



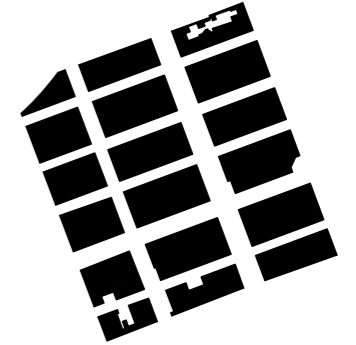
about 1900



86 AC - 19TH CENTURY  
nowadays' appearance: baroque



JAPANESE GOVERNOR'S ACT OF  
TOWN PLANNING  
1920



THE COMMISSIONERS MAP  
1807/1811

FEATURES | WHAT ARE THEY ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH?

6 - 8 floors

- > squarish grid
- > endless extendable
- > diagonal axis disrupts the rigid grid
- > the overall image is standardized while the structure within is adaptable
- > urban mix of functions - high density particular ground floor area
- > flexible in use
- > small squares at crossings
- > courtyard - suburban life
- > separation of "in- and outside" of blocks (street and courtyard) - two different facades and atmospheres
- > deep floor plan

2 - 3 floors

- > small segmentation
- > overall grid while within the block decomposition
- > function is based on housing and needs of daily life
- > decentralized structure
- > no difference in street area and space inbetween
- > interspace provides opportunities to appropriation
- > flexible in matter of change
- > lively neighborhood through proximity
- > identity of inhabitants is reflected
- > adaptable to local conditions
- > without judgement - equal in significance
- > every house is an individual within a mass but without acting as a solitaire

6 - 8 floors

- > othogonal pattern, rectangular grid
- > repetitive character relieved by public spaces
- > market in the center provides open space
- > lively neighborhood through proximity
- neighborhood even in upper floors across the street
- > dense mix of functions for daily life

3 - 4 floors

- > block: open or perimeter block
- > rigid orthogonal pattern
- > function is mainly based on housing
- > open space: enclosed shared gardens
- open blocks are stripes in a park

6 - 8 floors

- > diversified spatial experience due to the change of narrow and open space
- > democratic space
- > oriented towards a centre
- > vibrant street space
- > mixed use function
- > urban functions in ground floor

2 - 3 floors

- > rectangular raster is structuring space to blocks
- > small segmentation of sites
- > vibrant street space
- > lively neighborhood
- > dense mix of functions for daily life withing walking distance

XX floors

- > rigid orthogonal pattern of blocks within block structure individual buildings
- > endless extendable
- > urban mix of functions
- > flexible
- > Central park is the heart of Manhattan - vast open space in the centre

DENSITY

35.185/km<sup>2</sup>

?/km<sup>2</sup>

25.000/km<sup>2</sup> > Ciutat Vella

19.733/km<sup>2</sup> > Ydre Nørrebro

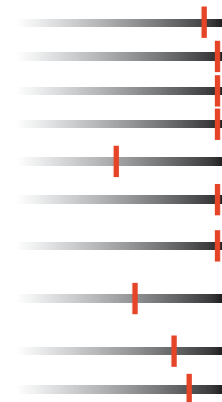
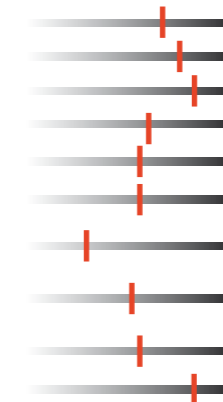
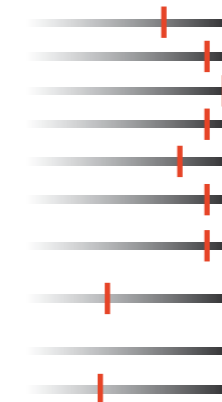
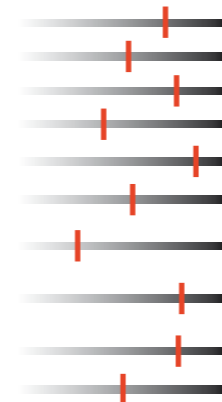
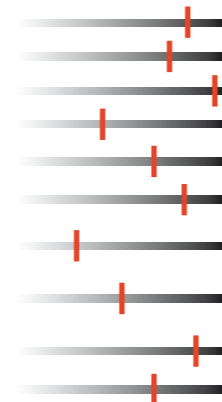
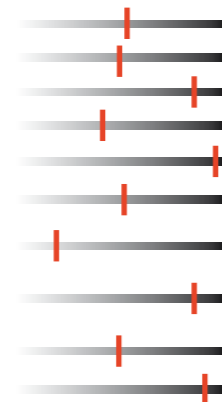
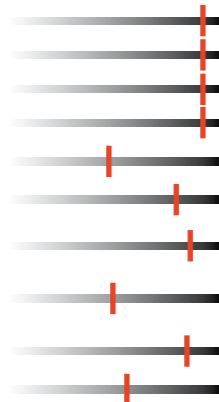
9.221.8/km<sup>2</sup> > Central Rome

10.800/km<sup>2</sup> > Dong Gu

26.939/km<sup>2</sup>

STABILIZER

DENSITY  
URBANITY  
VIBRANCY  
FUNCTIONAL MIX  
RATE TRAFFIC -  
OPEN SPACE  
PUBLICITY  
CULTURAL  
FACILITIES  
KIDS & YOUTH  
FACILITIES  
DURABILTY OF  
BUILDINGS  
INDIVIDUALITY



DENSITY  
URBANITY  
VIBRANCY  
FUNCTIONAL MIX  
RATE STREET -  
CLEARANCE  
PUBLICITY  
CULTURAL  
PROPERTIES  
KIDS & YOUTH  
FACILITIES  
DURABILTY OF  
BUILDINGS  
INDIVIDUALITY

CITY

L'EIXAMPLE BARCELONA

GYEONGJU, KOREA

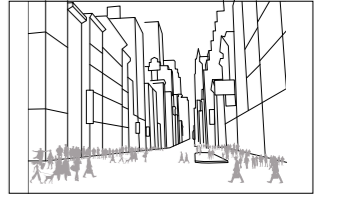
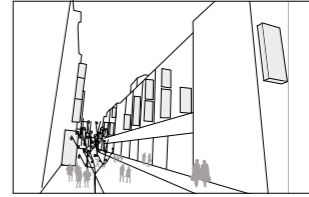
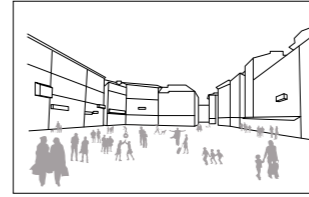
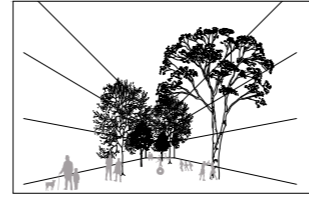
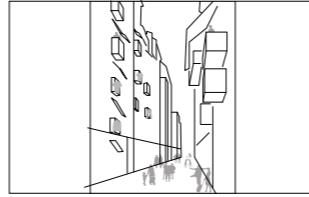
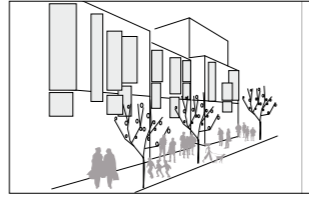
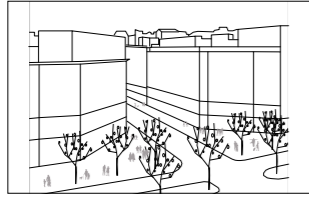
LA BARCELONETA

COPENHAGEN

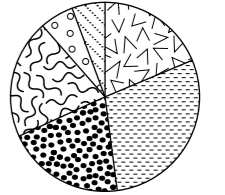
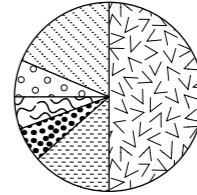
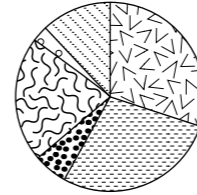
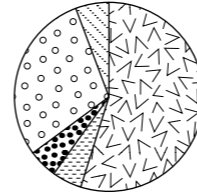
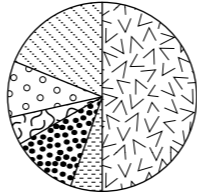
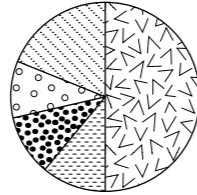
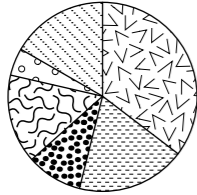
PIAZZA NAVONA, ROME INCHEON

NYC MANHATTAN

WHAT KIND OF SOCIAL PRACTICE DO THOSE STRUCTURES ENABLE?  
HOW DO THE STRUCTURES WORK IN EVERYDAY LIFE? HOW DO THEY PERFORM ?



URBAN PIE DIAGRAM



HOUSING



BUSINESS



FUN, ENTERTAINMENT



CULTURAL FACILITIES

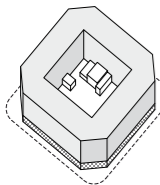


OPEN SPACE GREEN

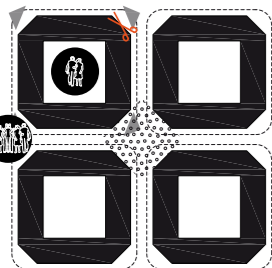


OPEN SPACE STREET

LIST OF URBAN TYPOLOGIES

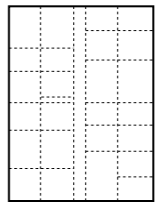


> UPPER FLOORS: HOUSING, BUSINESS  
> GROUND FLOOR: COMMERCIAL, CULTURAL ...

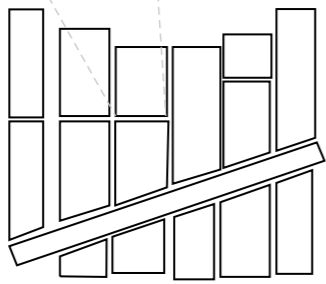


CUTTED CORNERS  
> SMALL SQUARES

INSIDE COURTYARD  
OUTSIDE STREET  
> SEPARATION OF PRIVATE AND PUBLIC



> RECTANGULAR BLOCK STRUCTURE  
> SMALL RECTANGULAR SEGMENTATION OF SITE

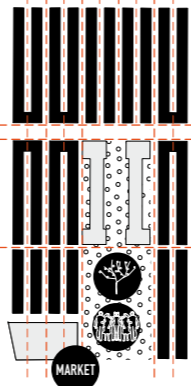


BLOCK STRUCTURE

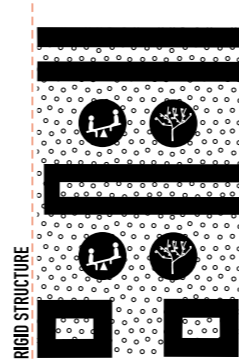
> OPEN BLOCK > BAR



> HALF PERIMETER BLOCK



MARKET



RIGID STRUCTURE

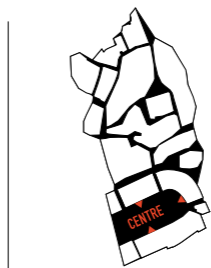
> OPEN BLOCK BAR

> MAINLY GREEN SPACE IN BETWEEN

> HALF PERIMETER BLOCK

> MAINLY GREEN SPACE IN BETWEEN

> BLOCK > ENCLOSED COURTYARD

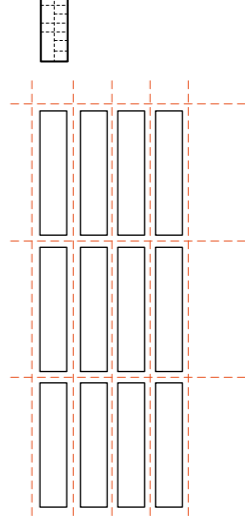


COMPREHENSIVE SPATIAL EXPERIENCE OF NARROW AND OPEN SPACE

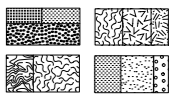


FILLING AN EMPTY VESSEL WITH BUILDINGS

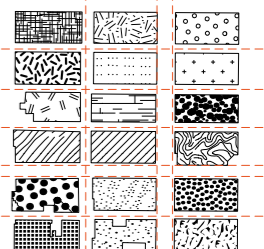
> SMALL SEGMENTATION OF SITE  
> 2 ROWS OF HOUSES EACH BLOCK



RIGID BLOCK PATTERN



WITHIN THE BLOCK FREE IN DESIGN



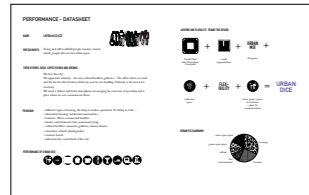
RIGID BLOCK PATTERN



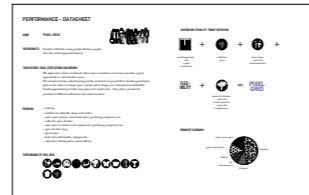
## ASSEMBLING PLURALITY ADAPTATION AND TRANSFORMATION OF INTERNATIONAL MODERN URBAN TYPOLOGIES BASED ON KOREAN PRACTICE

> GENERATION OF "PERFORMANCE DATASHEETS" TO GIVE DESIGN RULES FOR 8 NEIGHBORHOODS

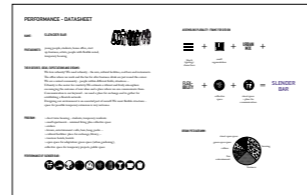
DATASHEETS are about the essential design performances and characteristics of the neighborhoods of New Chemulpo.  
As a software they give an introduction to describe the future protagonists and their ideas, desired atmosphere, typologies, program and the determination for itself or the entire city. These essentials are part of a system integrated later in detailed architectural design.  
DATASHEETS COMMUNICATE AND MODERATE IDEAS TO MANAGE THE DESIGN PROCESS.



