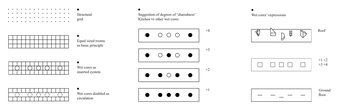
# Counter-Housing: Commoning Domestic Space in Berlin

*Counter-Housing* is a critical response to Berlin's housing crisis. It inscribes itself in the local counter-speculative movements and revisits radical principles analyzed in the theoretical statement *Room for Women: An Atlas of Feminist Housing Projects from the 1980s*. The proposal, both economical and architectural, stands as a prototype to supplement the housing stock by considering the city-owned plots around the current extension of the A100 city motorway.

Pushing the limits of traditional cooperative practices, the project proposes a public-commoning model – a cooperative of tenants on a site granted by the city. Through this hybrid structure, shielded from private ownership and speculative processes, the proposal seeks to secure lower rents, and greater accessibility and diversity.

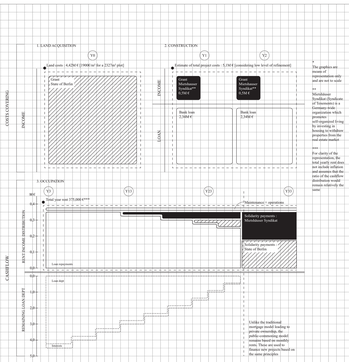
Architecturally, this translates to one basic structure: a grid of generous and equal-sized rooms that can be appropriated for various uses and do away with domestic hierarchies. Five metabolized wet cores choreograph possible use of space, varying in their configuration on each floor to suggest a gradient of "sharedness". Departing from traditional corridors, the cores provide circulation that weaves between, rather than avoids, housework. The roof stands as the exception to the building's systematic layout, where the wet cores emerge as playful extrusions and venues for collective leisure. The proposal understands the whole building as one house and blurs the boundaries between rooms, households, and dwelling units.



