MORIYAMA HOUSE - RYUE NISHIZAWA - 3-21-5 NISHI-KAMATA, OTA KU, TOKYO, JAPAN - COMPLETION YEAR 2005

This project is a new way of private and community living. The house is designed according to the principle of "house-as-city" because the architect wanted to realize the formation of urbanity on the inside of the building. This way of designing as a community results in the fact that inside and outside are very well connected. Usually we would expect a lot of space that is necessary, but contrary, Ryue Nishizawa managed to build the entire project using only 130,09 square meters. So the rest of the 263,32 square meters of total floor area could be used as outside communal space. The total amount of living space is 263 square meters organized in building units varying from 1 to 3 stories high. These units are all prefabricated boxes with extremely thin 6 centimeter thick load-bearing walls that are reinforced with steel plates in order to have the possibility of making larger window openings.

SOCIAL LEVEL

The different inhabitants who occupy units of the Moriyama house must live in harmony with each other, because the total space that the inhabitants occupy is very small so they live close to each other. Although there is a lot of private space compared to the public space, they don't have a lot of privacy because the plot of land is so small. But the relation of garden areas and the buildings has been thought out in detail as well as the openings of the windows in order to give the inhabitants as much privacy as possible.

ECONOMICAL LEVEL

The space is used very carefully and the construction details are very high in order to maximize the possible interior space of the building units. The construction is thought out very well in order not to loose useful space.

TECHNOLOGICAL LEVEL

In order to maximize the interior space, the level of the construction details is very high. The walls of the house have a thickness of only 6 centimeters. This could be realized because the architect used load-bearing walls that are reinforced with steel plates in order to make larger window openings.

INDIVIDUAL DIMENSION

The individual spaces are the different building units. Building A,B,C and D are occupied by the client. E is the maids quarters and the rest of the units are rented by other people. Although there seems to be a lot of visual connection, the architect tried to place the windows in order to try to keep a lot of privacy. He positioned the buildings carefully so that the windows opposite are offset.

COMMUNAL DIMENSION

The house consists of a lot of communal spaces in between the building units. This gives the Moriyama house a public as well as a private character. The house is considered as "house-as-city" because there is the formation of urbanity in between the private living boxes.

URBAN DIMENSION

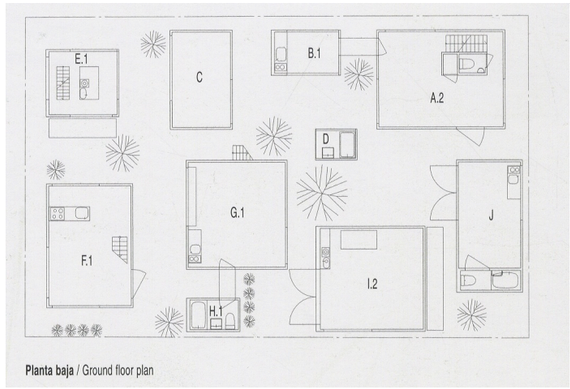
The Moriyama house is located in a suburb of Tokyo. The plots of land are rather small so the space is scarce and must be used carefully. The plot of the Moriyama House on its turn is also divided in different units with public spaces in between, which gives the house an urban character because the architect considered it as "house-as-city". On two sides the complex touches the street, and the lot is not encircled by a fence so everyone has free access to the spaces in between the "boxes". And those who indeed enter end up noticing that it is actually possible to share in the life of the residents.

KEYWORDS

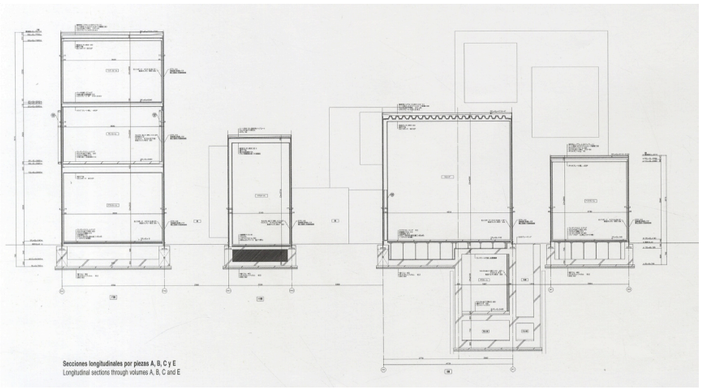
Social and Economical factors
Private developments, medium-cost housing, free market housing
Site Context
- Urban Situation
Suburban development / Sprawl
Use /Function
- Concepts related with Use/ Function
Flexibility / Perfectibility
- Classification depending on users
Multi-generational housing / Age mix

Spatial Organization
- Building organizations related to access to dwellings: Direct access
Material/ Materiality
Metal
Use /Function
- Classification depending on users
Housing for young people
Perception (of the building or dwelling)/ Appearance
Weightlessness / Massiveness

Perception (of the building or dwelling)/ Appearance
Transparency
Morphology/Form
Box/Cube
Theorethical Concepts
Communal living / Forging a community
Technology
- Construction Technology and Design Systems
Modulation/ Grid Design Systems
Typology
- Building Typology
clustered low-rise

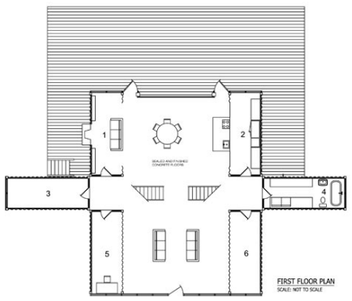


Planta baja / Ground floor plan


Secciones longitudinales por piezas A, B, C y E
Longitudinal sections through volumes A, B, C and E

COLLECTION 1
PREFABRICATED
HOUSING

12 CONTAINER HOUSE
ARCHITECT ADAM KALKIN



Floor-plans of 12 Container house (First Floor Plan. 12 container house)
Image 2 of 2

COLLECTION 2
COMMUNAL SPACES

12 CONTAINER HOUSE
ARCHITECT ADAM KALKIN

VILLAGGIO MATTEOTTI
ARCHITECT GIANCARLO DE CARLO