



MI CASA ES SU CASA

Mi Casa Es Su Casa is a co-housing initiative at 1 Charlotte Square, Newcastle upon Tyne. Designed to support homeless youth by offering affordable, stable, and an empowering living environments. Responding to the North East's high rates of youth homelessness. The project fosters independence, community, and personal growth. Residents participate in skill-building and shared responsibilities, contributing to a supportive and rehabilitative atmosphere.

The building's design, is inspired by the symmetrical grid of the listed façade. This emphasises the adaptability and interaction within the space. The ground floor hosts vibrant communal spaces including a shared kitchen, launderette, multifunctional room, café, and an indoor garden, which encourage social engagement and skill development. Upper floors offer flexible accommodation, from solo units to family spaces, with mobile and multifunctional elements that allow residents to personalise their homes.

The vertical internal layout mirrors urban apartment living, creating the sense of a building within a building. Walkways on the upper floors promote movement and connection. By blending functional design with social purpose, Mi Casa Es Su Casa creates a nurturing environment where young people can rebuild and reintegrate into society through a strong and inclusive community.



Strategic Design Decisions

The Building was designed by William Newton in 1770. 1 Charlotte Square has had many functions throughout its lifespan, from a house to a hotel, and now hosts a range of companies within.

1 Charlotte Square has many Georgian characteristics. A key focus through the project has been the facade’s symmetrical structure and how this informs the internal layout of the building.

The grid structure shows an analysis of understanding the building’s symmetry and rhythm from its facade and shell. This can inform the design potential of the interior spaces as well as the exterior spaces.

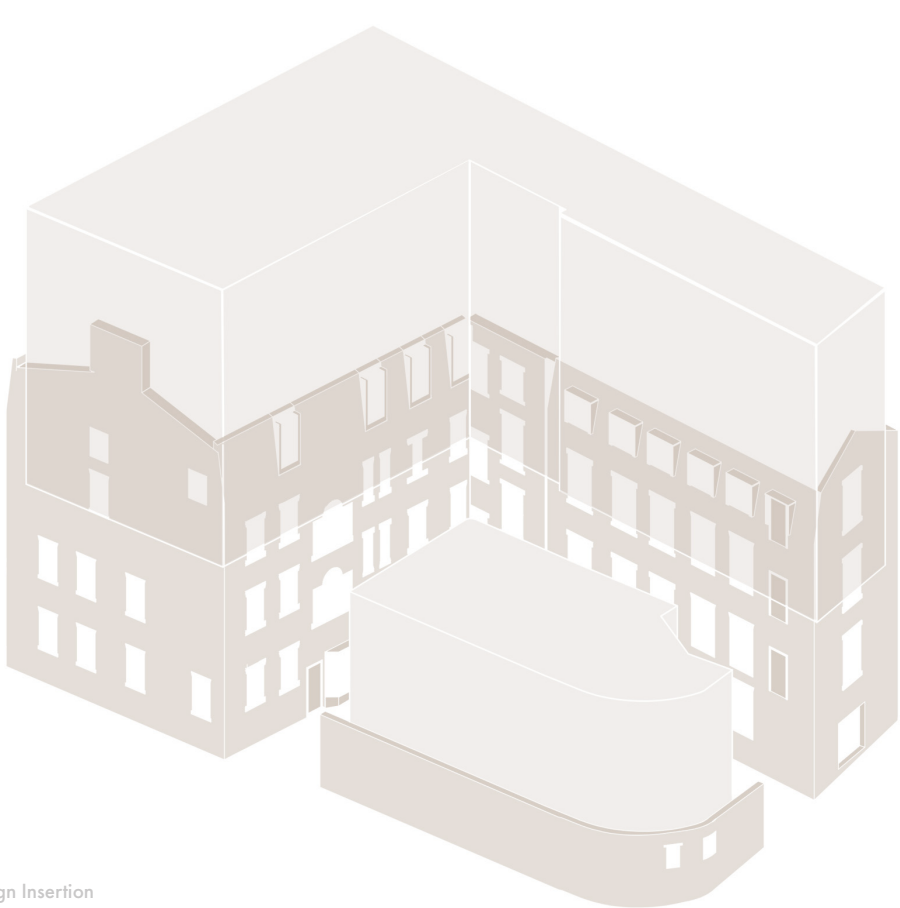
The grid structure creates an understanding of intervention strategies as well as the manipulation and adaptive potential of the building. This informs how a range of different spaces will be created within the site.

The layout of the building allows for consideration of zoning patterns. Creating the best outcome of the site’s design strategy.

