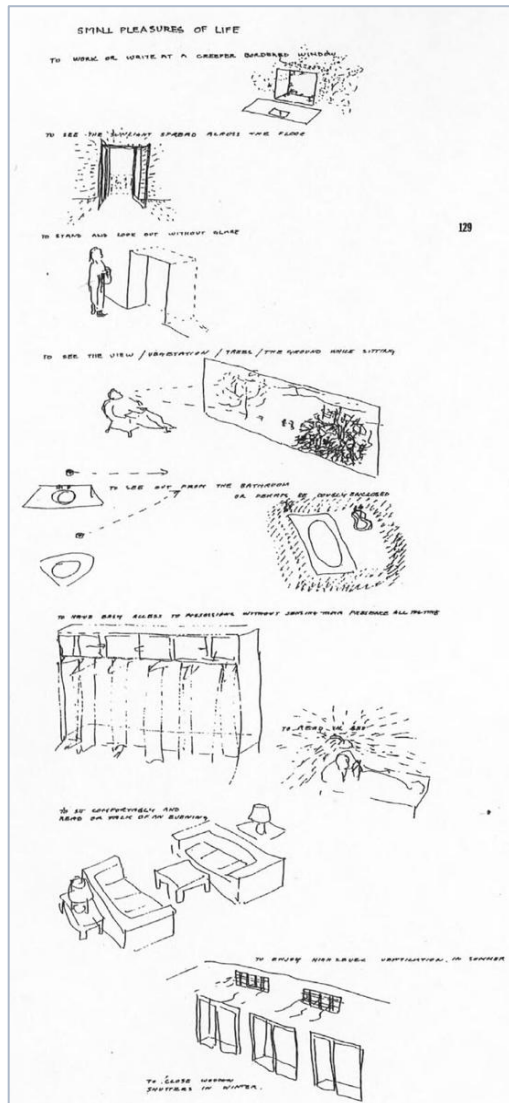
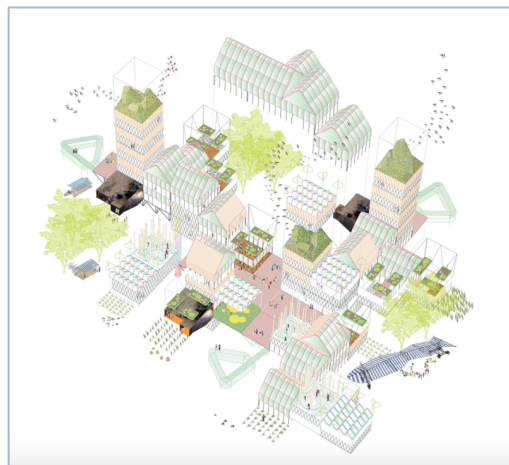


Arch509 Domestic Collectives: An introduction to housing

Sharon Haar, FAIA, NOMA, Professor (haar@umich.edu)
Wednesdays, (8:30) 9:00 am – 11:20 am
(In-person synchronous/some remote asynchronous)



Alison & Peter Smithson, Small pleasure of life, 1993.



Andrés Jaque/Office for Political Innovation, Vasby Lab Residential Compound, 2014.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What do our homes say about us as individuals and as a society, and how is this expressed through architecture and urbanism? In *Domestic Collectives* we will look broadly at the topic of housing, the building typology where the space of our domestic lives (the house) and the collective (the community or city) meet.

Housing is defined equally by universals such as the need for shelter and specifics such as location. It is also created through the procedures and protocols produced by economics, demographics, politics, race, and gender. While no one seminar can offer a comprehensive take on housing, *Domestic Collectives* will offer multiple frames of analysis. What makes a house a home? What makes a house housing? What are the impediments to providing safe, equitable, and affordable housing today? How do we study housing as simultaneously a project of architecture and an object of real estate?

Domestic Collectives will weave together multiple themes in recognition of the intersectional nature of “housing.” It will open the traditional understanding of the morphology and typology of housing to contemporary discourses of feminism, gender, and queer space; the reshaping of the city by neoliberalism; and urgent conversations around social and spatial justice.

The class will focus on North American and European examples and their “orbit”—projects in Asia, Latin America, and elsewhere that fall within the contemporary discourse of western architectural epistemologies. However, in its framing, *Domestic Collectives* offers a critique and rethinking of the ontological—material, social, cultural, political, gendered, racial—contexts of these examples. Through reading discussions, media, case studies, and projects students are encouraged to expand this frame of reference and in doing so reflect this knowledge back into the content of the class.

FORMAT

This seminar will run in person, meeting for 2.5 hours most weeks between 9:30am and 11:20am ET on Wednesdays and for the full 3 hours the first week and weeks when assignments are due. The additional assigned meeting time will take place asynchronously /remote allowing time to watch films or videos, listen to podcasts, or engage with other media. Assignments will allow for a variety of presentation formats and will build on one another. There will be several guest interlocutors over the semester.