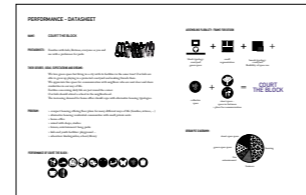
URBAN DICE



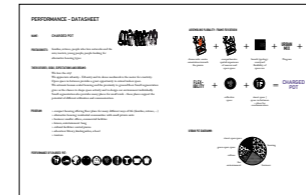
PIXEL GRID



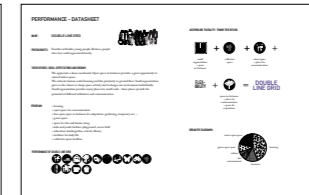
SLENDER BAR



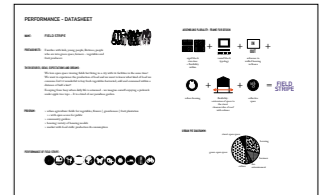
COURT THE BLOCK



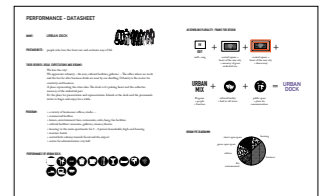
CHARGED POT



DOUBLE LINE GRID



FIELD STRIPE



URBAN DOCK

# PERFORMANCE - DATASHEET

**NAME:** URBAN DICE



**PROTAGONISTS:** Young and still youthfull people, tourists, creative minds, people who are into urban space

**THEIR DESIRES, IDEAS, EXPECTATIONS AND DREAMS:**

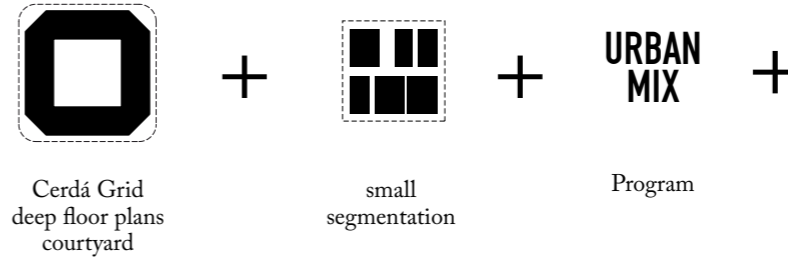
We love the city!  
 We appreciate urbanity - the mix, cultural facilities, galleries ... The office where we work and the bar for after business drink are near by our dwelling. Urbanity is the motor for creativity.  
 We want a vibrant and lively atmosphere encouraging the outcome of new ideas and a place where we can communicate them.

- PROGRAM:**
- > different types of housing: 20-40sq m studios, apartment 70-100sq m, lofts ...
  - > alternative housing: residential communities
  - > business: offices, commercial facilities
  - > leisure, entertainment: bars, restaurants, bang
  - > cultural facilities: museums, galleries, cinema, theatre
  - > education: schools, kindergarden
  - > tourism: hotels
  - > infrastructure: central hub of the city

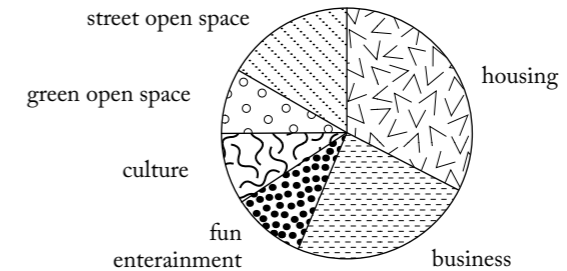
**PERFORMANCE OF URBAN DICE:**



**ASSEMBLING PLURALITY: FRAME FOR DESIGN**

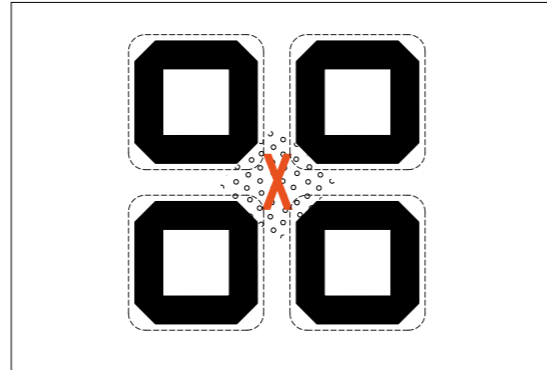


**URBAN PIE DIAGRAMM:**

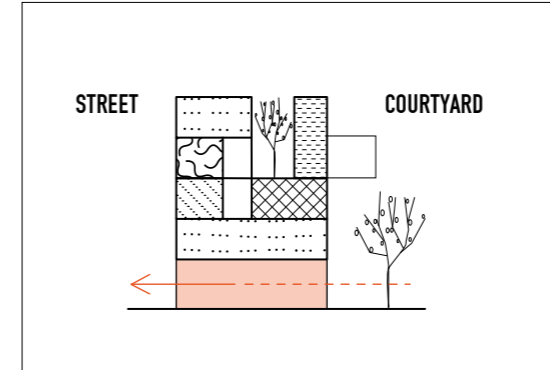




LIST OF TYPOLOGIES FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:



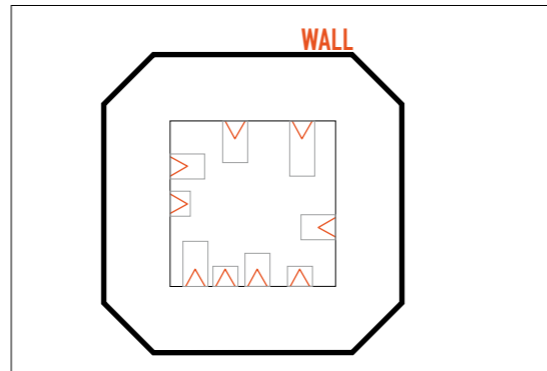
- > intersection: a place to meet
- > cutted edges: "to look round the corner"



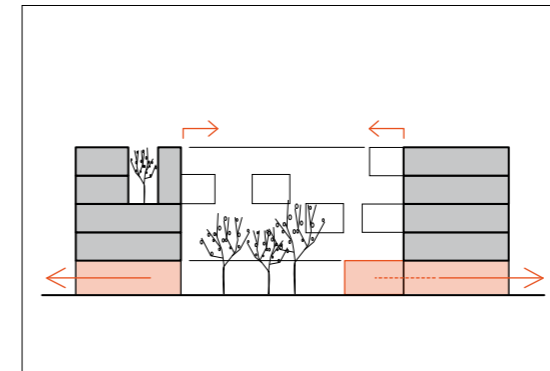
- > mix of functions
- > ground floor mediates between street area and the house



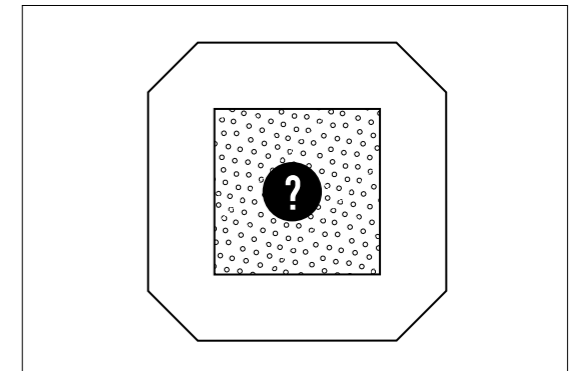
- > the house is organised like a city: density, mix, street - open space ...



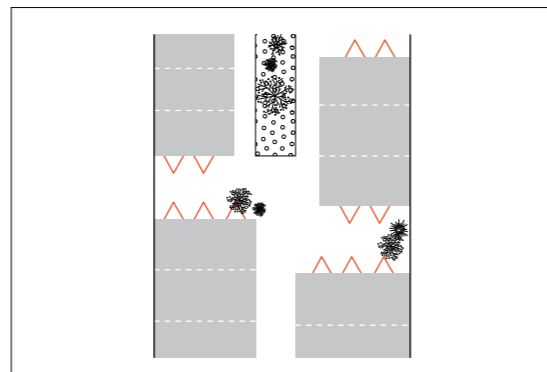
- > outside: wall
- > inside: possible extension towards courtyard
- >> balcony, terrasses ...



- > vibrant ground floor area: commercial facilities, studios ...
- > extension of the street area or extension of ground floor to the street
- > merge of private and public



- > flexible use of courtyard
- >> building area
- >> green space: gardening, swimming pool, playground ...



- > flexibility in floor plan
- >> collective space for private use (residents)
- >> partly commercial space

# PERFORMANCE - DATASHEET

**NAME:** PIXEL GRID



**PROTAGONISTS:** Families with kids, young people, Retirees, people who love small segmented density

**THEIR DESIRES, IDEAS, EXPECTATIONS AND DREAMS:**

We appreciate a dense meshwork. Open space in-between our houses provides a great opportunity to extend indoor space.

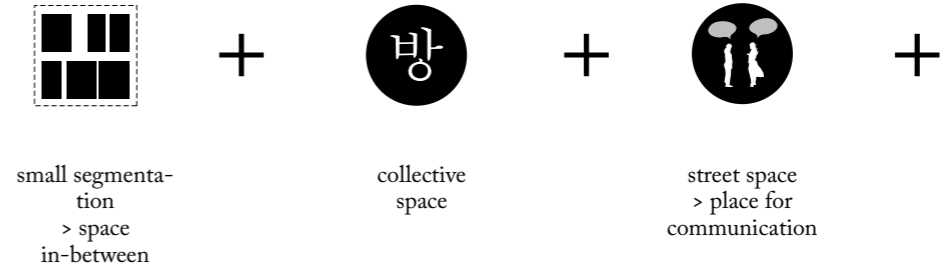
We estimate human scaled housing and the proximity to ground floor. Small segmentation gives us the chance to shape space actively and to design our environment individually. Small segmentation provides many places for small voids - these places provide the potential of different utilization and communication.

- PROGRAM:**
- > housing
  - > facilities for daily life: shops and studios
  - > open space: private, community space: gardening, temporary use
  - > collective space facilities
  - > open space in-between for acquirement: gardening, temporary use
  - > space for fun, bang
  - > green space
  - > kids and youth facilities: playground
  - > education: kindergarden, school, library

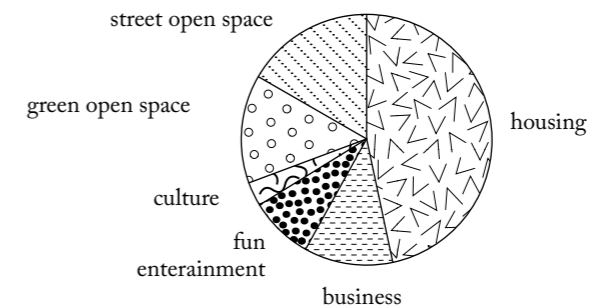
**PERFORMANCE OF PIXEL GRID:**



**ASSEMBLING PLURALITY: FRAME FOR DESIGN**

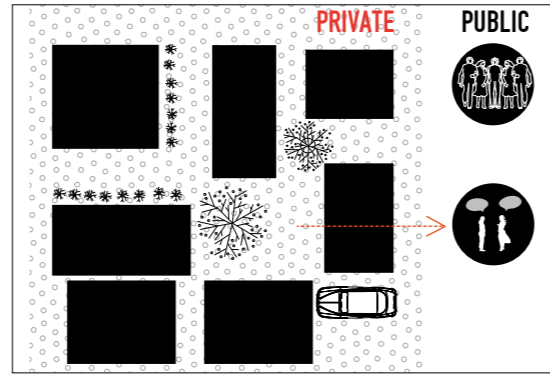


**URBAN PIE DIAGRAMM:**



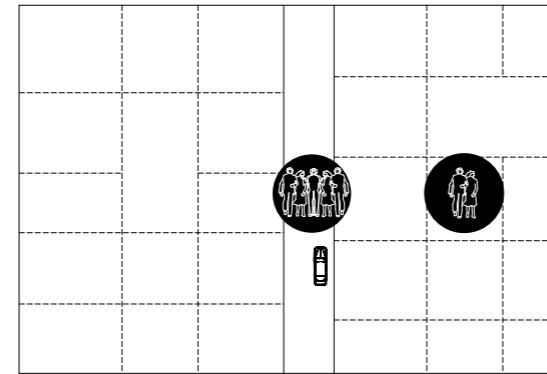


LIST OF TYPOLOGIES FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

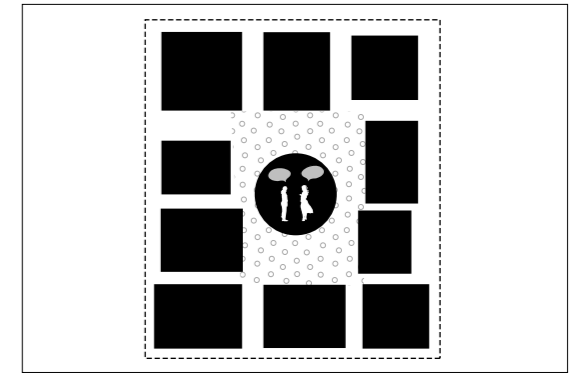


is it street, is it yard? where does the space in-between belong to?

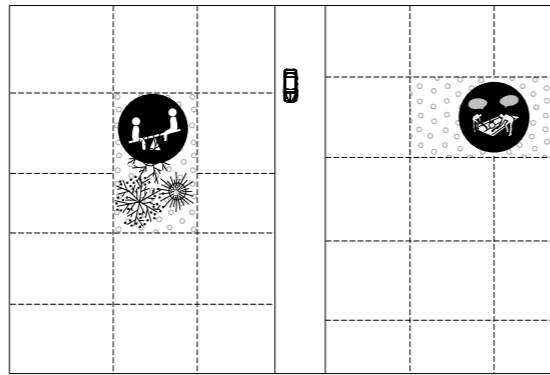
- > open space in between
- >> a great place for communication
- >> dense housing



orthogonal segmentation of site  
> blocks structure the neighborhood



courtyard at the block  
> collective space



flexible use of site (depending on ownership)

- > collective space
- > extension of private space
- > comprehensive spatial experience

**“THE ABSTINENCE OF BORDERS DOESN'T DETERMINE SPACE AND ENCOURAGES ACQUIREMENT INSTEAD!”**

Ryue Nishizawa

**INDIVIDUALITY**

- > every site is unique
- > human scaled
- > neighborhood represents its identity and is forcing even more trust and social activity

# PERFORMANCE - DATASHEET

**NAME:** SLENDER BAR



**PROTAGONISTS:** young people, students, home office, start up-business, artists, people with flexible mind, temporary housing

**THEIR DESIRES, IDEAS, EXPECTATIONS AND DREAMS:**

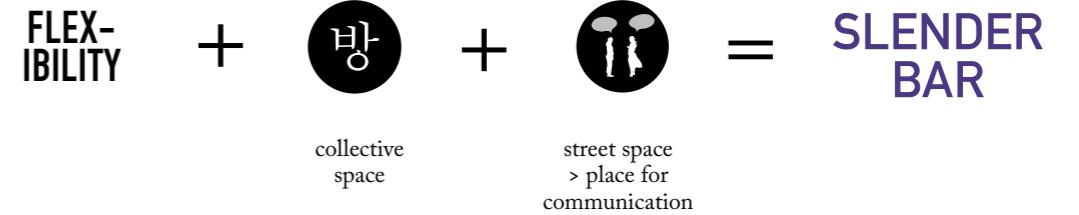
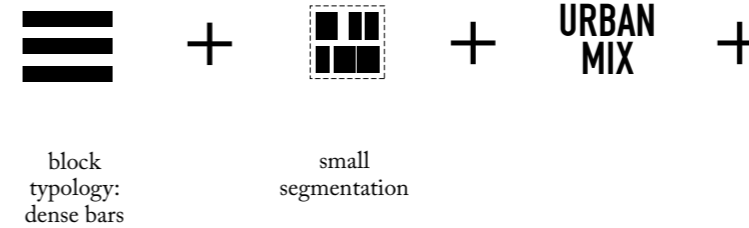
We love urbanity! We need urbanity - the mix, cultural facilities, cool bars and restaurants. The office where we work and the bar for after business drink are just round the corner. We are a mixed community - people within different fields, situations ... Urbanity is the motor for creativity. We estimate a vibrant and lively atmosphere encouraging the outcome of new ideas and a place where we can communicate them. Communication is our keyword - we need a place for exchange and to gather for establishing a flourish network. Designing our environment is an essential part of ourself. We want flexible structures - space for possible temporary extension is very welcome.