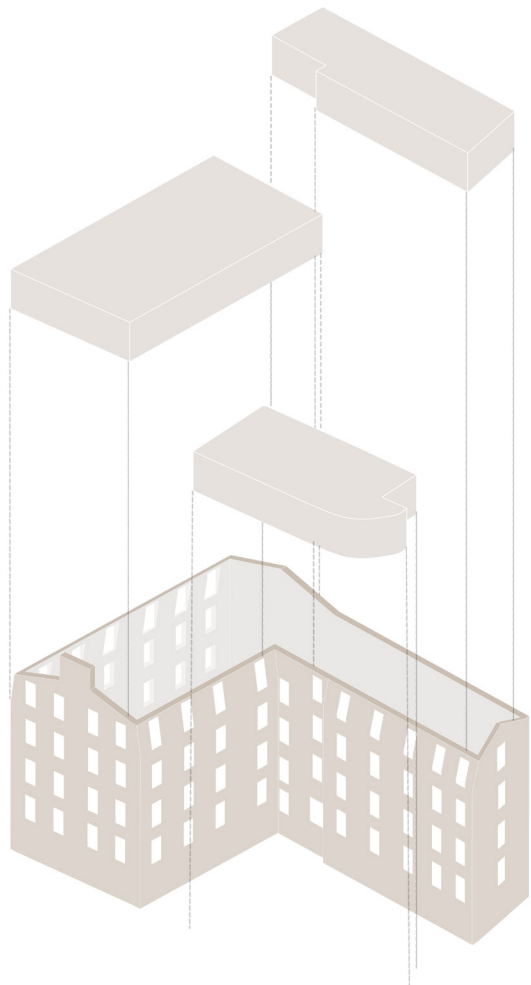
Site Building
Grade II Listed - Front Facade



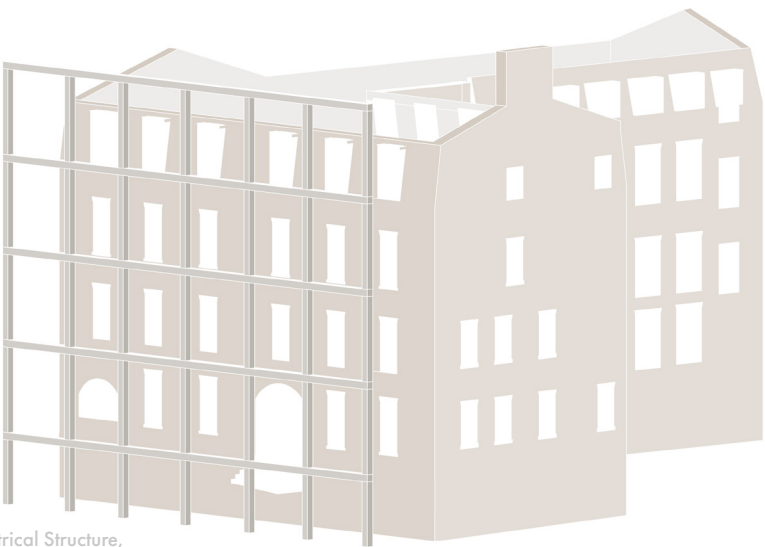
Design Insertion



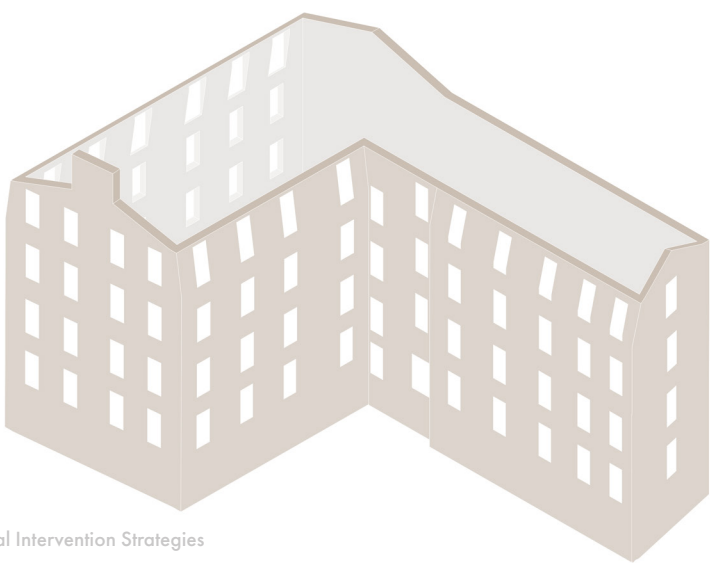
Separate the building into three zones.



