

### 아바트 [apat]

the first prototype of south koreas residential typology »apat« landed 1962 in mapo, central seoul. far away from being welcomed warmly by its prospective users, the safety and possibility of living healthily so far away from ground had to be proven by testing it with animals at first.

#### urbanisation

with the end of the korean war in 1953, not only millions of refugees were coming back into a devastated country but also its impoverished rural population was moving towards



urban centres. has the republic of korea still been an agricultural culture in the 60s, with some 3/4 of the population dispersed over the country, it would have doubled its urban population within only 20 years, more than tripled it within half a generation.

#### THE korean typology

predominantly 19 floor high apartment blocks accommodating almost exclusively two sizes of apartments: the



79m<sup>2</sup>- ,and the 109m<sup>2</sup>-type. cast in reinforced concrete. reproduced throughout the country. this very typology alone made, no matter at what cost, urbanisation possible. it is now the home to more than half of the entire south-korean population.

#### success

being about double the financial effort than for a residential unit in the [two to three story rising] typology of the »villa«, the »apat« still is the one very typology of desire: the place where three quarters of the countries human population wants to live in.



census [2005]

where do you want to live?« [2008]

#### land

»... new towns were built on ground that sustained a rich and unique history. they were totally ignored. these historical traces were inconveniences that had to be erased. together with their architecture, the old living places quickly disappeared. if there was a mountain, it had to be levelled; if there was a valley, it had to be filled in; if there was a river, it had to be redirected. the korean architect chung guyon (1945–) has charged that there is no longer any land, there is only area for development. yet we rejoiced in our belief that a new era had been created. there was certainly no sense of community in the modern korean city. because the absolute goal was to reach a certain number – a politician's campaign promise that had to be delivered during the given term in office – only quantities and numerals were defined. this was never a city in the first place. it was merely an amassing of real estate, a crippled city. though this city should have failed, and though once was

surely enough, the rise in real estate prices made its residents monetarily happy. these agglomeration sprang up all over korea. because all these cities were built in the exact same way, there was no way of distin-

guishing one place from another. agglomerated monstrosities devastated the whole country. here, there is no

urban civility (civitas) only an agglomeration of buildings (urbs). the bigger problem was that this went beyond the building of new towns. in the name of redevelopment and betterment, old cities that had long been our homes were all razed. ...«



[landscript, seung-h-sang, 2009; isbn 978-89-301-0361-9]



dalseogu, daegu; source: naver.map



standard floorplan 79 m² apartments



This design-studio module is focussing on the (re-)development of a piece of urban tissue with the objective to create a predominantly residential though poly-functional sustainable urban module.

THE korean residential typology, the »apat« will be scrutinized for its qualities and performances. The research into its defects in catering for 21st century requirements, needs and desires will result into proposals for physical, energetically, sociological and demographic adaption, with a focus on spatial qualities: the apa<sup>2</sup>!

The site of this project is yeongnamwoobang-town 1-cha, dalseogu, daegu, home of 836 apartments:

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built	1995 - 1997
area	29.745 m²
built-up area	6.402 m <sup>2</sup>
coverage ratio	21%
gross floor area	94.924 m²
FAR (floor area ratio)	250%

the 3 ha measuring plot is dominated by four 19-floor/62m high, 93m long and 15m deep apartmentblocks, accommodating a total of 836 residential units: the two southern blocks 101 and 102 provide a total of 456 apartments of the 79m<sup>2</sup>-type, the two northern blocks 380 apartments of the 109m<sup>2</sup>-type. a single-storied, 7,5m deep two-piece commercial strip on the southern blocks distance space towards the south is inhabited in 4,2m modules by a mixture of about 30 restaurants, shops, hairdressers, dry-cleaners, bakeries, et al.

exclusive of these commercial units, the plot is framed by a 2m high wall, allowing access only via the semi-controlled access points in the northern and southern centres; hence the entrances to the apartment blocks are approached internally, from the plots centre.

How could the apartment-buildings [101, 102, 103, 105] as well as their surroundings, shops, underground-parking, outdoor-space, ... be transformed into a prototypical urban module that is adapted (and could further adapt) to the demographic, social, energetic, spatial, transportational, economical, ... changes in the requirement-profile? In order to act ecologically and economically responsible, you are expected to keep as much of the existing structures as possible/arguable and improve the ensemble by adding & substracting, restructuring and -programming, connecting and re-connecting.



standart floor plan [here: 103 and 105] 109 m<sup>2</sup> units; 1:1000



### approach

#### privacy and anonymity

starting from j.g.ballards short story »billenium« [1962], the issues of extreme urban density and privacy were researched into.



collage: park hye-won



#### drawing: lee da-bin

#### space

by turning the apartment-towers verticality by 90° into horizontality, experimental, vertical residential units were created and played with.



#### demography

can this monofunctional typology, built within less then half a century and now giving home to the majority of the



ageing korean society: kim young-gun, kim sung-won

korean people, adapt to the fast changing lifestyle and demographic shifts? and how could it house smaller but more open units, how could it become the village that has been lost.

whilst the apat might be catering for small families, one child and the mother at home, it sure does not for a deviation of that blueprint.