- PROGRAM:**
- > short term housing - students, temporary residents
  - > small apartments - minimal living plus collective space
  - > ateliers
  - > leisure, entertainment: cafés, bars, bang, parks ...
  - > cultural facilities: place for exchange, library, ...
  - > tourism: hotels, hostels
  - > open space for adaptation: green space (urban gardening), collective space for temporary projects, public space

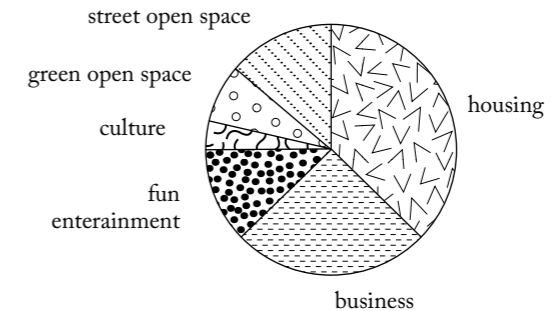
**PERFORMANCE OF SLENDER BAR:**



**ASSEMBLING PLURALITY: FRAME FOR DESIGN**



**URBAN PIE DIAGRAMM:**

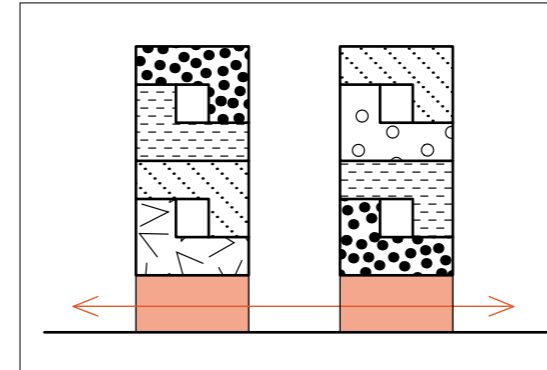




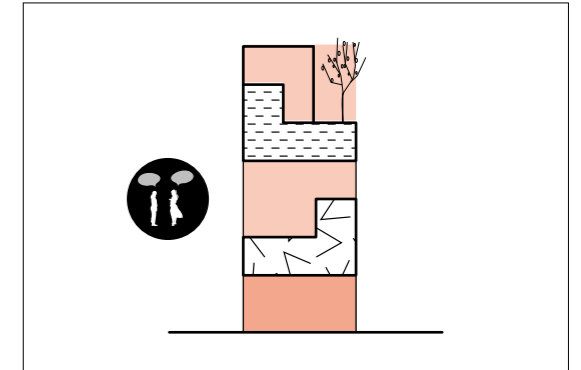
LIST OF TYPOLOGIES FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

# HOUSE = CITY

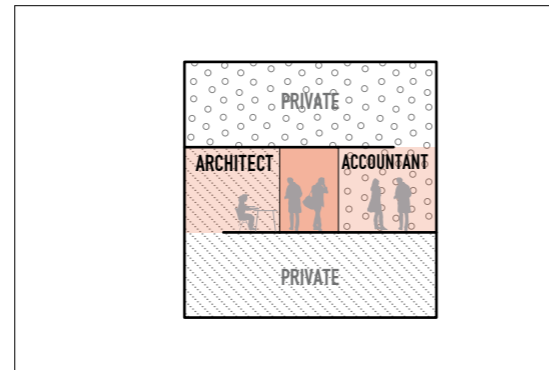
the house is organised like a city:  
density, mix, street - open space ...



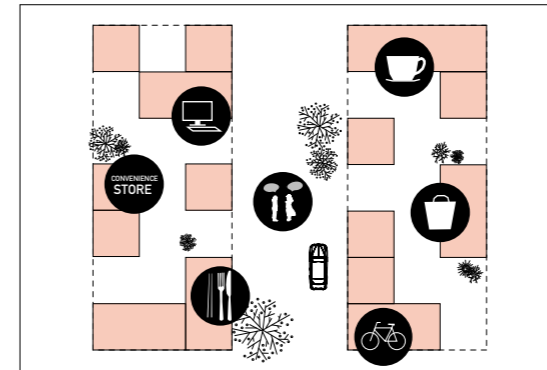
> vibrant ground floor area:  
commercial facilities, studios ...  
> extension of the street area or extension of ground floor to the street



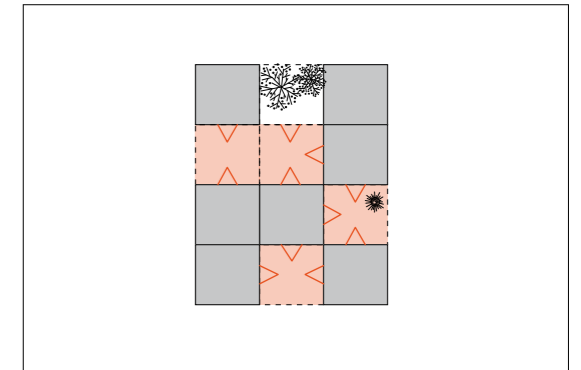
collective space  
> flexible space for extension and acquisition while minimal living space



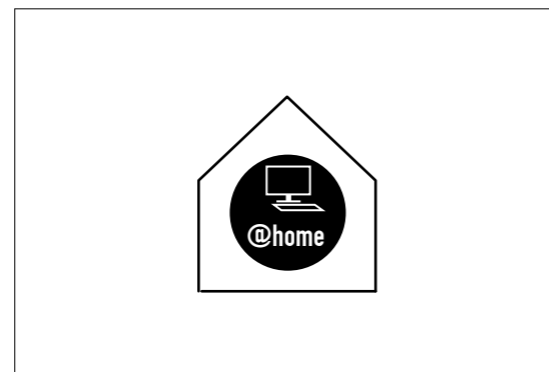
entanglement of public and private also inside the house: showcase your work to the public!  
ateliers, home office ...



Ground floor  
> stores, commerce, café, bike parking, staircase, ...  
>> flexible boxes for temporary use



module system  
> check the size of the studio you require or you want to afford!  
> open space provides temporary extension  
> dense meshwork



> home office  
> mix of housing and work

# PERFORMANCE - DATASHEET

**NAME:** COURT THE BLOCK

**PROTAGONISTS:** Families with kids, Retirees, everyone as you and me with a preference for parks

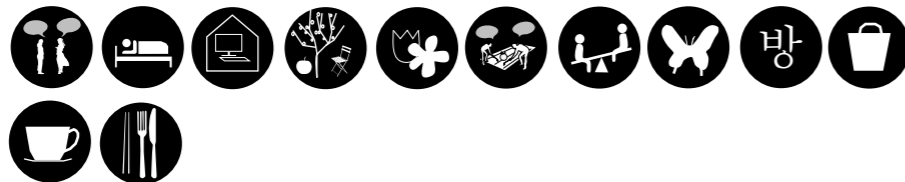


**THEIR DESIRES, IDEAS, EXPECTATIONS AND DREAMS:**

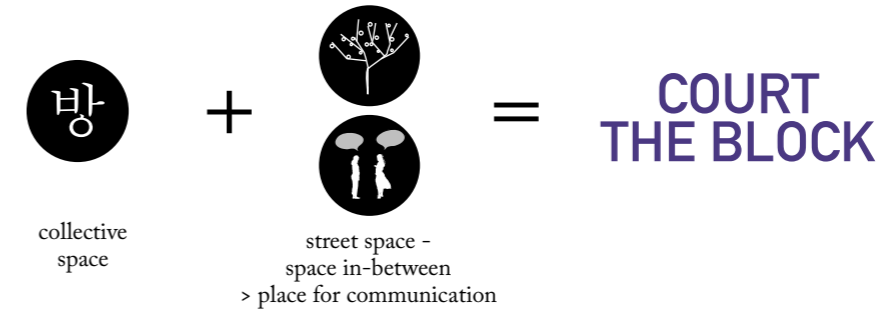
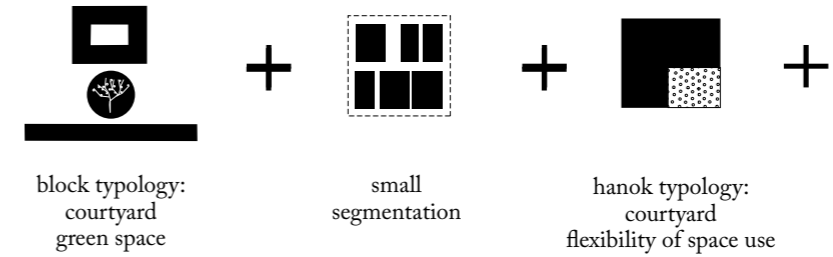
We love green space but living in a city with its facilities in the same time! Our kids are able to grow up playing in a protected courtyard and making friends there.  
 We appreciate free space for communication with neighbors who are next door and share similarities in our way of life.  
 Facilities concerning daily life are just round the corner.  
 Our kids should attend a school in the neighborhood.  
 The increasing demand for home office should cope with alternative housing typologies.

- PROGRAM:**
- > compact housing offering floor plans for many different ways of life (families, retirees, ...)
  - > alternative housing: residential communities with small private units
  - > home-office
  - > mixed with shops, studios
  - > leisure, entertainment: bang, parks
  - > kids and youth facilities: playground ...
  - > education: kindergarden, school, library

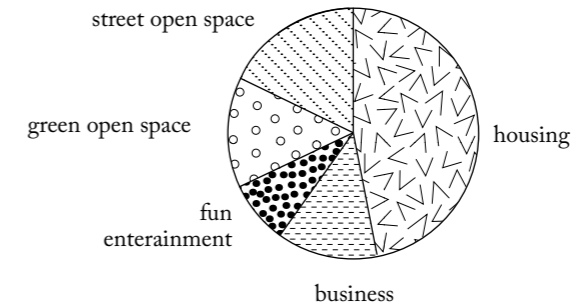
**PERFORMANCE OF COURT THE BLOCK:**



**ASSEMBLING PLURALITY: FRAME FOR DESIGN**

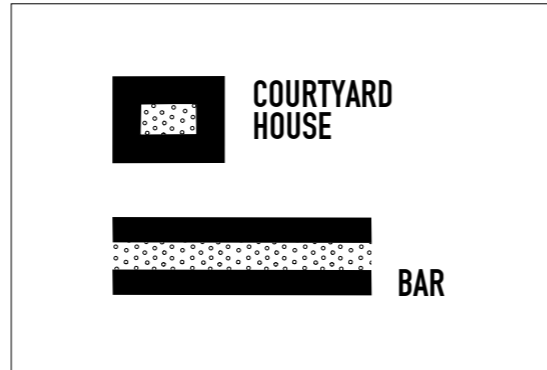


**URBAN PIE DIAGRAMM:**

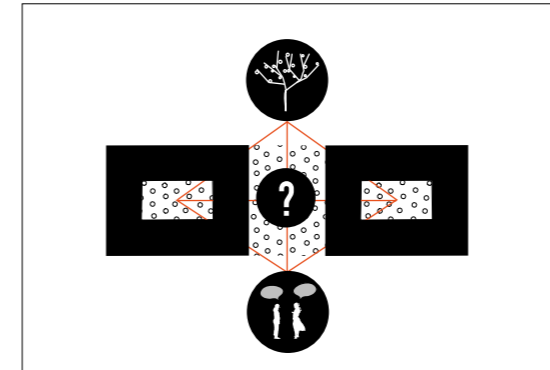




LIST OF TYPOLOGIES FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:



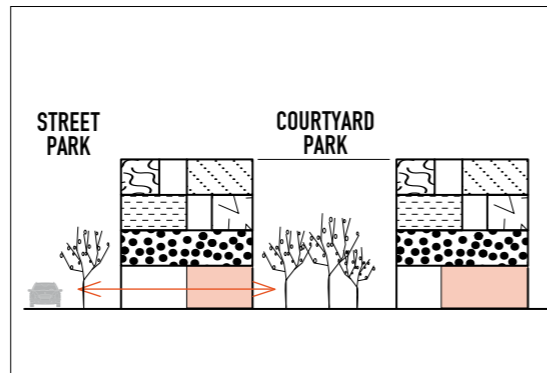
block typology  
 > variety of block structures: open, closed



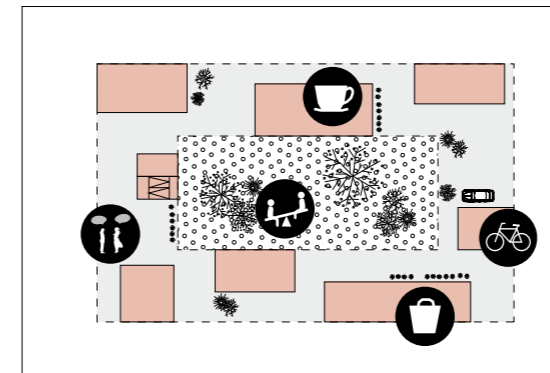
space in-between  
 > flexible open space in-between for collective use, playground, ...