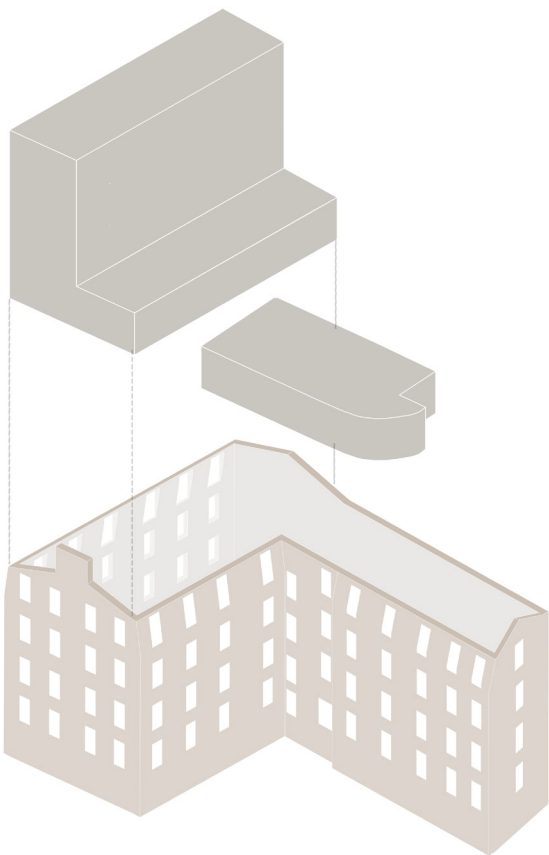
Facade Grid and Symmetrical Structure,
informing the internal Grid Structure.