#### concept ``new community": kim young-gun, kim sung-won

#### social

the harsh cut between private and public space does encourage neither social relations nor allow for informal support amongst neighbours.



access analysis: moon soo-jin, lee kyu-seub

drawing: moon soo-jin

the space between the apartment blocks is almost exclusively designated to individual motorized mobility: private cars: one to two floors largely unused underground car parking plus the 75% of tarmac on the terraced ground-level. green is reduced to max. 3m deep strips, along the blocks, on top of a retention wall plus some pine trees in the areas in which the  $\delta h$  has been compressed into to allow for horizontal parking on a topography that once was sloping down by about 5 meters and are now too steep to be parked on. a monofunctional sandbox of surprisingly generous dimension completes along with recycling collection yards and plastic-covered descents into the underworld the highly utilitarian arrangement.

is this centre court far from being inviting for non-motorized social, creative and leisurely use, the apartment blocks, starting flat on the ground, are blocking the plot not only from being transited on foot but also blocking the yard from being ventilated by the winds which are rising and falling on the waryong-san mountain, situated north of the site. furthermore the whole plot is walled in, allowing for entrance only in the central axis.



### ground floor: the space between

### proposals

- \_opening the plot, allowing for green, off-road pedestrian transition
- \_opening the ground-floor-zone of the apartment-blocks
- \_parkscape with cows & ponds
- \_underground and street-attached parking



drawing: kim young-gun, kim sung-won

the lifts stop every 2 floors only. in case you walk up the stairs, out of curiosity, looking for something, you will pass all floors, the first, the second, the third, the fourth, the fifth, the sixth, the seventh, the eighth, the ninth, the tenth, the eleventh, the twelfth, the thirteenth, the fourteenth, the fifteenth, the sixteenth, the seventeenth, the eighteenth and the nineteenth.

then the roof: the roof is off-limits. locked away. and nothing to mention on the way up. what if...



section: moon soo-jin, lee kyu-seub

... there would be semi-private space interspersed, in various levels of privacy allowing for unnamed various purposes.







shared spaces



green maroo & roof

schemes: kim young-gun, kim sung-won



model: kang byeong-gon, jo seung-wook



# interspersed shared spaces: the maroo and the roof



model and fly-through stills: lee da-bin, kim eun-ah

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there are two common access strategies for the korean apat building: the access corridor, a narrow aisle attached to the façade and the block being accessed by a number of vertical cores serving 2 units/floor. the lack of privacy of the latter one is paying for its extended opportunities for social interaction for which the two-winged cores do not cater at all.





model: choi soo-jeong, lee eun-seom

with several proposals we were trying to merge the advantages of both strategies, allowing privacy <u>and</u> space for social contact.



model: kim da-eun, yoon hae

the saving of 50% of the elevator-stops by offering liftstations on mid floor level, serving 4 units on two floors in the two-winged layout finds its downside in the non-universality of the access: one flight of stairs are always left to be climbed/descended.

a range of proposals, equipping the building with balconies on various levels, connected to the units with ramps, solves this discrimination, enables young and old, allows the disabled and the toddlers, shopping carts and wheelchairs to use the building equally.

model: moon soo-jin, lee kyu-seub

by mixing small, one-person-units with family-sized flats and 2 person apartments, a socially sustainable mixture of young and old singles with small and big families is generated, allowing for symbiotic village-like exchange of these little informal helps which would otherwise require anonymous professional help.

the natural growing and shrinking of families according to the periods of life is respected in the units ability for change: non-load-bearing walls can be installed or removed. large sliding doors enable the residents to share a living room with another generation as well as to provide privacy to separate parties.

### Unit 1 + Unit 2 + Unit 3



scheme: kwon yeong-deok, woo in-ho

### access and flexibility: universal design



floorplans: park hye-won, kwon taek-jo







Unit 2 = 2 people - Create work room for student or businessma



Unit 3 = 3 people Create work room for parents and child

today's world is changing in very high speeds. according to these changing became our society »diversity«. diversity of the society have the gender, age, economic power, race, looks like,

hobbies, and living patterns, etc. however, this diversity in contemporary society that holds vessel, the space is very uniform. space operated elements that private space to show itself inside the public one. therefore, we propose diversification of paradigm of residential space. the diversification of paradigm does not indicate a radical change in the structure of private space but it is more a transformation in the way of using the space of the house. release form from its identity as a static object and to allow it to move and change in time will try the show »diversity«. [kim bo-ram, koo na-hyeon]



scribble: kim bo-ram, koo na-hyeon



## design for living



stoically repeated throughout the block, throughout the quarter, throughout the country: the common apat, for good and for bad, is lacking any sign of individuality. proposals for a change of the buildings appearance ranged from adding a shelf-like layer, to be filled individually by the inhabitants, with balconies, rooms, maroos, technical equipment, to transforming the extruded block into a sculptural form.

playful within the rigid grid given, loosening restrictions, opening possibilities, adding or substracting.



yeongnam-woobang 1-cha, photo: jan schabert



model: kim da-eun, yoon hae



model: moon soo-jin, lee kyu-seub

# the façade: open layers



section: kim bo-ram, koo na-hyeon



model: seo bo-seong, bong myeong-hyeong 15



http://koreantypologies.net

#### apa<sup>2</sup>

was the architectural studio for and by 3rd year architecture students at the department of architecture at keimyung university daegu/korea spring term 2012.

the studio was held by jan schabert prof. kim hyo-jin prof. kim ju-yean prof.

with guest crits by martina günther prof. anne kleinlein dipl.-ing.

jan schabert (publ.) apa<sup>2</sup>–approaches towards a korean typology münchen: koreantypologies, 2012 16 pages; numerous illustrations

original edition © 2012 koreantypologies, architekturusw, münchen, germany print & binding: laser-line, berlin/d; paper: fcs-certified, 170 g/m² 7.500 원 5,-€