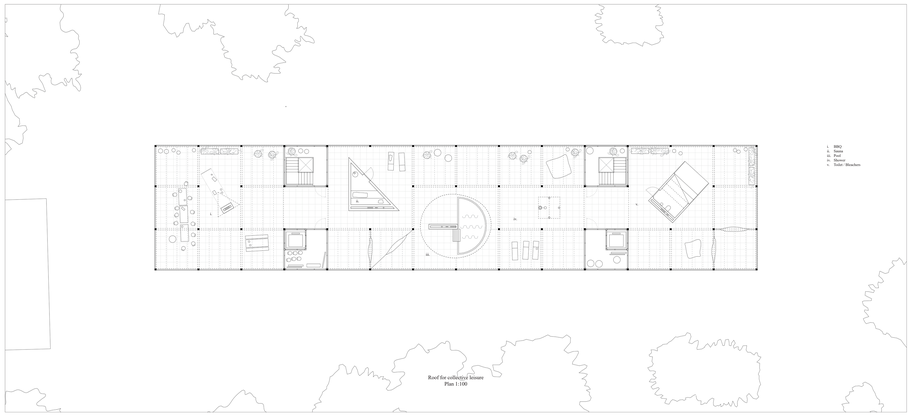


Carsyl Vignesult
Pier Vittorio Aureli / Jolanda Devalle / Amy Perkins

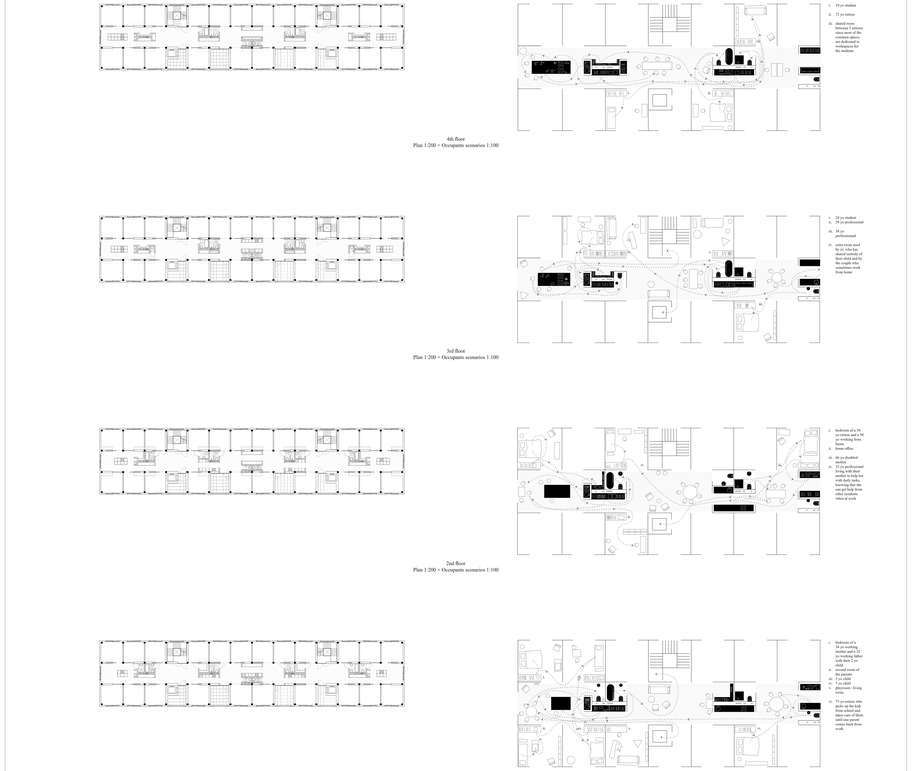
Fragments of Berlin's housing history
Contemporary struggle for affordable housing



Site plan / ano 1:500



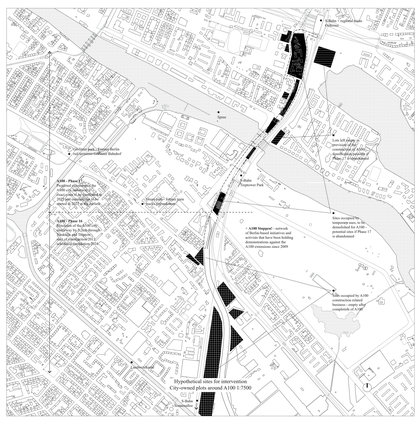

Roof for collective leisure
Plan 1:100

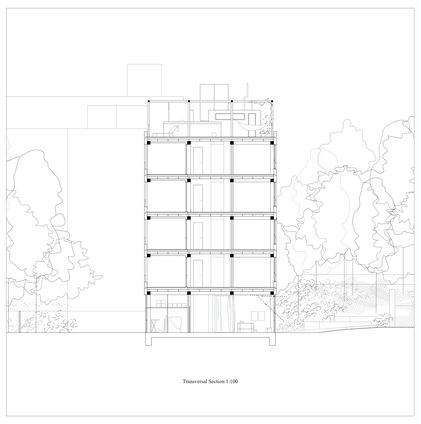


Roof characters from S-Bahn Ring

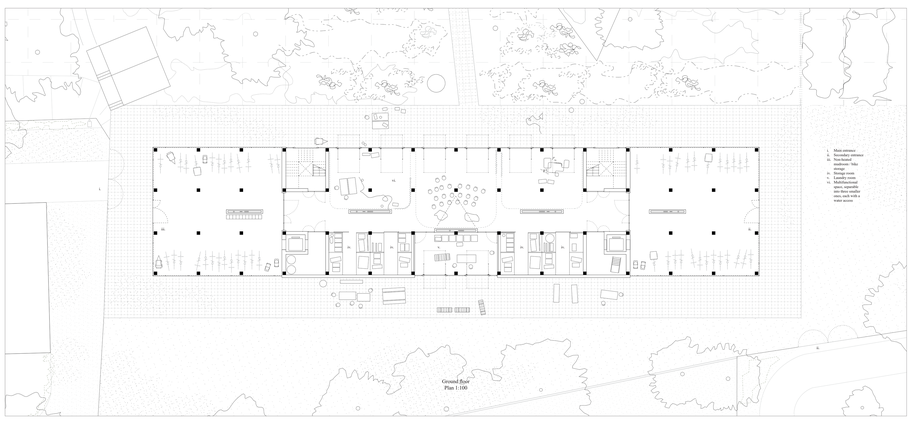
Pantry doubled as circulation

Equal sized rooms



Transversal Section 1:100




Ground floor
Plan 1:100

Public flexible ground floor