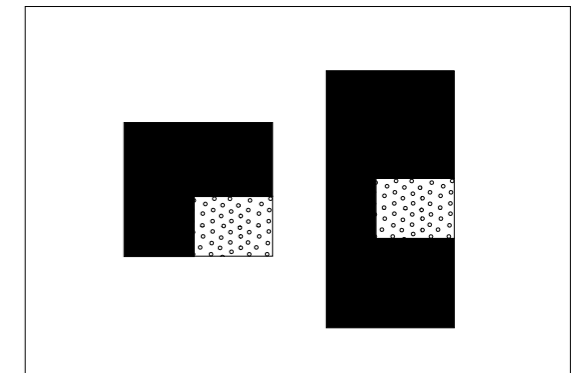
where does the house start,  
 where does the street end?



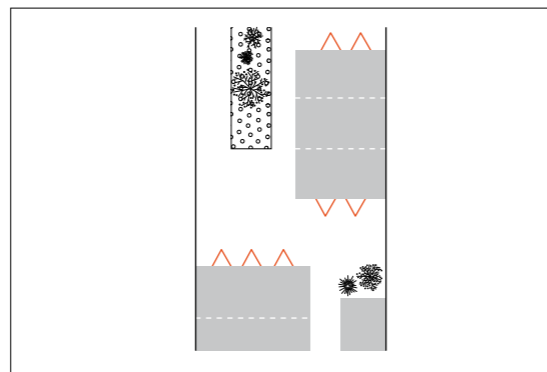
> vibrant ground floor area:  
 commercial facilities, studios ...  
 > extension of the street area or extension of ground floor to the street



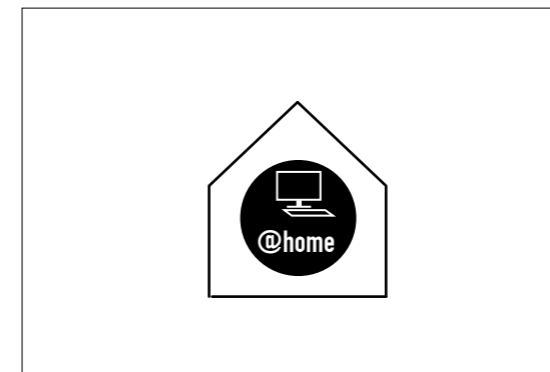
Ground floor  
 > stores, commerce, café, bike parking, staircase, ...  
 >> flexible boxes for temporary use



hanok typology  
 > apartment with private courtyard



> flexibility in floor plan  
 >> collective space for private use (residents)  
 >>> access, balconies and patios  
 >> commercial space



home office

# PERFORMANCE - DATASHEET

**NAME:** CHARGED POT



**PROTAGONISTS:** families, retirees, people who love networks and the mix, tourists, young people, people looking for alternative housing types

**THEIR DESIRES, IDEAS, EXPECTATIONS AND DREAMS:**

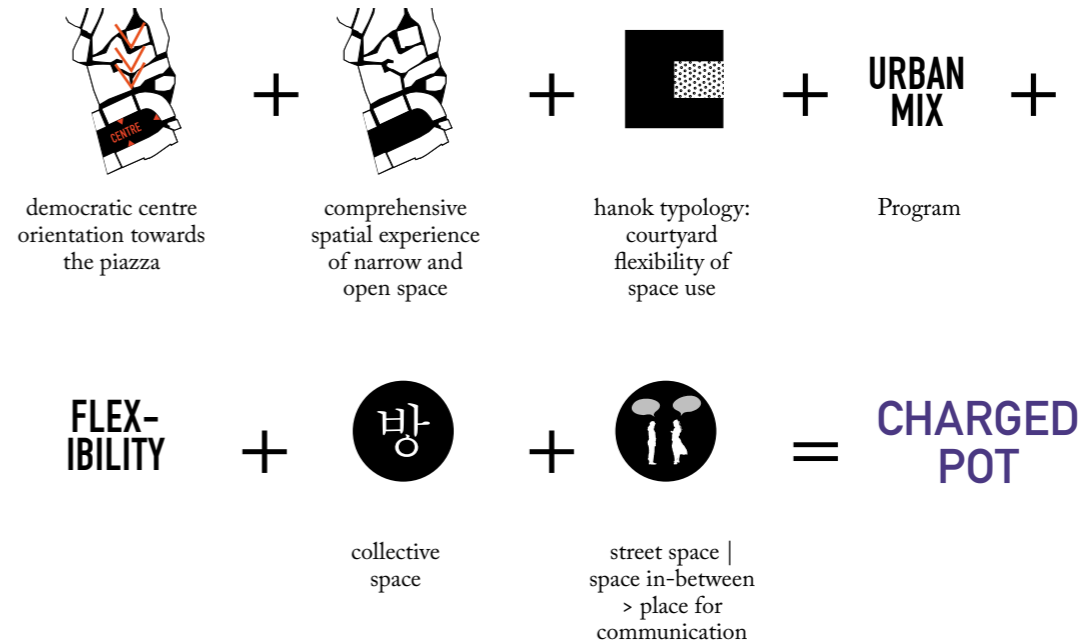
We love the city!  
 We appreciate urbanity... Urbanity and its dense meshwork is the motor for creativity.  
 Open space in-between provides a great opportunity to extend indoor space.  
 We estimate human scaled housing and the proximity to ground floor. Small segmentation gives us the chance to shape space actively and to design our environment individually.  
 Small segmentation also provides many places for small voids - these places support the potential of different utilization and communication.

- PROGRAM:**
- > compact housing offering floor plans for many different ways of life (families, retirees, ...)
  - > alternative housing: residential communities with small private units
  - > business: smaller offices, commercial facilities
  - > leisure, entertainment: bang
  - > cultural facilities: central piazza
  - > education: library, kindergarden, school
  - > tourism

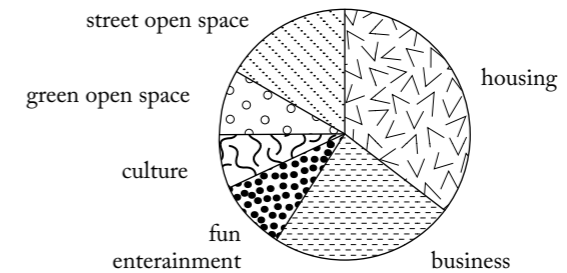
**PERFORMANCE OF CHARGED POT:**



**ASSEMBLING PLURALITY: FRAME FOR DESIGN**



**URBAN PIE DIAGRAMM:**





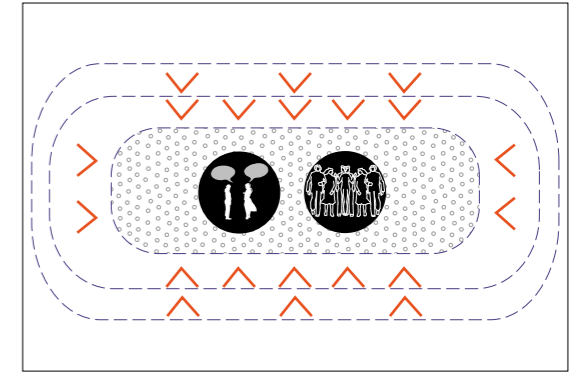
LIST OF TYPOLOGIES FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:



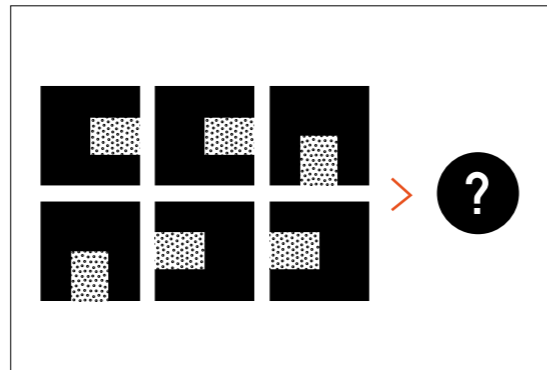
concept of emptiness  
 > filling an empty vessel with new social practice



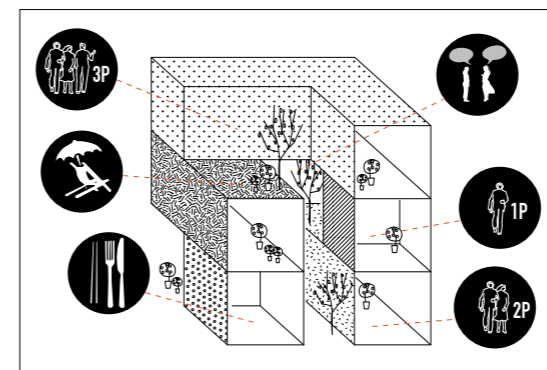
comprehensive spatial experience of open space  
 > narrow alleys - wide space  
 > amorphous layout of open space



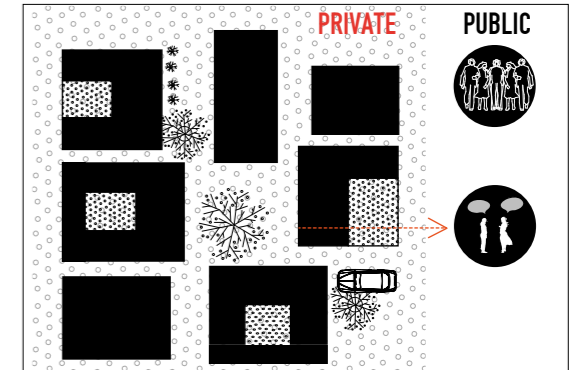
democratic space  
 > piazza



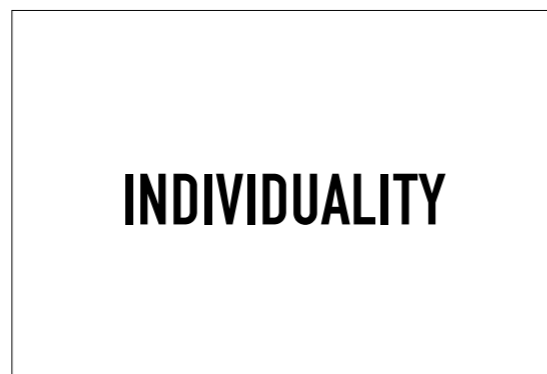
courtyard housing  
 > how could the hanok type be thought ahead:  
 multi-storey? flat sharing communities? ...



hanok reloaded  
 > familiar hanok in a new context  
 > check the size of the studio you require or you want to afford!  
 > open space provides temporary extension  
 > dense meshwork



is it street, is it yard? where does the space in-between belong to?  
 > open space in between  
 >> a great place for communication  
 >> dense housing



> every site, house is unique  
 > human scaled

# PERFORMANCE - DATASHEET

**NAME:** DOUBLE LINE GRID



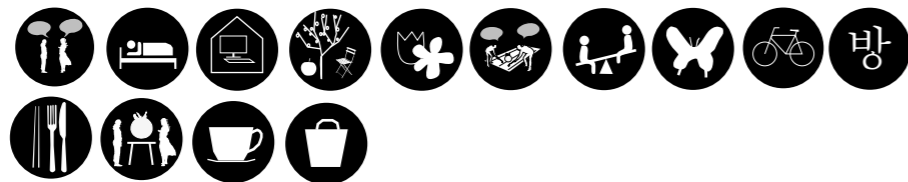
**PROTAGONISTS:** Families with kids, young people, Retirees, people who love small segmented density

**THEIR DESIRES, IDEAS, EXPECTATIONS AND DREAMS:**

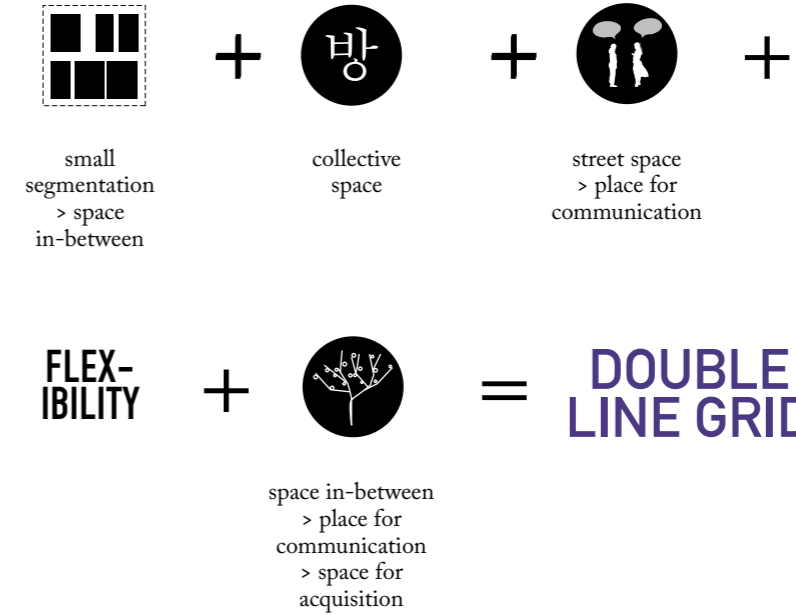
We appreciate a dense meshwork. Open space in-between provides a great opportunity to extend indoor space.  
 We estimate human scaled housing and the proximity to ground floor. Small segmentation gives us the chance to shape space actively and to design our environment individually. Small segmentation provides many places for small voids - these places provide the potential of different utilization and communication.