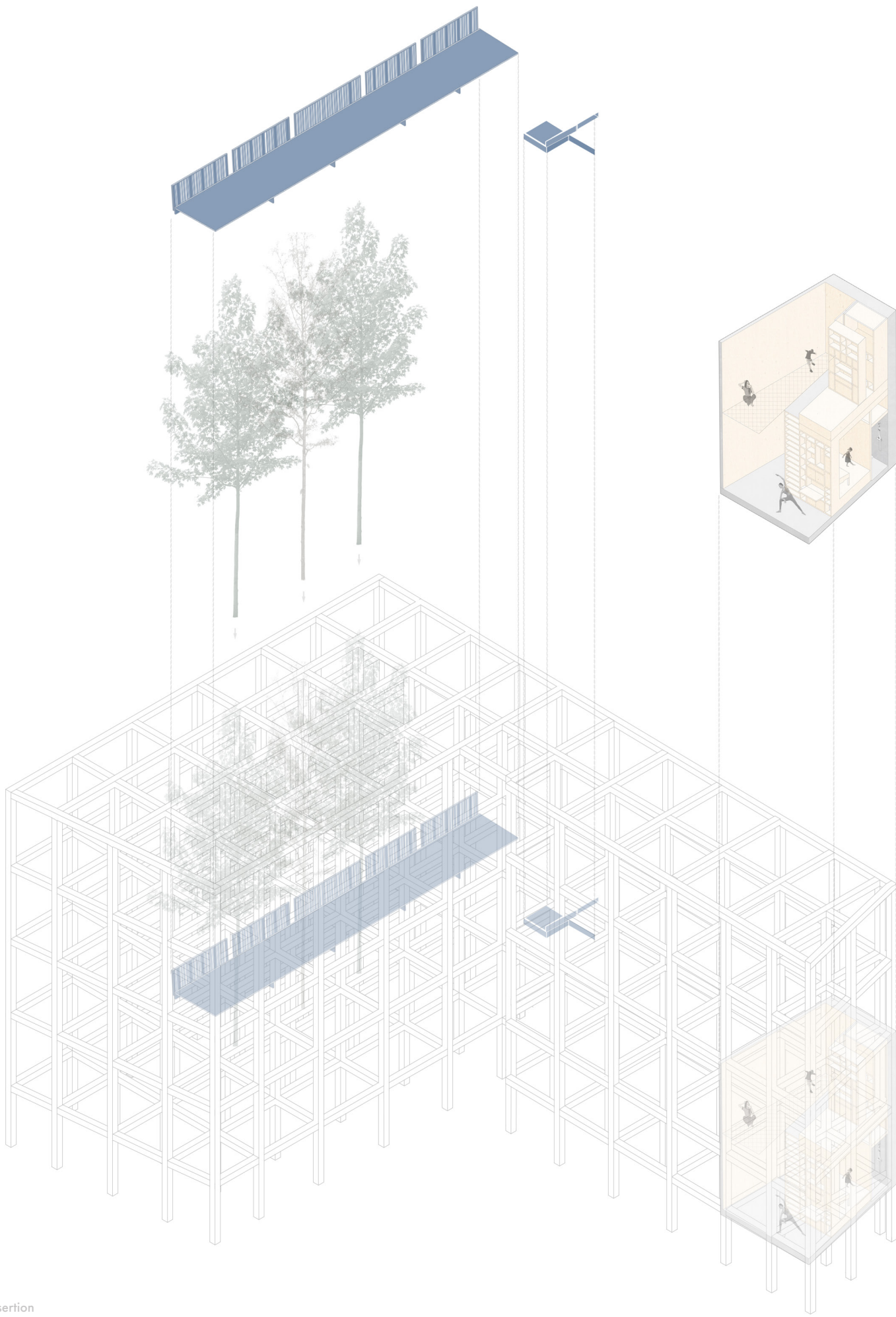
Internal Intervention Strategies



Communal Zones



Conceptual Insertion



A) Indoor garden - Void space on all floors allowing trees to grow through.

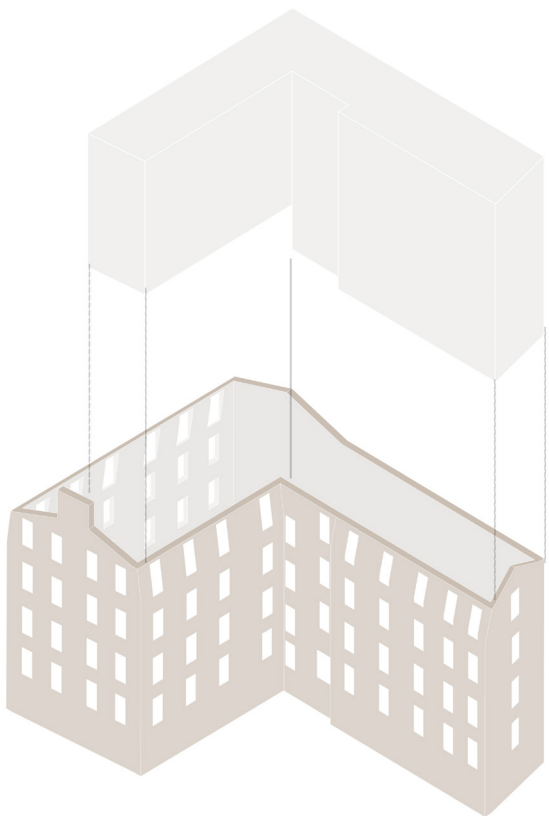
B) Functional space - On the ground floor of the main building, creating a building within a building effect and limiting noise pollution from affecting the accommodation spaces above.

C) Living space - Living spaces are located on the back of the main building and the back building. This provides privacy from the busy roads outside the building and provides security and privacy to the resident.

D) Community space - Coach house with a cafe open to the public. Which will run and be served by the residents, providing an income. There is also a multifunctional space that is used for entertainment, classes, and meetings. The community space is placed here to provide privacy and security to the residents within the main building.



Living Zones



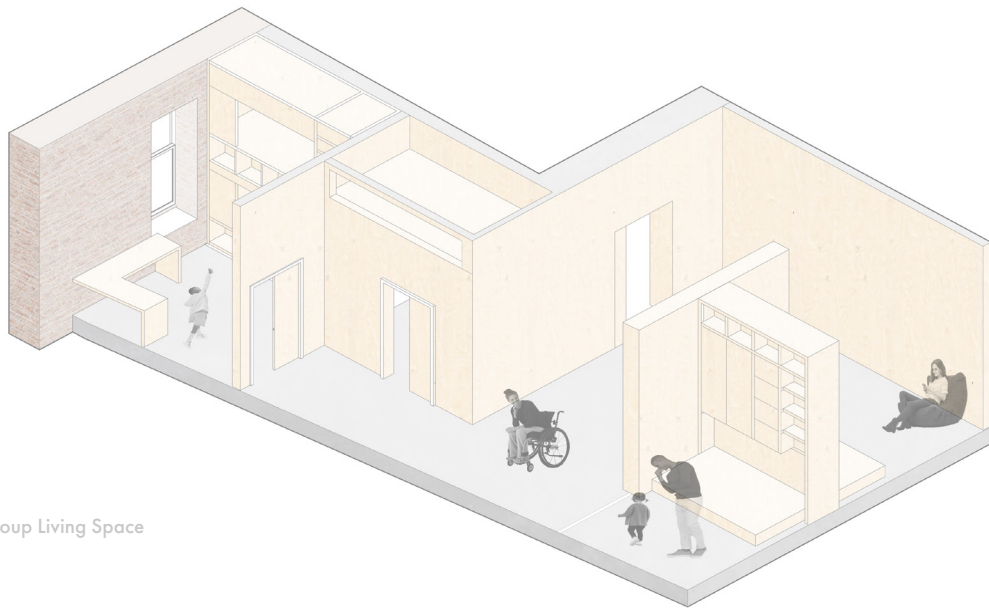
Spatial Interventions

From the understanding of the design strategy. The grid structure has created the opportunity for the interior to be informed. Allowing for the allocation of spaces to be determined. Living spaces within the design vary, this is to meet the needs of the user and their circumstances. Living spaces range from single spaces to double spaces, and also group spaces. There is also consideration of accessibility within the living spaces, so the site is suitable for all.

