



Quinta Da Malagueira
Alvaro Siza

Began 1977
Social Housing Collective

Background Research



Brief History of Evora:

Roman Rule: The Romans conquered the town in 57 BC and expanded it into a walled town (city walls and ruins of Roman baths) still remain.

Moorish Rule: the city was conquered by Moors under Tariq ibn-Zyad. During the period, the town slowly began to prosper again and developed into an agricultural center with a fortress and Mosque

Reconquest: in 1165, Gearald the Fearless launch an surprised attack and had successfully taken control and transformed the city into one of the most dynamic city in the Kingdom of Portugal.

Manuelime favour: During the Avis Dynasty (1385-1580), Evora became a major centre for humanities and artists. Evora also held large population of slave.

End of Liberal War: In 1834 Evora was the site of the surrender of the forces of King Miguel I, which marks the end of Liberal War. The variety of architectural styles, the palaces and the picturesque labyrinth of squares and narrow streets of the city centre are all part of the rich heritage of this museum-city.

First Republic and Estado Novo: During the First World War, Portugal fought alongside the Allies against the central Powers. This war would hurt the economy of Portugal and resulted in the creation of National Dictatorship.

Post World War II: New economic development projects and relocation of mainland Portuguese citizens. In 1961, the process of dissolution of the Portuguese Empire has began; however, Portuguese government refused to relinquish its colonies and resulted in the Colonial War which later triggers the Carnation Revolution.



The Aqueduct

Through highlighting pre-existing details, Siza demonstrates how architects' interventions could avoid "placelessness," and gain benefits by creating a deep sense of place and belonging for future residents

For instance, the concept for the extended duct-walls he designed in order to transfer and supply gas, telephone, electricity, and fresh water to each unit in the Malagueira housing project is derived from the historical Agua de Prata Aqueduct nearby

- Though the design of the extended duct-walls has roots in a local ancient structure, the combination of concrete frames provides a modern experience
- These innovative hybrid walls are not only expressed as an infrastructure, but also function as an entrance, gate, façade, canopy, and landmark



In response to large-scale public demonstrations in the wake of the Portuguese 'Carnation Revolution' of 25 April 1974, SAAL – the Serviço Ambulatório de Apoio Local – was established by the Ministry of Housing, Social Affairs and the Environment.

Carnation Revolution

- Bloodless revolution that ended four decades of authoritarian rule in Portugal and marked the beginning of its transition to democracy
- Led by a group of military officers who opposed the Estado Novo (New State) fascist regime led by dictator Marcello Caetano
- Action was taken via a military coup
- Six hours after it began Caetano resigned and thousands of people flooded the streets in support (Insurgents inserted carnations into the barrels of their guns as a symbol of peace)

SAAL aimed to address the urgent need for social housing in the underprivileged communities of urban Portugal

SAAL utilized Brigades, which were a series of technical teams led by architects consisting of professionals from a range of fields, in order to facilitate housing projects that were conceived with the local communities rather than for them

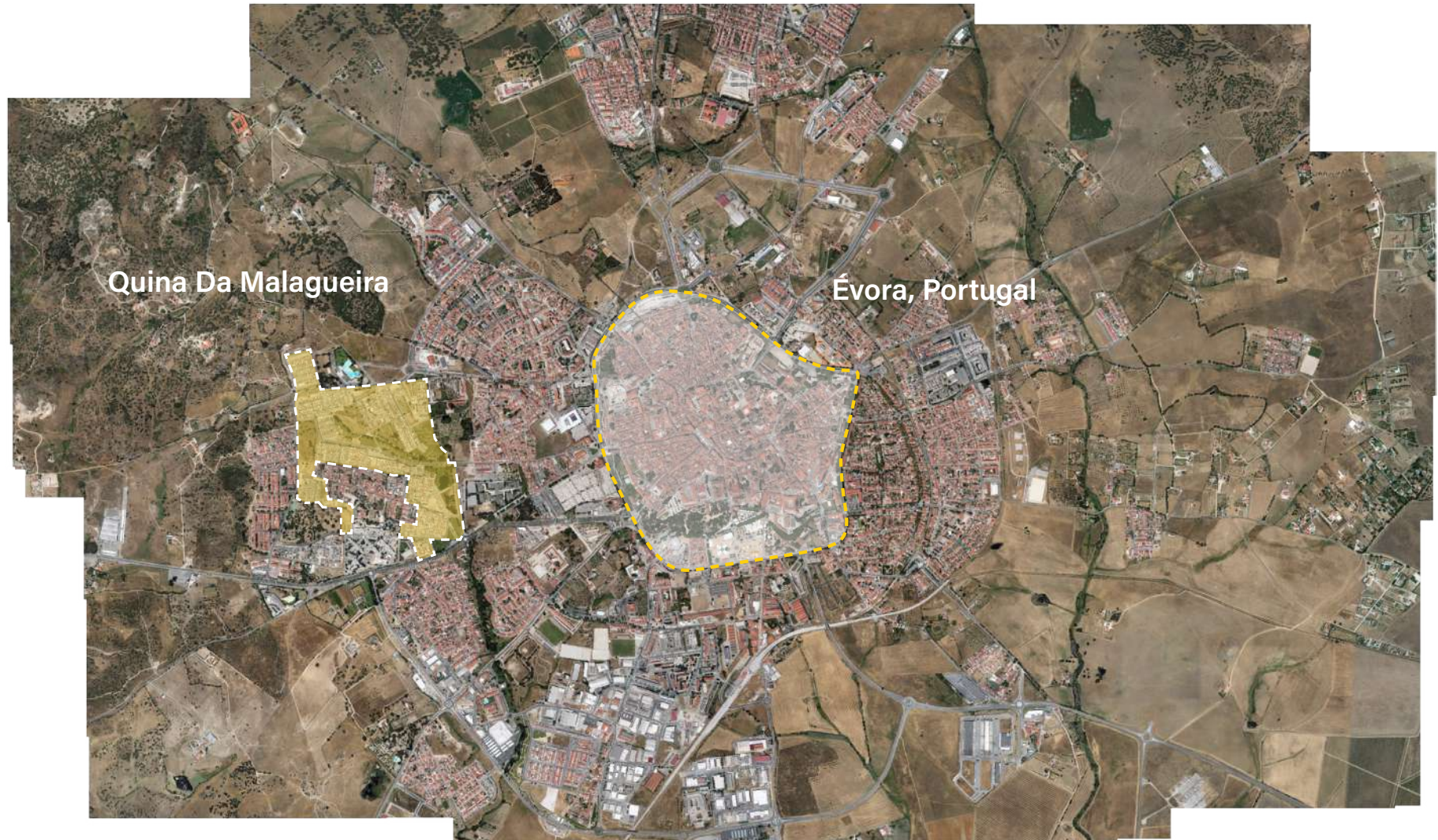
The SAAL scheme, which ended after 26 months due to an increasingly tense climate of political change, formed an ideological programme that reimagined the task of providing housing for the population as a collective and participatory process