- PROGRAM:**
- > housing
  - > open space for communication
  - > free open space in-between for adaptation: gardening, temporary use ...
  - > green space
  - > space for fun and leisure, bang
  - > kids and youth facilities: playground, soccer field
  - > education: kindergarden, schools, library
  - > facilities for daily life
  - > collective space facilities

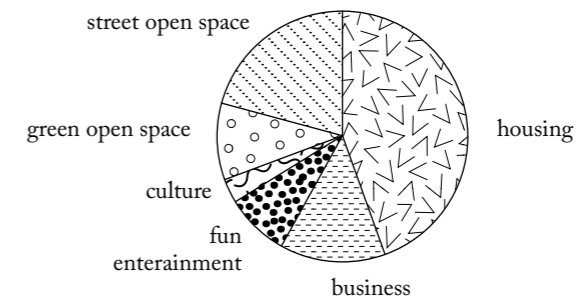
**PERFORMANCE OF DOUBLE LINE GRID:**



**ASSEMBLING PLURALITY: FRAME FOR DESIGN**

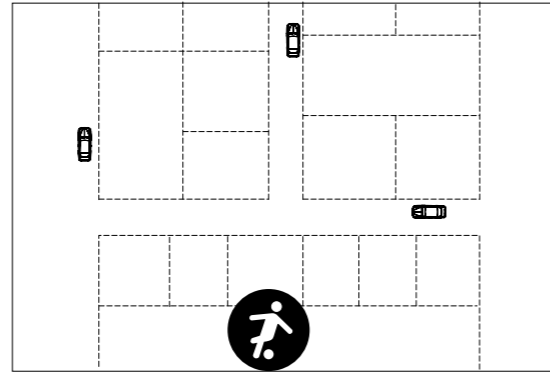


**URBAN PIE DIAGRAMM:**

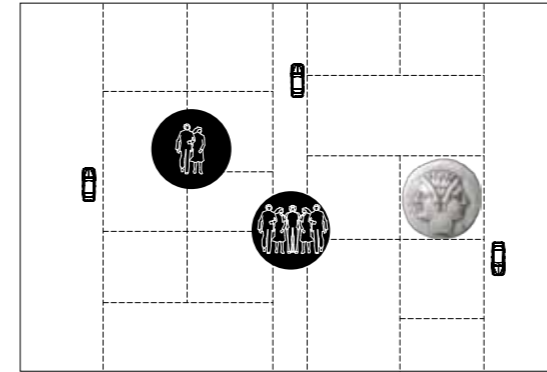




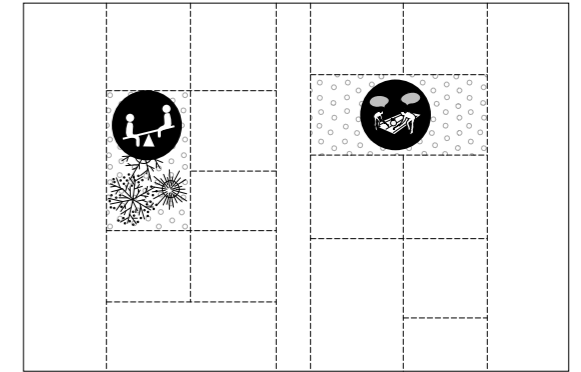
LIST OF TYPOLOGIES FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:



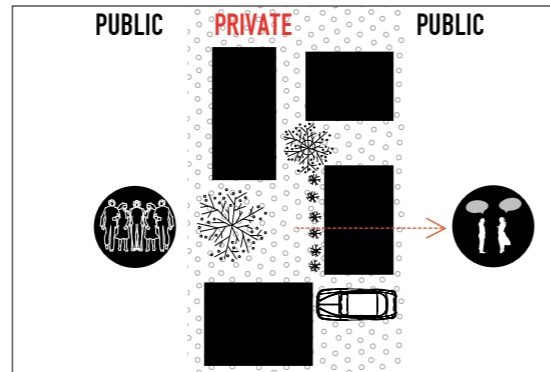
orthogonal segmentation of block  
soccer field



orthogonal segmentation of site  
> two sides of a house  
>> a public one and  
>> a private one



flexible use of site (depending on ownership)  
> collective space  
> extension of private space  
> comprehensive spatial experience



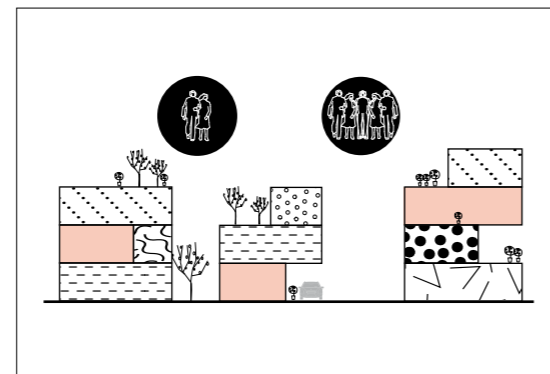
open space in-between  
> a great place for communication  
> proximity: dense housing

**"THE ABSTINENCE OF BORDERS DOESN'T DETERMINE SPACE AND ENCOURAGES ACQUIREMENT INSTEAD!"**

Ryue Nishizawa

**INDIVIDUALITY**

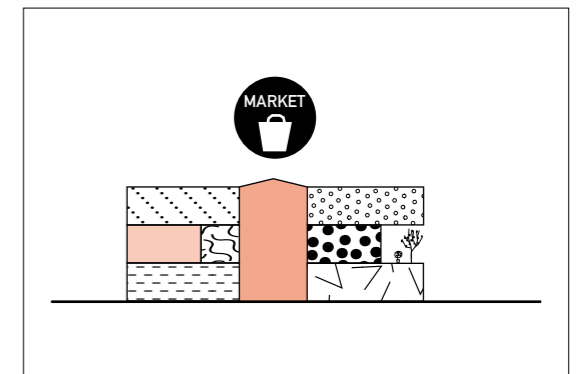
> every site is unique  
> human scaled  
> neighborhood represents its identity and is encouraging even more trust and social activity



where does the house start,  
where does the street end?

**HOUSE = CITY**

the house is like a city  
> the meshwork is perpetuated in the building



market = roofed street

# PERFORMANCE - DATASHEET

**NAME:** FIELD STRIPE



**PROTAGONISTS:** Families with kids, young people, Retirees, people who are into green space, farmers - vegetables and fruit producers

**THEIR DESIRES, IDEAS, EXPECTATIONS AND DREAMS:**

We love open space viewing fields but living in a city with its facilities in the same time!  
 We want to experience the production of food and we want to know what kind of food we consume. Isn't it wonderful to buy fresh vegetables harvested, sold and consumed within a distance of half a km?!

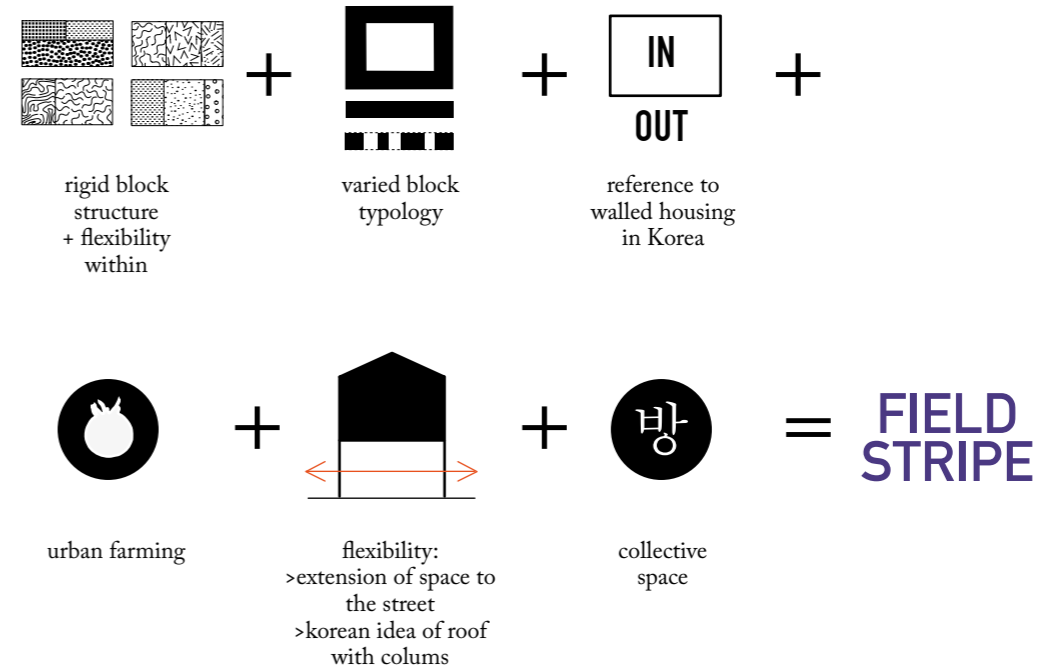
Escaping from busy urban daily life is esteemed - we imagine ourself enjoying a picnic under apple tree tops ... It is a kind of our paradiese garden.

- PROGRAM:**
- > urban agriculture: fields for vegetables, flowers | greenhouses | fruit plantation
    - >> with open access for public
  - > community gardens
  - > housing: variety of housing models
  - > market with food stalls: production & consumption

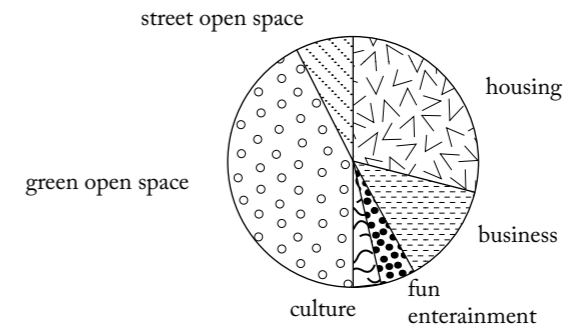
**PERFORMANCE OF FIELD STRIPE:**



**ASSEMBLING PLURALITY: FRAME FOR DESIGN**

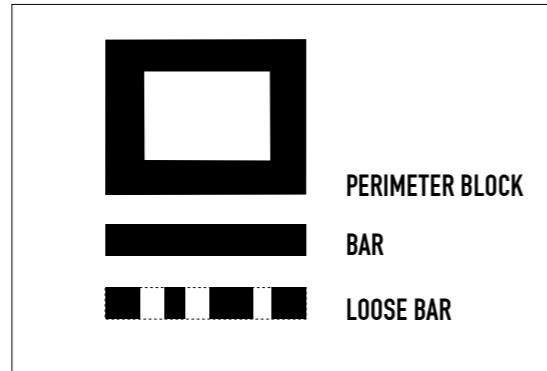


**URBAN PIE DIAGRAMM:**

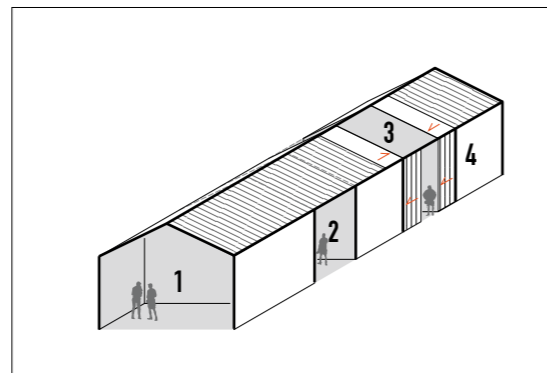




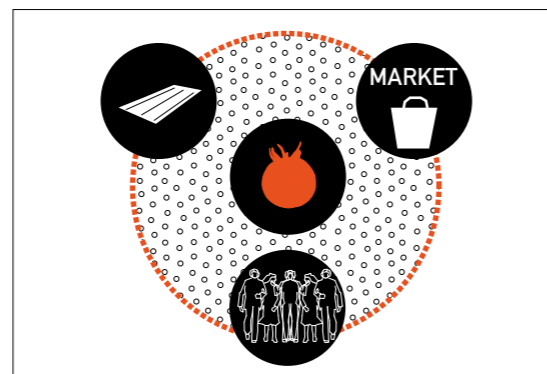
LIST OF TYPOLOGIES FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:



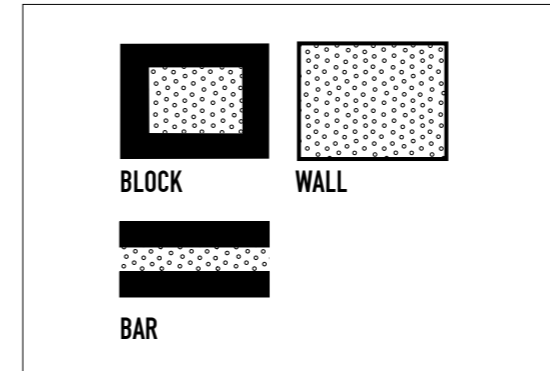
block  
 > variety of structures  
 > density  
 > closeness



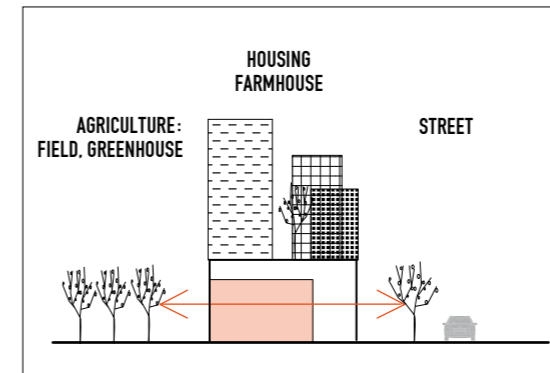
flexibility of loose bar typology - roof with columns:  
 > possibility of extension  
 > open courtyard, roofed, closed space



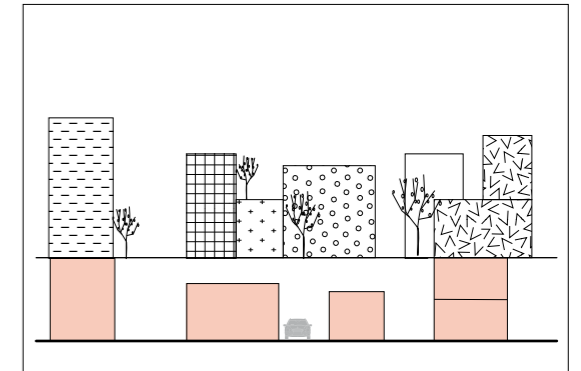
market + food stalls  
 > production & consumption



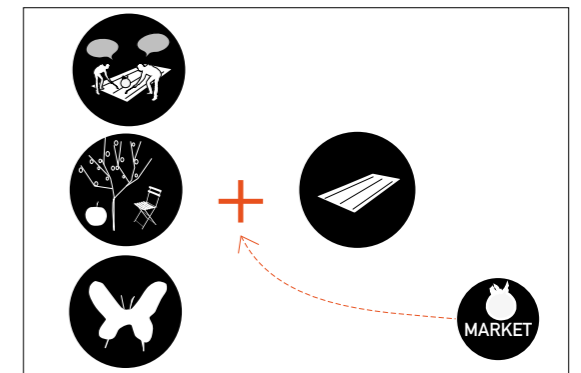
courtyard



flexibility  
 > extension of street/field space



"farmhouse" typology  
 > ground floor partly related to agriculture, urban functions ...  
 > upper floor housing



> leisure + housing + agriculture  
 >> industrial area is open to public to experience and enjoy the production of food  
 >> activity of residents is encouraged  
 >> intersection = market

# PERFORMANCE - DATASHEET

**NAME:** URBAN DOCK



**PROTAGONISTS:** people who love the front row and exclusive way of life

## THEIR DESIRES, IDEAS, EXPECTATIONS AND DREAMS:

We love the city!

