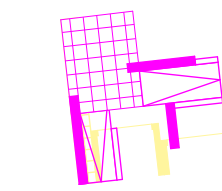


Vocabulary of Interventions

“A place where one can be seen”*

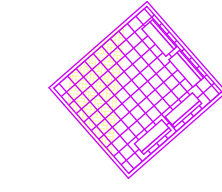
*bell hooks in the book *Belonging: A Culture of Place*, 2019. Specifically, the essay “A Place Where the Soul Can Rest.”

Especially in the suburban context, care and the labor and individuals connected to it is systematically devalued and hidden in the single-family home. Aids that support those with lack of mobility are often stigmatized and hidden away. To counteract isolation or (violent) exclusion *places where one can be seen* are integral to becoming aware of each other's struggles and needs, to (inter)connect and practice civility.* Here, the notion is expanded to include the importance of destigmatisation of elements that signify dependency.



Ramps

Necessary for the mobility of those that rely on a wheelchair or have difficulties walking stairs, they additionally become elements that signify presence.

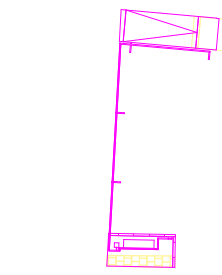


Benches

Places to rest, meet, talk, connect, see and be seen. Their location and even existence are of great importance regarding a person's ability to uphold a social network and take part in public life.

Squares

(Small) squares may create room for the other mentioned elements. Depending on their layout, materiality and design, they can draw attention.



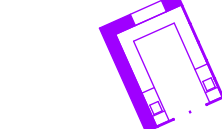
Railings

They support safe movement through the environment. Often plainly executed elements, contrasting or bold colors may facilitate destigmatization and their use with decreasing vision.

Commoning

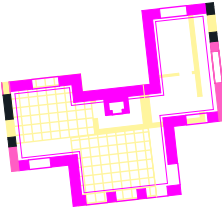
*From the book *Housing the Co-Op: A Micro-Political Manifesto*. edited by Sascha Delz, Rainer Hehl, and Patricia Ventura, 2022. Pages 36, 30. Specifically, the chapter "Claims for Action."

Macro-political change is enacted through micro-political action of cooperative practices, part of which can be the commoning of resources, skills, knowledge and reproduction. Public and private actors share responsibilities to decommodify and sustainably increase use value of neighborhoods, including creating “qualitative architecture with social identity and value”.* Regarding the systemic devaluation of reproductive labor and care, common space is where “social relations are reimagined and redefined in an equitable way.”*



Common Kitchen

Two or more households may share the work of sustaining each other. A common kitchen may also facilitate the inclusion of those that have difficulties sustaining themselves individually.



Dining Hall

At a certain scale and in combination with a common kitchen, these reproductive tasks may be transformed into domestic services with professionalized and paid labor. The ritual of eating together becomes more accessible and inclusive.

Common Living Room (with Fireplace)

The sharing of living rooms can decrease the total living space per inhabitant, strengthen community, and facilitate the supervision of children.



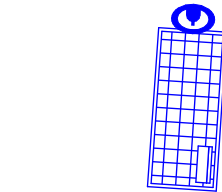
Herbal / Vegetable Garden and Green House

A possibility to share and accumulate skills and knowledge (inter-generationally).



Carsharing

If the use of the predominant car is less individualized, the corresponding infrastructure (garages and sealed surfaces) may be unbuilt.



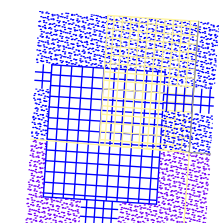
Fountain

Access to water significantly increases the quality of stay in (semi-) public spaces.

Bonding and Bridging

*From the book *Housing the Co-Op: A Micro-Political Manifesto*. edited by Sascha Delz, Rainer Hehl, and Patricia Ventura, 2022. Pages 12, 13.

Bonding and Bridging is a concept adapted from the book “Housing the Co-op: A Micro-political Manifesto”. Bonding refers to the ties that a regulatory framework forges between the members of the co-op (creating social capital) while bridging allows for interaction with and permeability towards external actors.* Not the whole neighborhood can be expected to join the co-op (or become part of an integrous community), but those who sympathize may profit from bridging. This could mean gaining access to the communal resources by opening plot limits and reducing fencing or utilizing new semi-public spaces within the neighborhood.



Merging of Two or Several Plots

The lifting of plot limits allows for densification.

Removing/ Reducing Fencing or Other Separating Elements

Through common use of gardens, elderly may profit from help with maintenance while children gain access to larger areas for play.

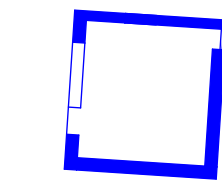
Area Inaccessible to Humans

The concept might be expanded to apply to the residents' relation to More-Than-Humans. A first step may, for example, be to replace lawns with wild meadows.

Adaptability

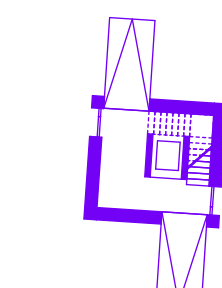
*Avi Friedman in the book *The Adaptable House: Designing Homes for Change*, 2002.

Homes are often seen as finished and unchangeable objects. Their layout and design (for example placement and size of windows and room sizes), often assign one room a specific function.* Especially single-family homes (between the 50s and 80s) were designed with the nuclear family in mind. With accelerating demopgraphic change, a changing society and family constellations, adaptability becomes integral if valuable resources are to be preserved. Besides smaller spatial interventions, a nexus of homes used by a co-op leaves more room for flexibility to match the spatial needs of its members.



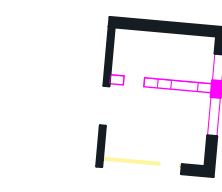
Multipurpose Spaces

Could house guest rooms, offices, small businesses and workshops and rooms for sport courses, thus introducing mixed uses into the neighborhood. Guest rooms, for example, prevent inner vacancy that is typical in single-family home neighborhoods by allowing for the release of rooms for new residents that had previously been reserved for visiting friends and family.



External Stairs (with Elevator)

Stairs may be externalized to release space for rooms within the homes.



Furniture as Walls

May divide (open) spaces. When rooms remain a grander size (for example in shared flats for elderly) instead of inserting another wall a separation is carried out with furniture. It is easily removed should the caring needs of a resident demand for more space (for example introduction of a nursery bed).