It was a brief moment when the State legitimized a radical idea of direct democracy that provided an alternative to top-down developmental strategies



Project Context

Designed by Alvaro Siza, Quinta Da Malagueira located at the west of Evora, which is a social housing complex. Built on a former agricultural estate called Quinta da Malagueira, which was surrounded by the Cruz da Picada social housing complex and the Bairro de Santa Maria "clandestinos" (illegal) settlement





Master Plan of Quina Da Malagueira (Source: ETH Zurich Research Collection)



The built Housing Complex on Google Satellite

The Client

- The development of the plan for the Malagueira neighbourhood was part of a political strategy to eradicate the pervasive proliferation of illegal settlements on the outskirts of the walled historical city of Evora

- Alvaro Siza, an architect based in Porto, was selected by the municipality of Evora to lead one of the Brigades formed under the SAAL scheme in 1977

- Siza was tasked with designing a plan for a neighbourhood that needed to accommodate 1,200 households on a former agricultural estate called Quinta da Malagueira, which was surrounded by the Cruz da Picada social housing complex and the Bairro de Santa Maria "clandestinos" (illegal) settlement

- The brief for the Malagueira neighbourhood plan stipulated that three types of ownership models needed to be accommodated, each one focused on a different income group and/or type of development: cooperatives, public housing, and the private sector

- Siza used the existing fabric of the Bairro de Santa Maria as a matrix for the new plan in order to secure the consolidation of social relations between the new neighbourhood and the illegal settlement located along its edges

- Siza also collaborated closely with representatives of the municipality as well as the future dwellers of the new Malagueira neighbourhood, which were comprised of members from the Giraldo Sem Pavor Cooperative (GSP Coop) and the Boa Vontade Cooperative (BV Coop)

- One of the residents that participated in the meetings with Siza declared, "I had never seen anything like that...the houses where I lived before did not have either a project or an architect, let alone seeing the architect coming to the future users to discuss [the project]...I think [Siza] designed a house that he wouldn't have done if he had designed it alone in his office."



Popular demonstration in Porto, 1975. The bottom sign reads: "Houses against Capital."



Popular demonstration in Porto, 1975. The signs reads: "One single solution, to solve the housing situation."



Siza photographed on a site visit in 1977
(Source: The Architectural Review)



The new aqueduct under construction in 1980s
(Source: The Architectural Review)



One of the housing Fields during construction in 1980s
(Source: The Architectural Review)