We appreciate urbanity - the mix, cultural facilities, galleries ... The office where we work and the bar for after business drink are near by our dwelling. Urbanity is the motor for creativity and business.

A place representing the cities idea. The dock is it's pulsing heart and the collective memory of the industrial past.

It's the place for presentation and representation. Islands at the dock and the promanade invite to linger and enjoy for a while.

**PROGRAM:** > a variety of businesses: offices, studio ...

> commercial facilities

> leisure, entertainment: bars, restaurants, cafés, bang, fun facilities

> cultural facilities: museums, galleries, cinema, theatre

> housing: in the main apartments for 1 - 2 person households, high-end housing

> tourism: hotels

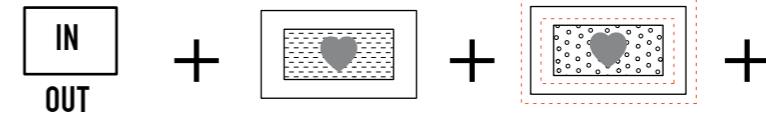
> central hub: subway towards Seoul and the airport

> centre for administration: city hall

## PERFORMANCE OF URBAN DOCK:



## ASSEMBLING PLURALITY: FRAME FOR DESIGN



wall = ring

central square =  
heart of the new city  
> memory of gone  
industrial era

central square =  
heart of the new city  
> democrazy

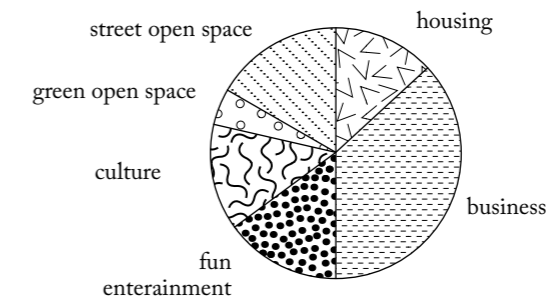


Program  
> people  
> function

cultural facility  
> link to old town

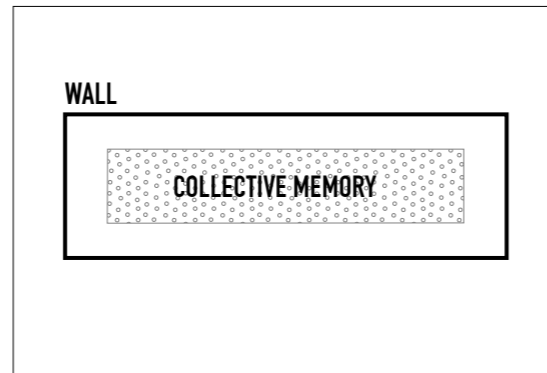
public space  
> place for  
communication

## URBAN PIE DIAGRAMM:

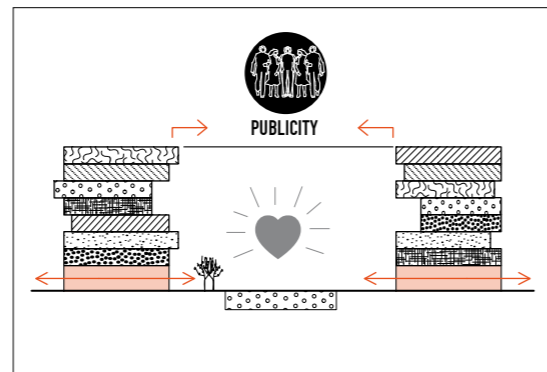




LIST OF TYPOLOGIES FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:



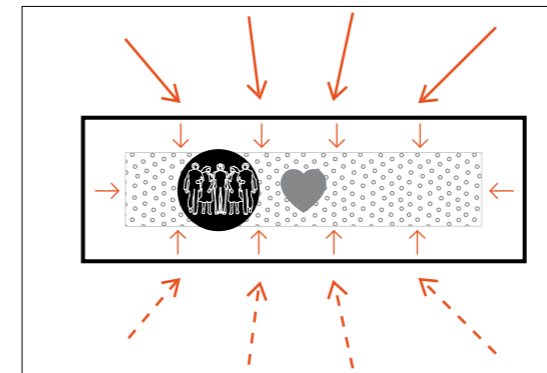
Dock  
 > collective memory of the city - a place for memories to be stored and new narratives to be created  
 > “remodeling is an act of replaying memories” (Cho,Junbae)



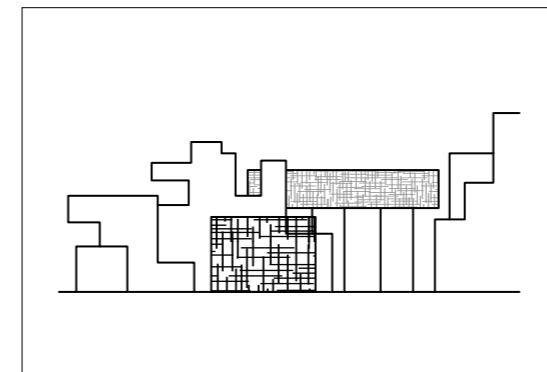
> super dense “wall”  
 > place for central publicity



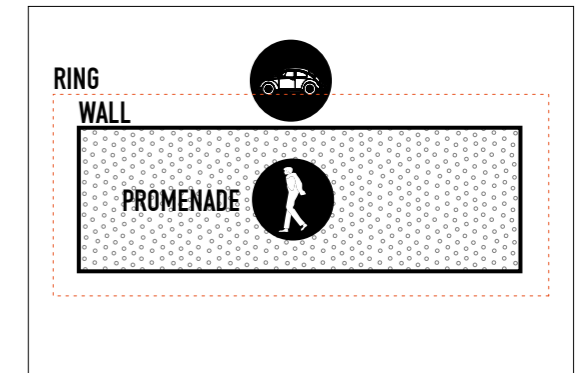
the house is organised like a city:  
 density, mix, street ...



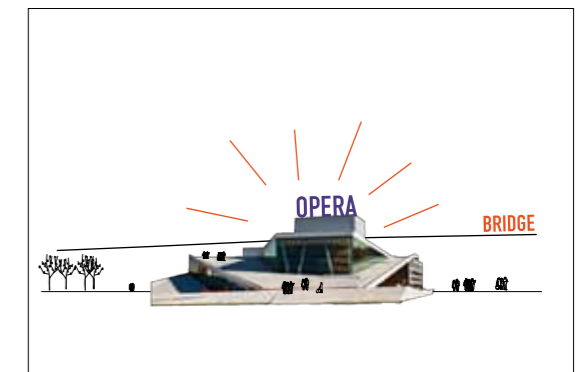
Central Square  
 > place for democracy



Individuality



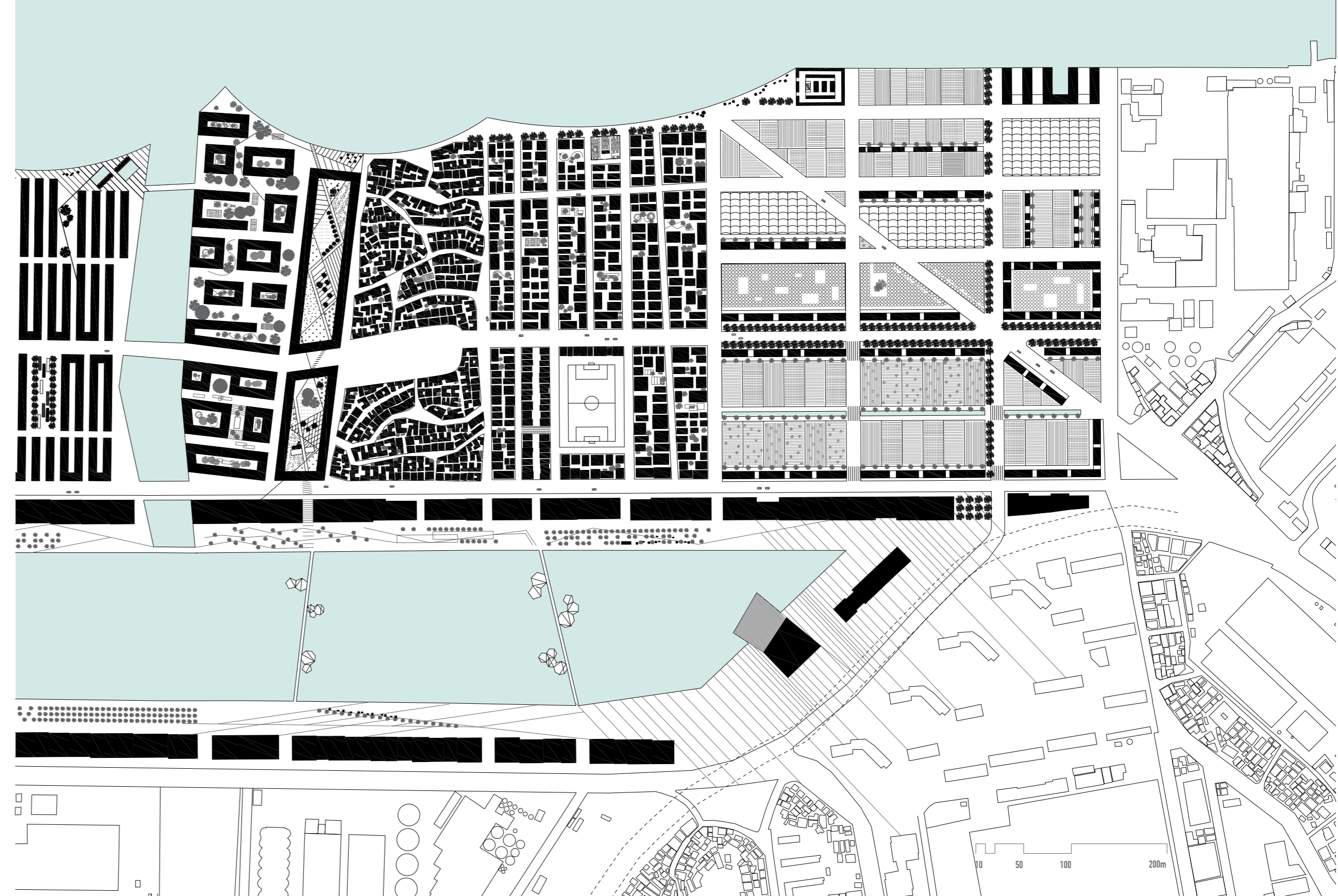
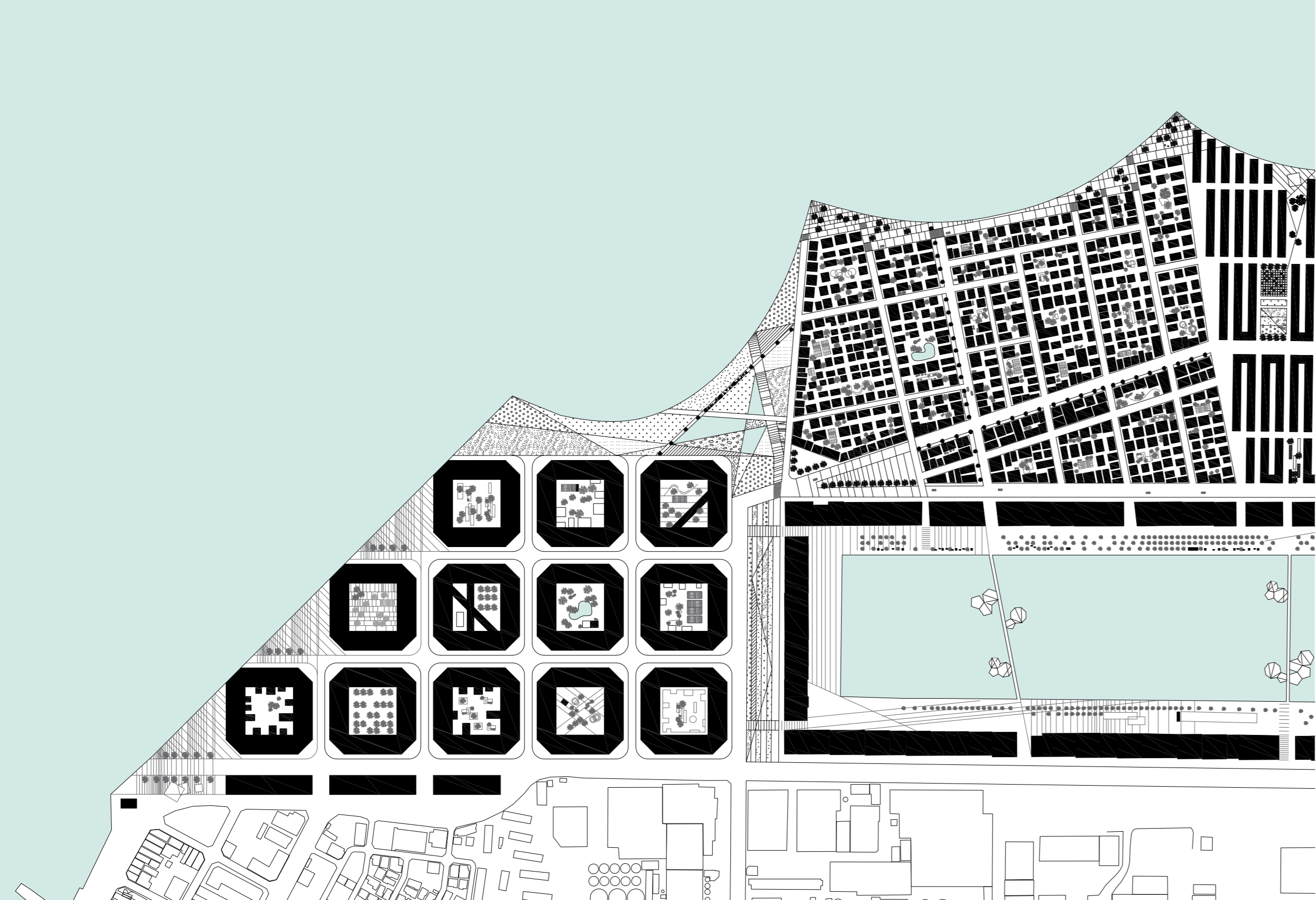
protected area  
 > transportation released outside to the ring



landmark  
 > cultural facility: opera, theatre...  
 >> public space  
 >> making itself independent from Seoul  
 > connection with the old town