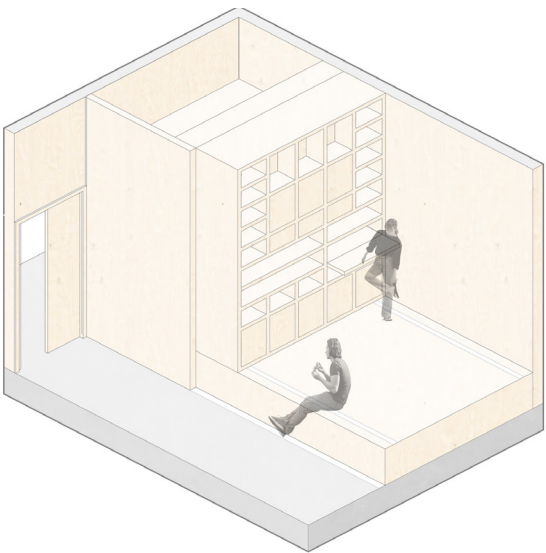
The living space incorporates movable elements such as movable wall units and sliding walls. This allows for the space to be utilised to its full potential. It also allows the user to design their own living space to meet their needs and demands without the designer taking over.



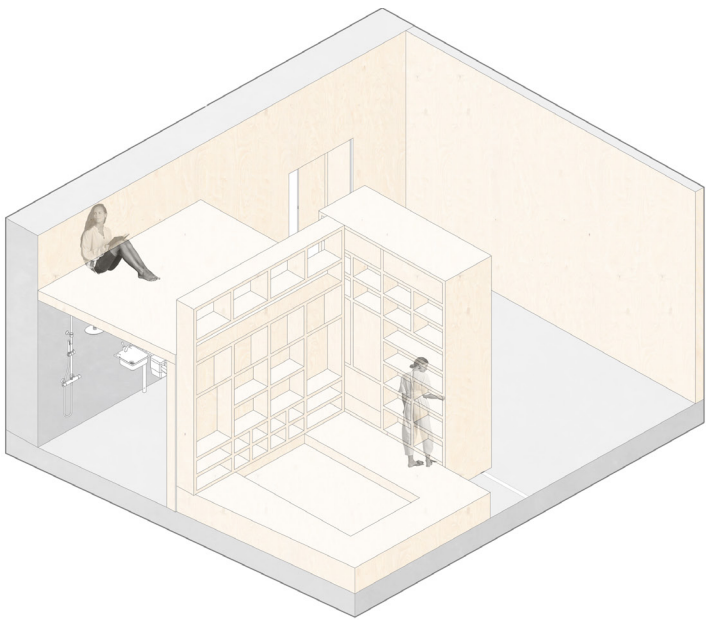
Wall Build Up



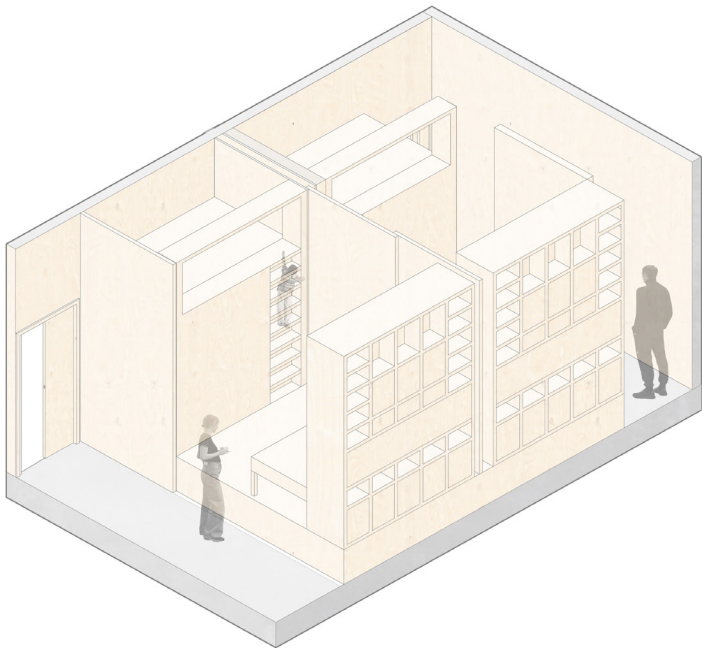
Accessible Group Living Space