# NEW CHEMULPO ...







# 8 NEIGHBORHOODS OF NEW CHEMULPO

## LANDMARKS & HOT SPOTS

### BASIC (LIVING) FUNCTIONS:

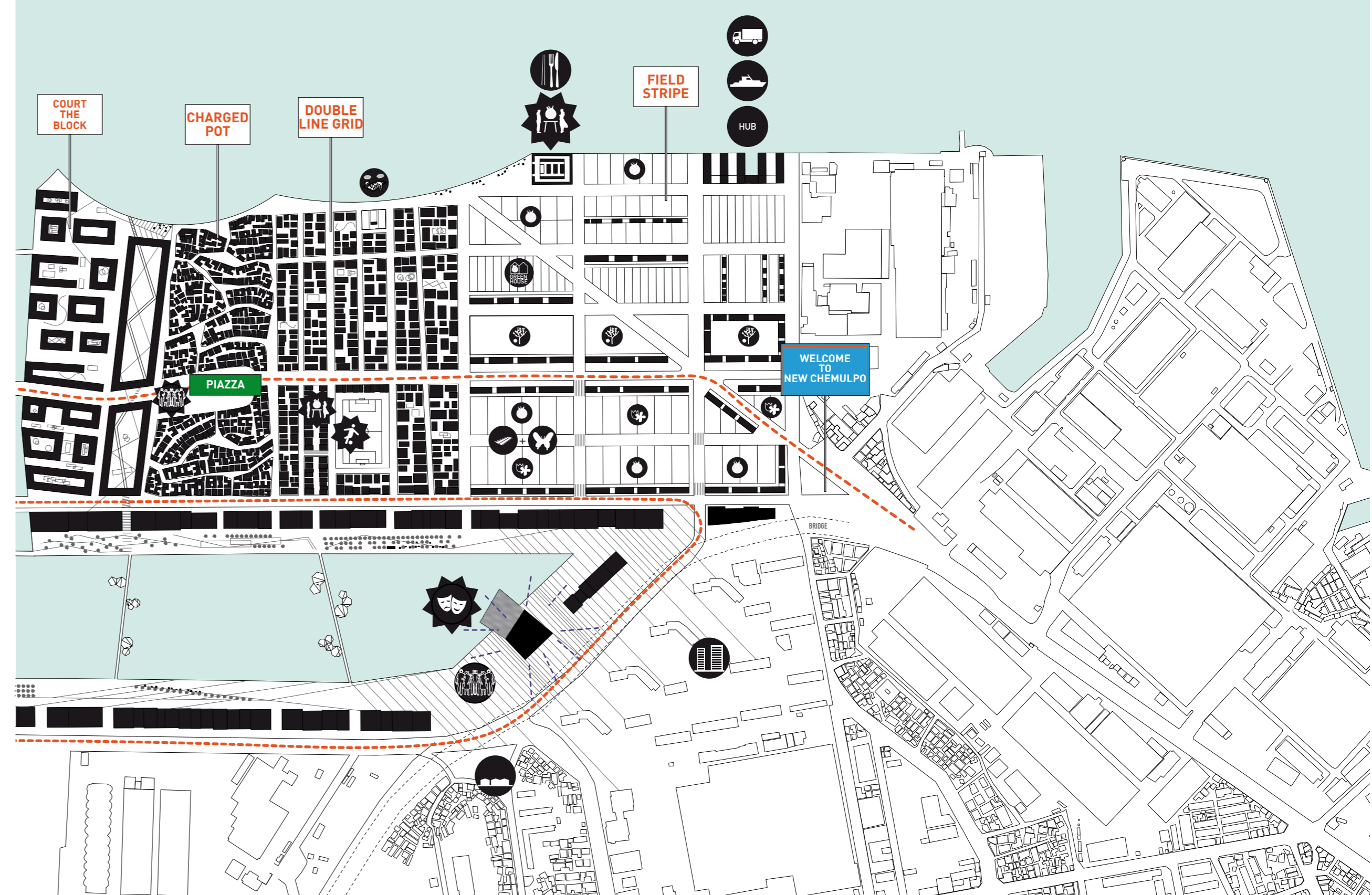
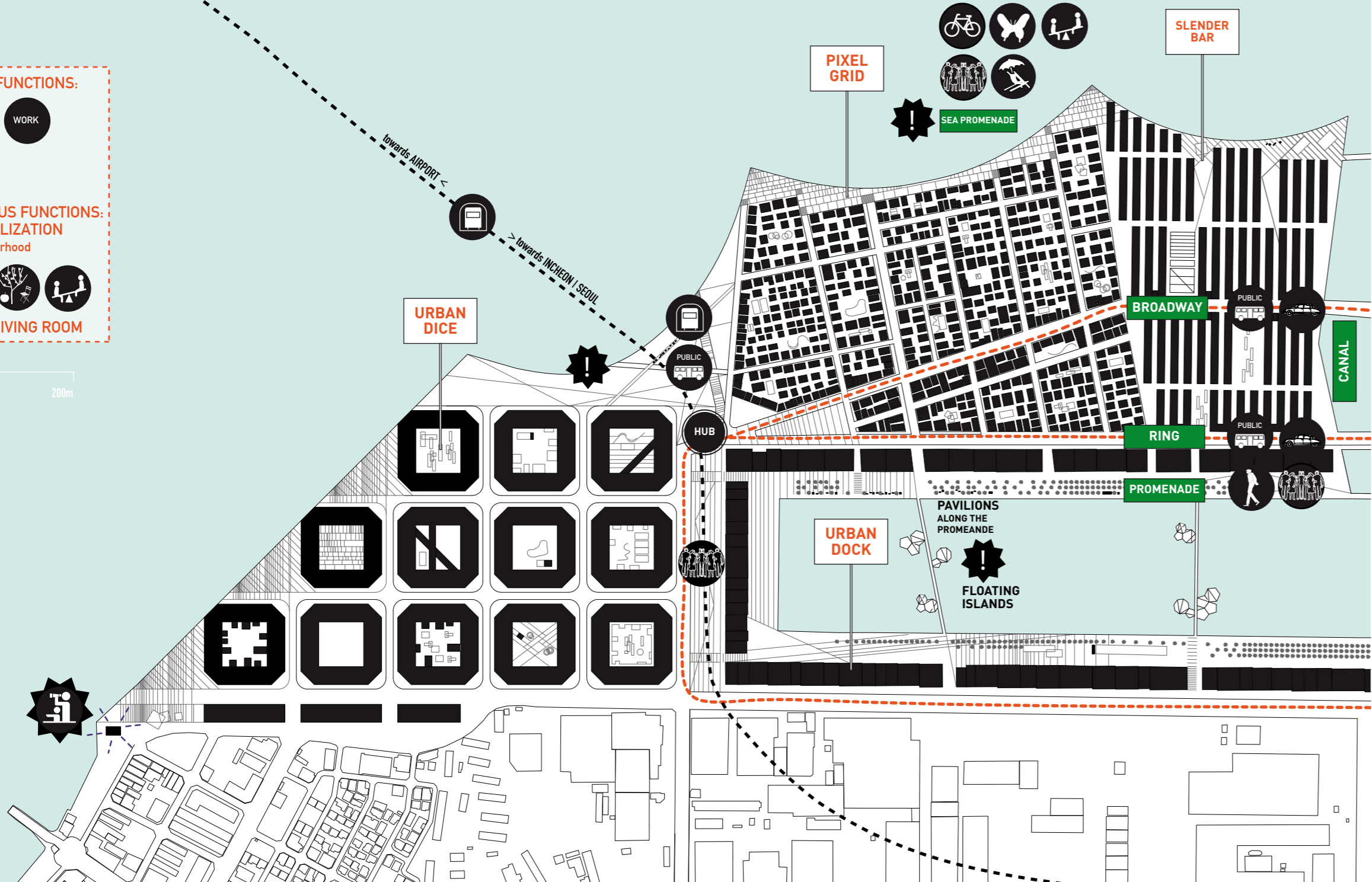


### ADDITIONAL PLUS FUNCTIONS: COLLECTIVE UTILIZATION

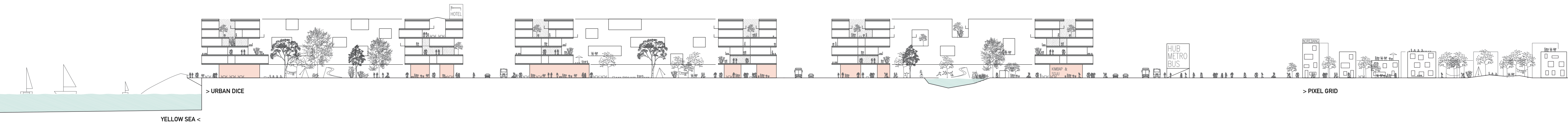
vary in each neighborhood

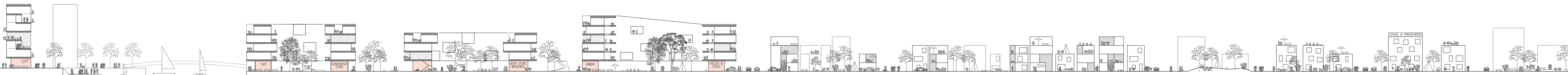


CITY = URBAN LIVING ROOM







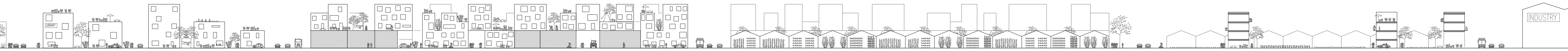


> CANAL

> COURT THE BLOCK

> CHARGED POT

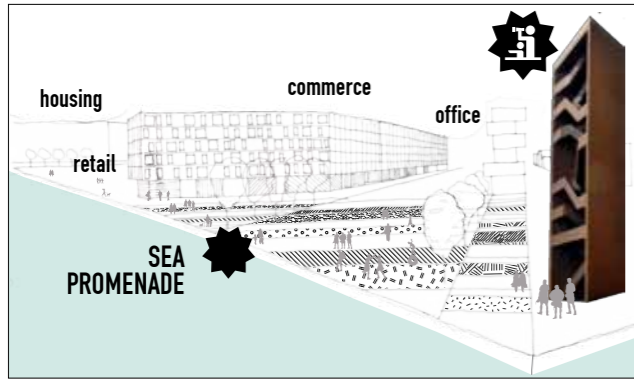
> DOUBLE LINE GRID



> FIELD STRIPE

> INDUSTRIAL AREA





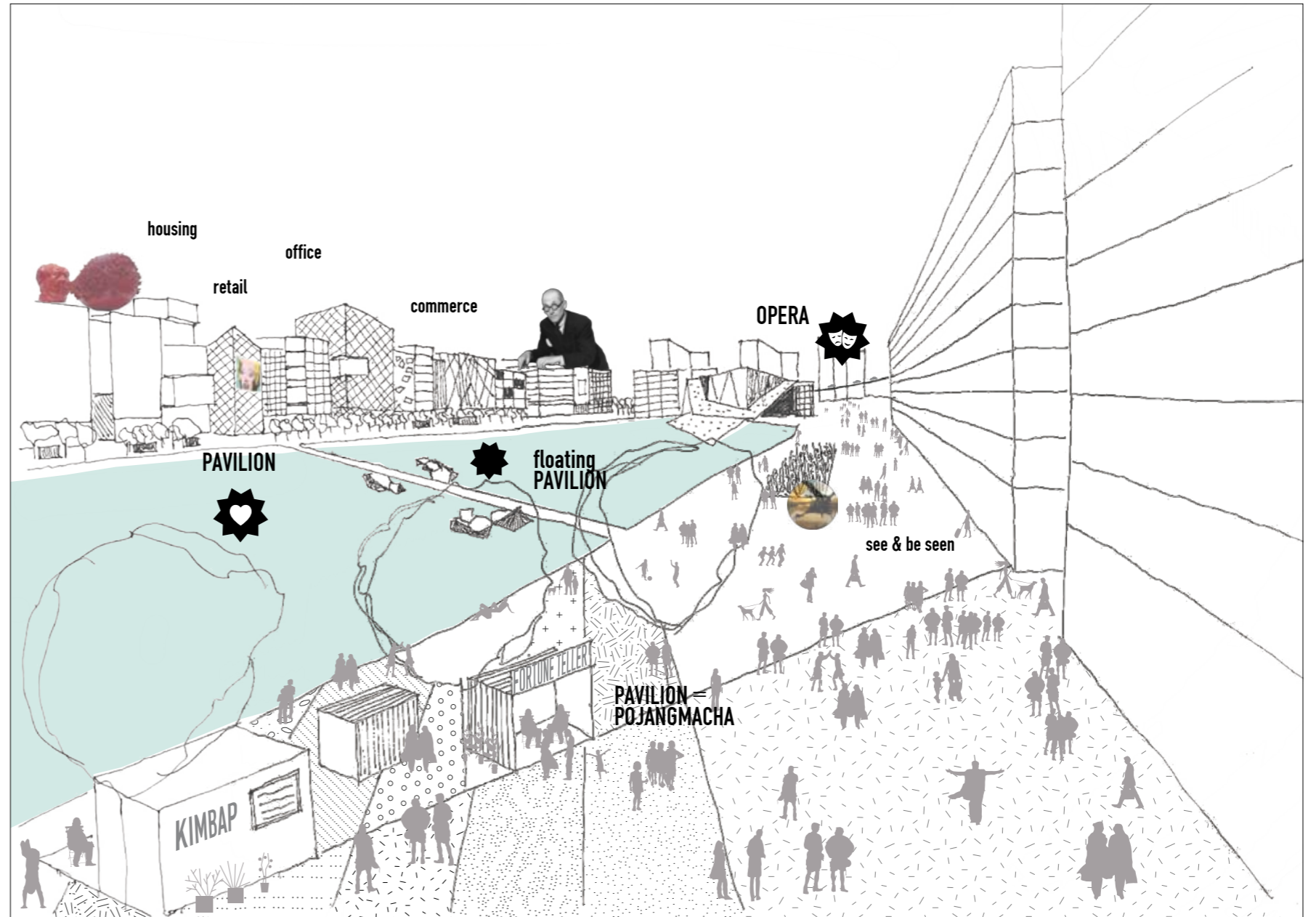
**URBAN DICE ...**

A look-out at the western edge of New Chemulpo attracts both: residents of New Chemulpo as well as visitors from Wolmido. It marks the beginning of the sea promenade along the entire cityscape.

At sunset, enjoy the marvelous view of the horizon above the yellow sea and the thriving urban space of the Urban Dice on the other side ...

**URBAN DOCK ...**

The bustling Urban Dock is the vibrant heart and centre of New Chemulpo. The opera acts as a point of intersection from the old town to the new town and will be the main land mark of New Chemulpo. Finally residents of Incheon will be independent from Seoul's cultural superiority.



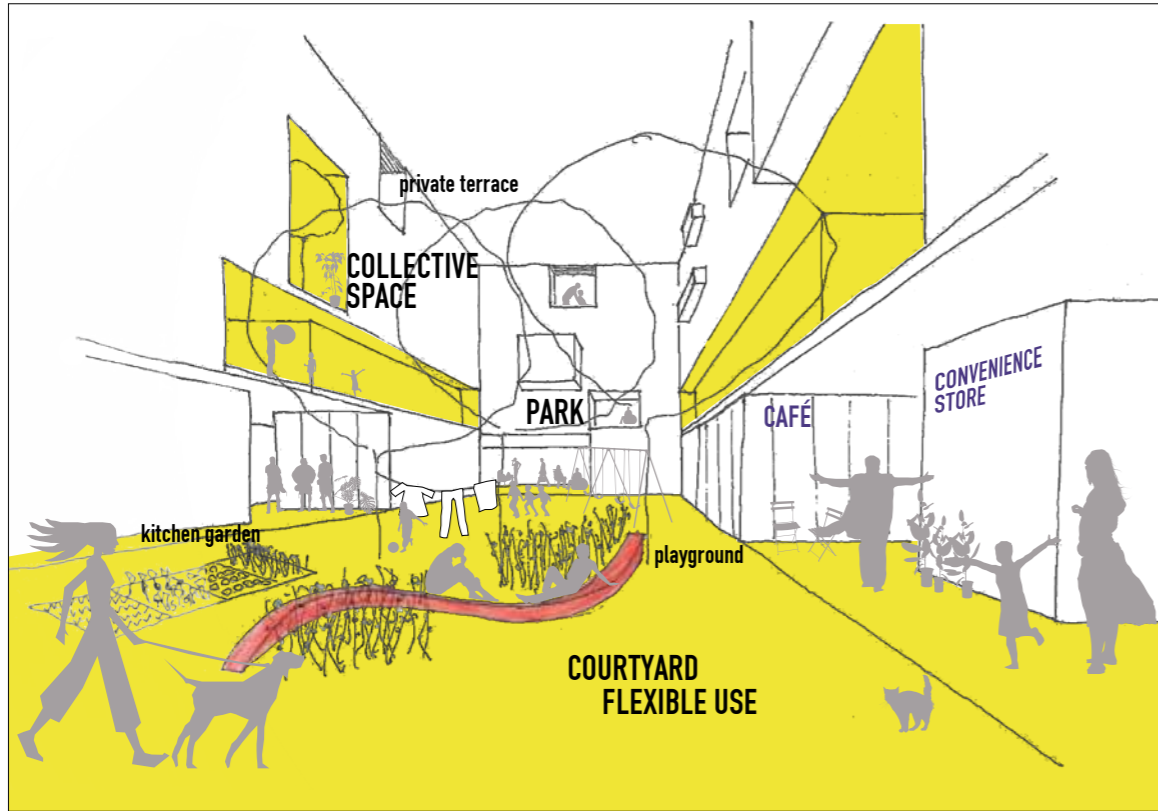


**DOUBLE LINE GRID ...**

The soccer field defines a hot spot for “locals” as well as for residents from other neighborhoods. The “yard in the block” faces buildings which accommodate mixed facilities and housing. Koreans love to practice team sport, probably because of the team spirit. On one hand it is good for your health, and on the other hand it provides a great opportunity for social interaction.

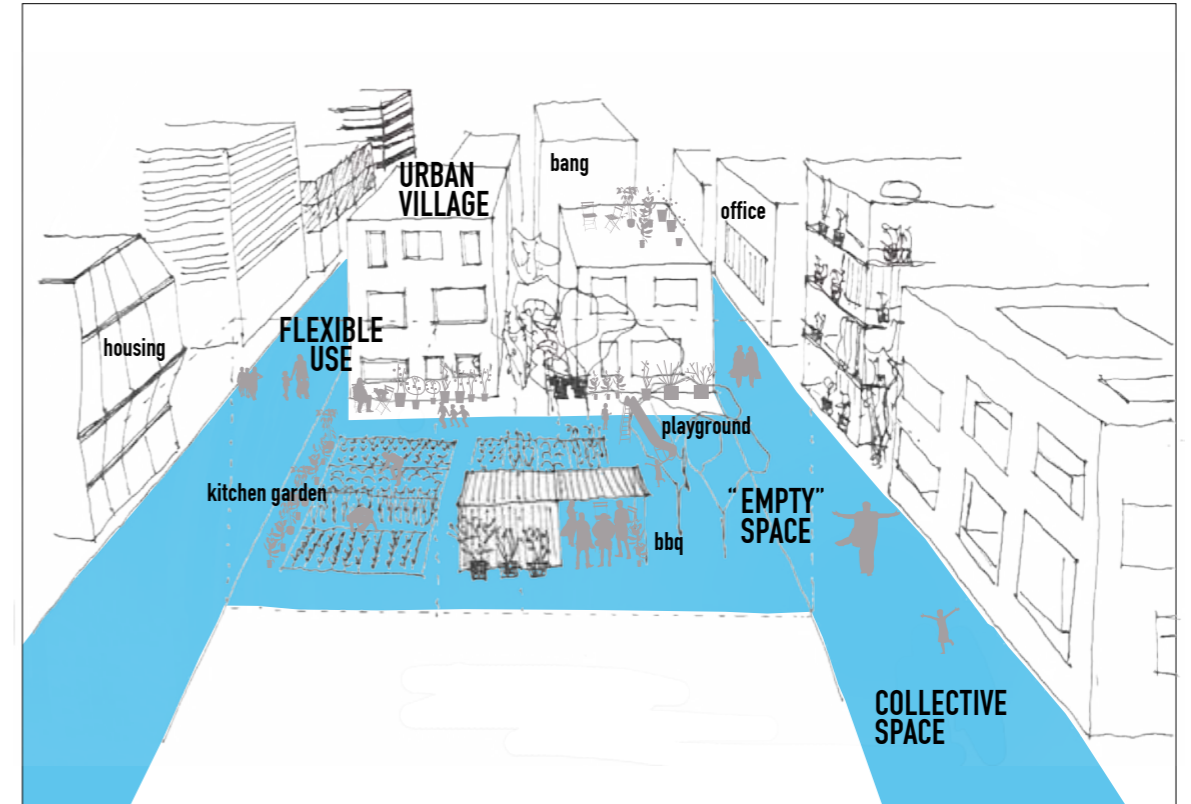






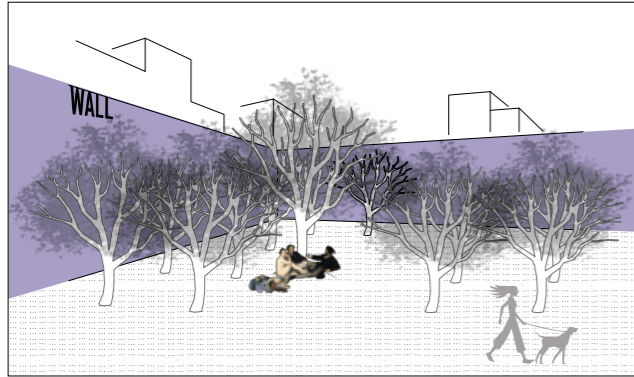
### COURT THE BLOCK ...

Blockhouses with a central governing space of a garden or yard. Particular the ground floor area is partly used for commercial facilities. Upper floors are destined for housing. The yard is meant to be managed by the residents, depending on their desires. Collective spaces - also in upper floors - are flexibly and temporarily useable. Openings, terraces, balconies ... make it a "green building".



### DOUBLE LINE GRID ...

Dense conglomeration of houses, mix of functions and small segmentation of sites. Space in-between loosens up tightness and provides space for social interaction and gatherings. Individuality of neighbors is reflected by their activities and the design of their environment. They become active and responsible for spaces next to their dwellings. Narrow alleys and open space allow a comprehensive experience of space. Human scaled architecture makes you feel like living in an urban village.

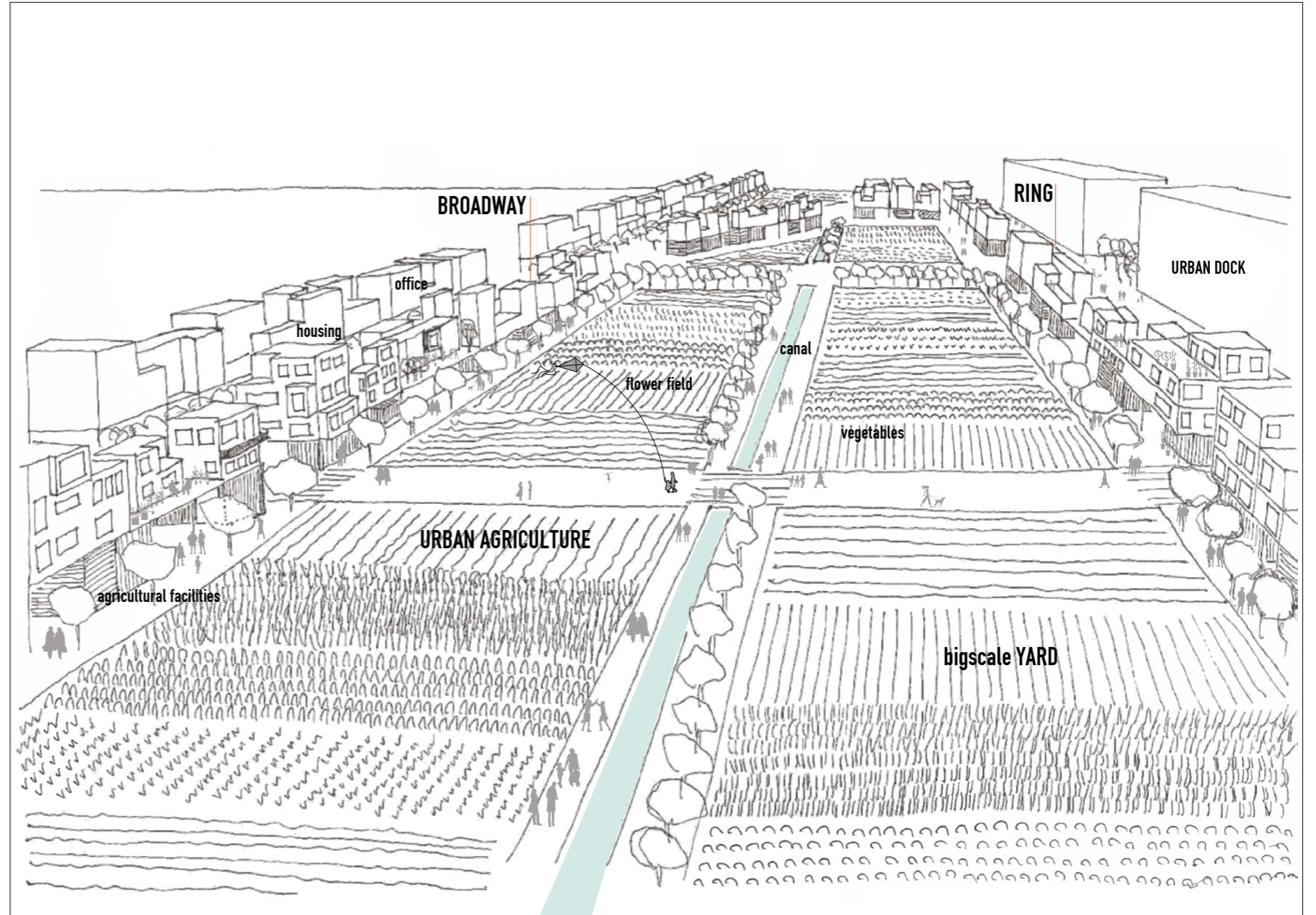


### GARDEN OF EDEN

Enjoy relaxing and reading a book, or a picnic under the crowns of apple trees. Beyond the wall, which separates the "paradise" from the bustling city, you will find yourself in an oasis.

### FIELD STRIPE ...

A harmonious blend of agriculture (production of food) and residential function and leisure (consumption as well as production. Among many other reasons for urban agriculture - engagement with life, green and experience of nature - it lets us to take responsibility for our environment and makes the city a better place to live in.







# EPILOGUE: ASSEMBLING PLURALITY

WHAT DOES THIS THESIS WANT TO REVEAL? WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO ME?  
WHAT DO THE DRAWINGS STAND FOR? WHAT DO THEY WANT TO COMMUNICATE?  
WHERE ARE THE DIFFERENCES IN THE MEANING OF THE TERM "CITY" ARE LOCATED IN  
DIFFERENT CULTURES? HOW ARE THEY ENSURED? WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM EACH OTHER?

Finally, I would like to demonstrate whether some of the questions mentioned above can be answered.

To me, the thesis "**ASSEMBLING PLURALITY**" represents a reflection on experience. Experience in the matter of experience of space related to culture as well as in other aspects. The bigger the contrast between cultures the more explicit the self appears; suddenly I was able to distinguish and to discover things for granted from a different point of view.

I enjoyed the game of mixing and overlaying structures and finally finding them in a new context.

As Udo Weilacher determined, urban design should possess some lack of definition. Not because areas have been disregarded or left untouched but rather because of the idea of the concept of emptiness, which provides the possibility for open space to be acquired. Free space is intended to encourage local practices and actions. The drawings and images are intended to illustrate some scenarios of possible situations and happenings.

I recognized a strong motivation to develop alternative models of housing. The mixture of social groups, functions, urban farming and housing etc., allows a comprehensive experience of space. Neighborhoods which show a variety of characteristics establish an image of plurality without separation.

We should think about creating minimal private space with additional "shared plus space". This idea gives people the chance to extend their personal fields and creates correlations with "personal space outside the own walls".



People identify with their environment and they are proud to be part of it. We want to participate actively and be able to co-determine in current societal conventions. If preconditions are met, adaptation of space is promoted and it establishes trust in one's surroundings.

As far as I am concerned, these aspects are important for a livable environment and I examine our task, the task of architects and urban planners, to create space which is able to gather these aspects.

Unfortunately, many current developments of housing in Korea still dismiss these ideas. Also over designed space does not encourage acquiring, but rather passive behavior.

We do not want to confer shapes, but rather reflect and find out why and how they work well. What do they encourage? How can we develop them further? How can we combine them and arrange them in a new order?

# APPENDIX

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## MAPS, AERIAL IMAGES

Graphics are based on maps/aerial views:

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