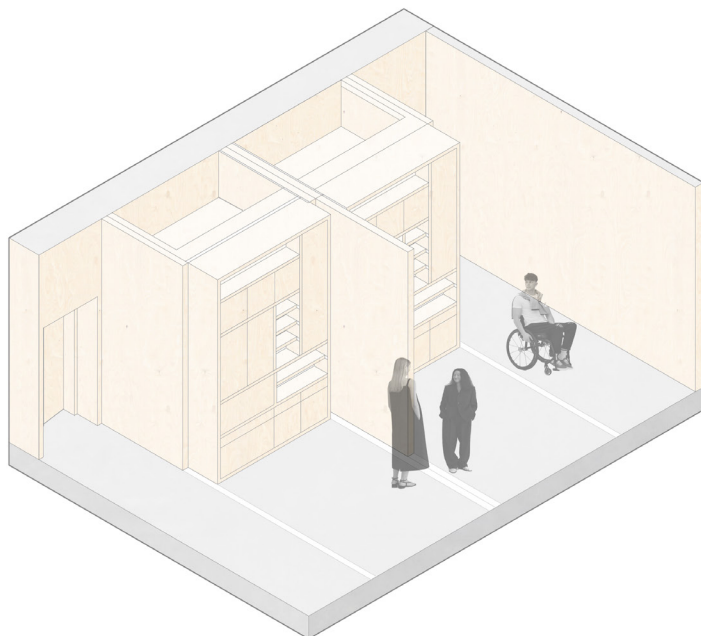
Single Living Space



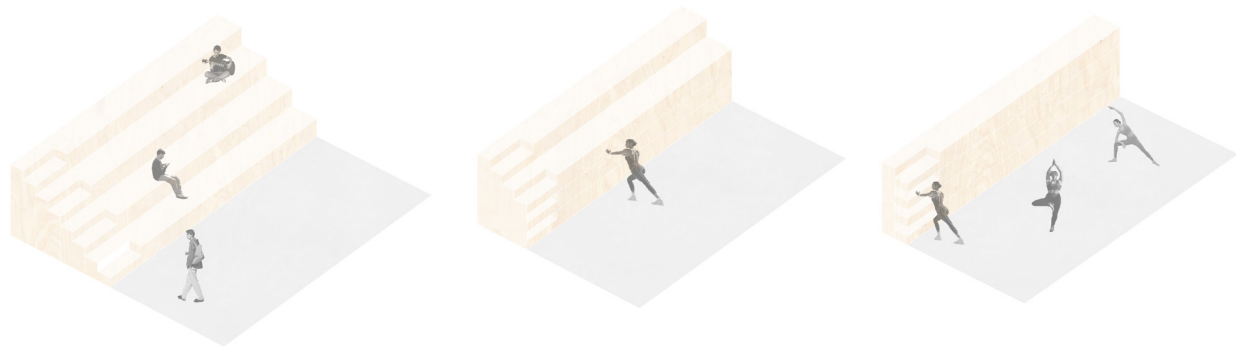
Accessible Single Living Space



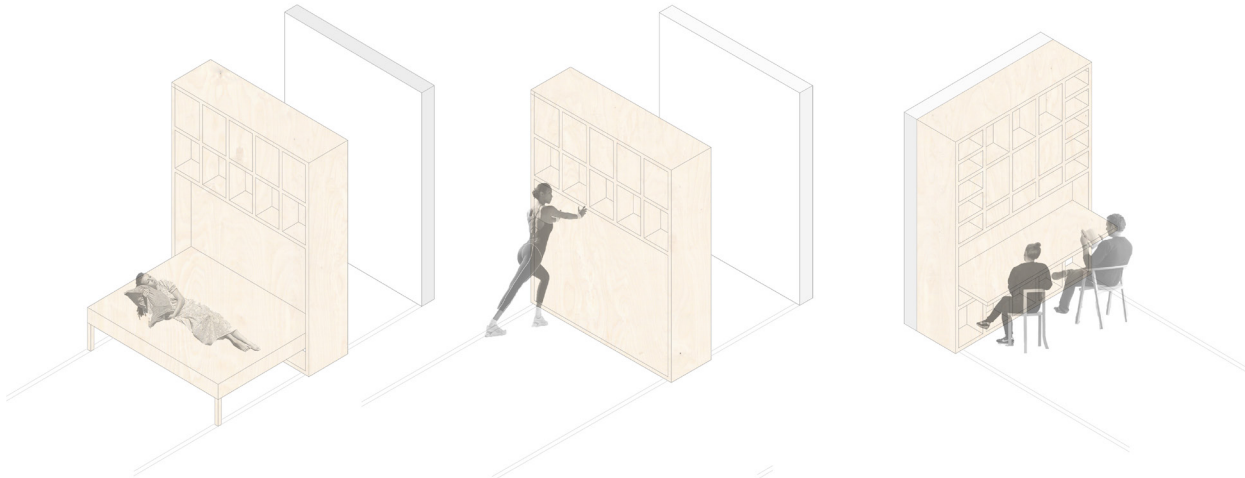
Double Living Space



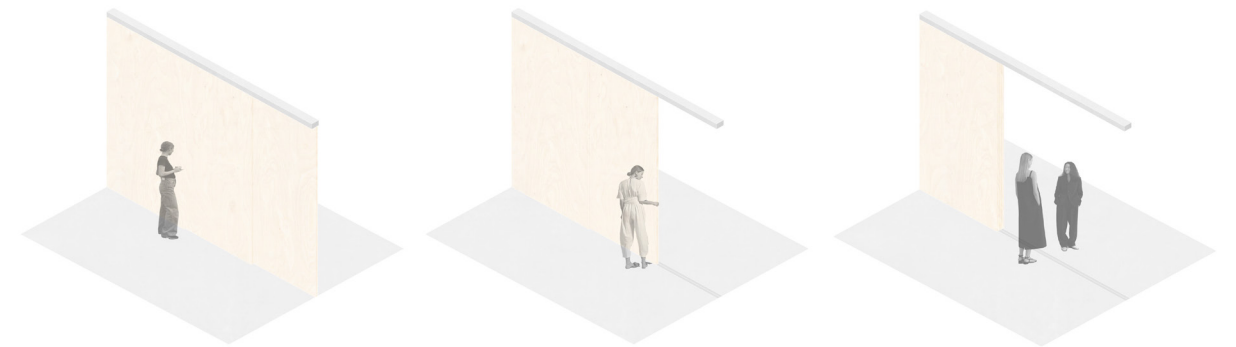
Accessible Double Living Space



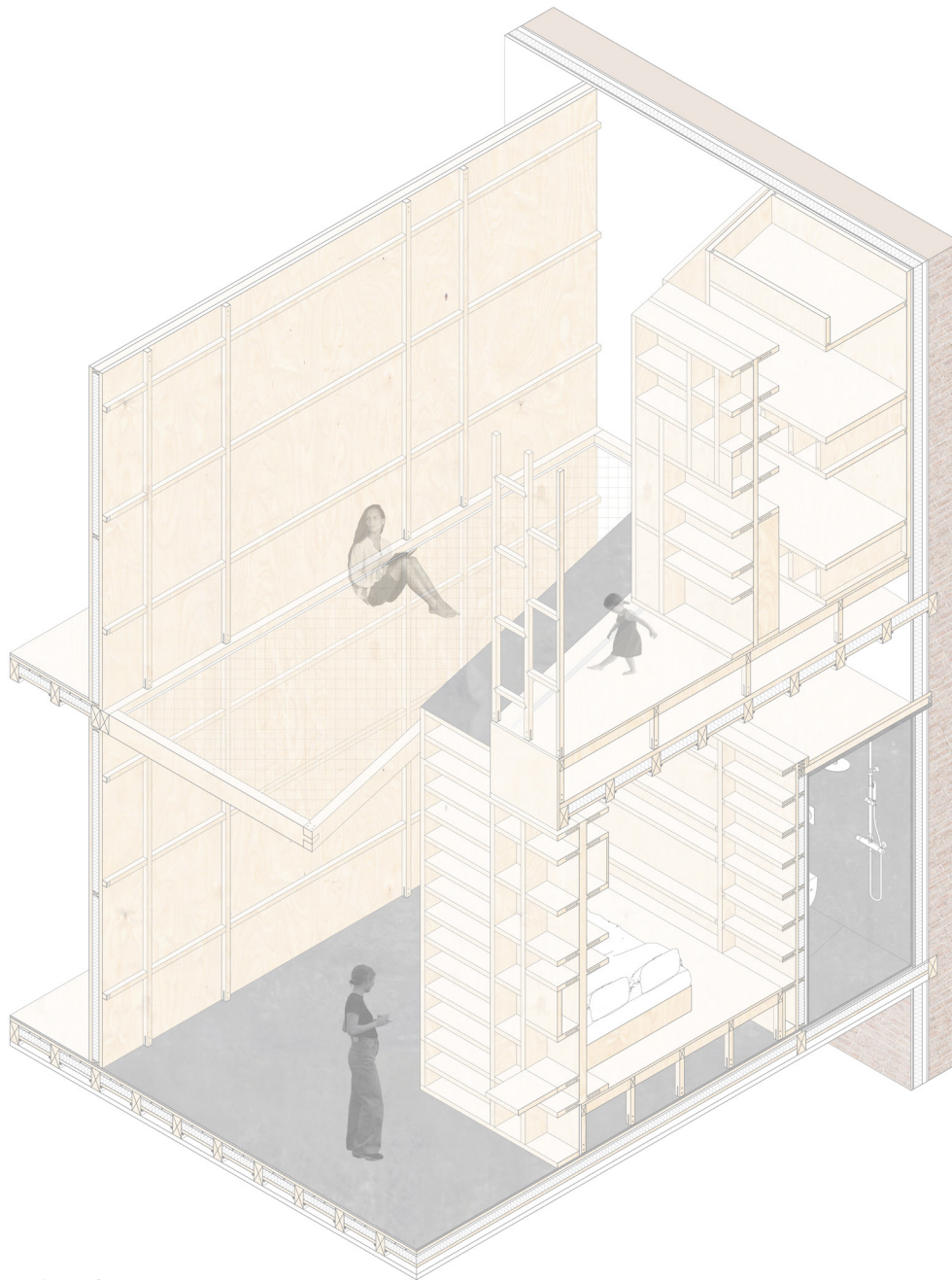
Bleaches



Moveable wall unit

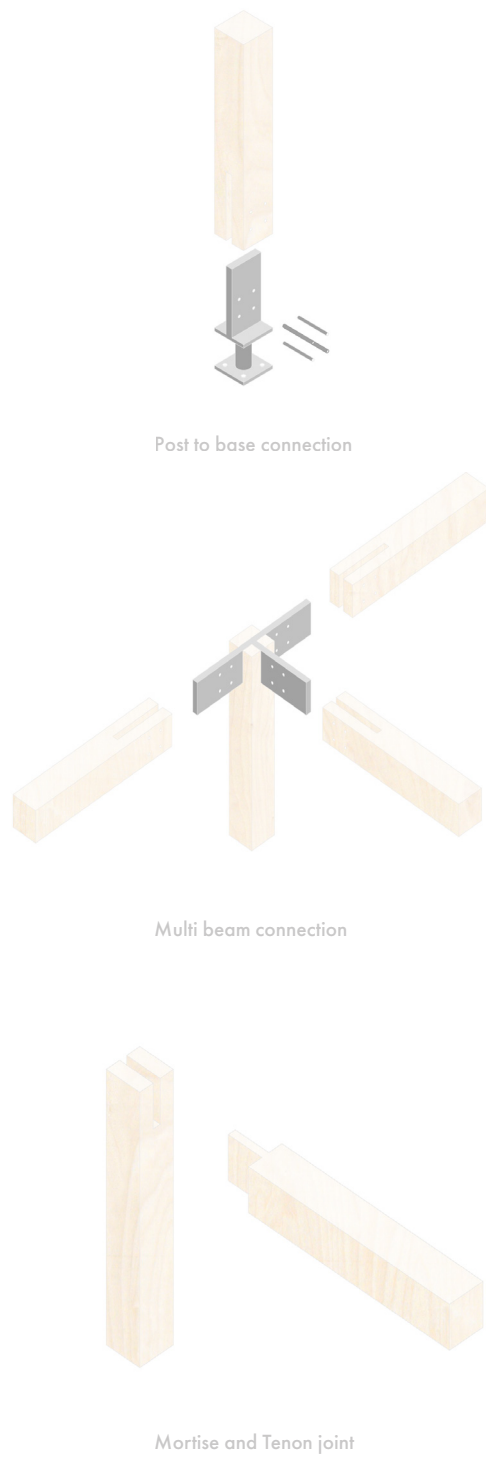


Sliding wall



Group Living Space





Third Floor

- A - Single Accessible Living Space
- B - Double Accessible Living Space
- C - Social Space
- D - Access
- E - Single Living Space
- F - Double Living Space
- G - Group Living Space

Second Floor

- A - Single Accessible Living Space
- B - Double Accessible Living Space
- C - Social Space
- D - Access
- E - Single Living Space
- F - Double Living Space
- G - Group Living Space

First Floor

- A - Group Accessible Living Space
- B - Double Accessible Living Space
- C - Social Space
- D - Access
- E - Single Living Space
- F - Double Living Space
- G - Group Living Space
- H - Roof Top Garden

Ground Floor

- A - Main Entrance / Reception
- B - Indoor Garden
- C - Laundry Room
- D - Kitchen / Dining / Social Space
- E - Access / Back Entrance
- F - Single Living Space
- G - Double Living Space
- H - Group Living Space
- I - WC
- J - Cafe
- K - Multifunctional Space
- L - Yard