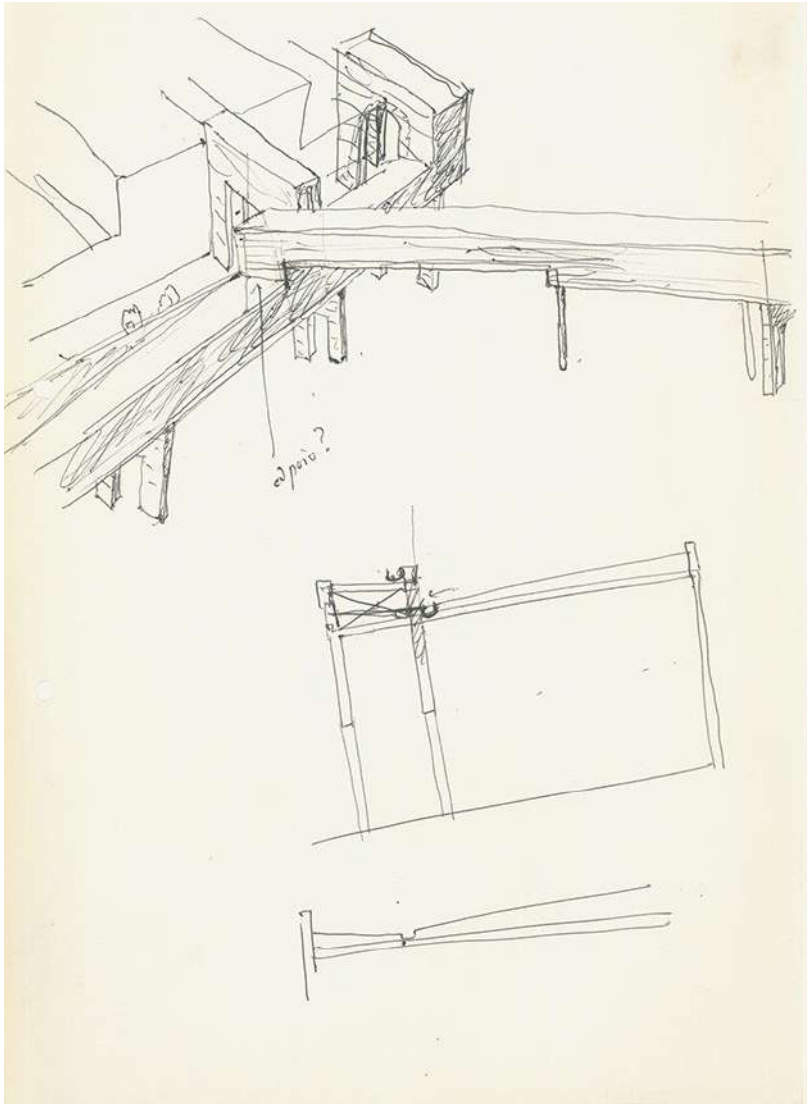
The construction photograph showing the distribution of housing against the slope
(Source: The Architectural Review)

The placement of Quina Da Galageria maintain and consolidate the existing site features & conditions:

1. Accommodate a network of inherited drainage ditches



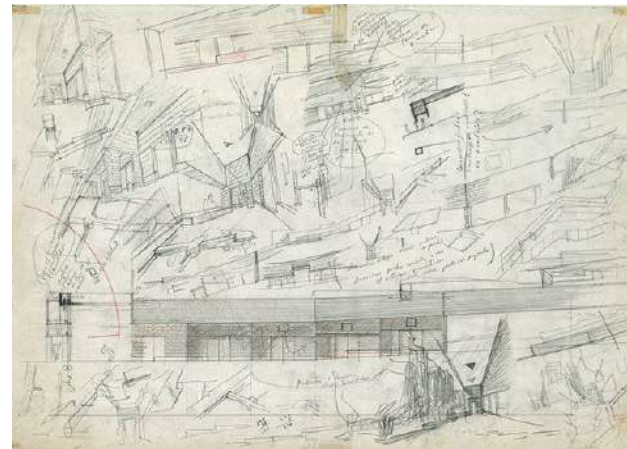
2. The miniature aqueduct acts as the elevated network of conduits that distributes water and electricity to each house



Siza's Sketch 1

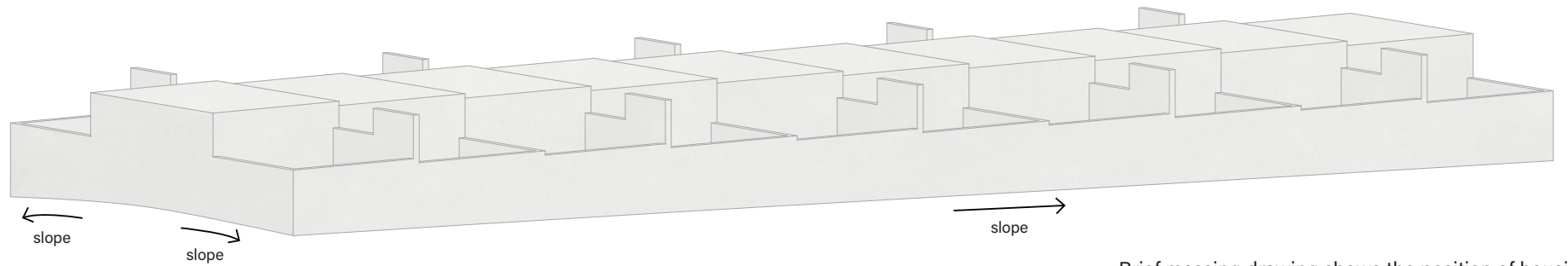


Miniature Aqueduct in Quina Da Malagueira

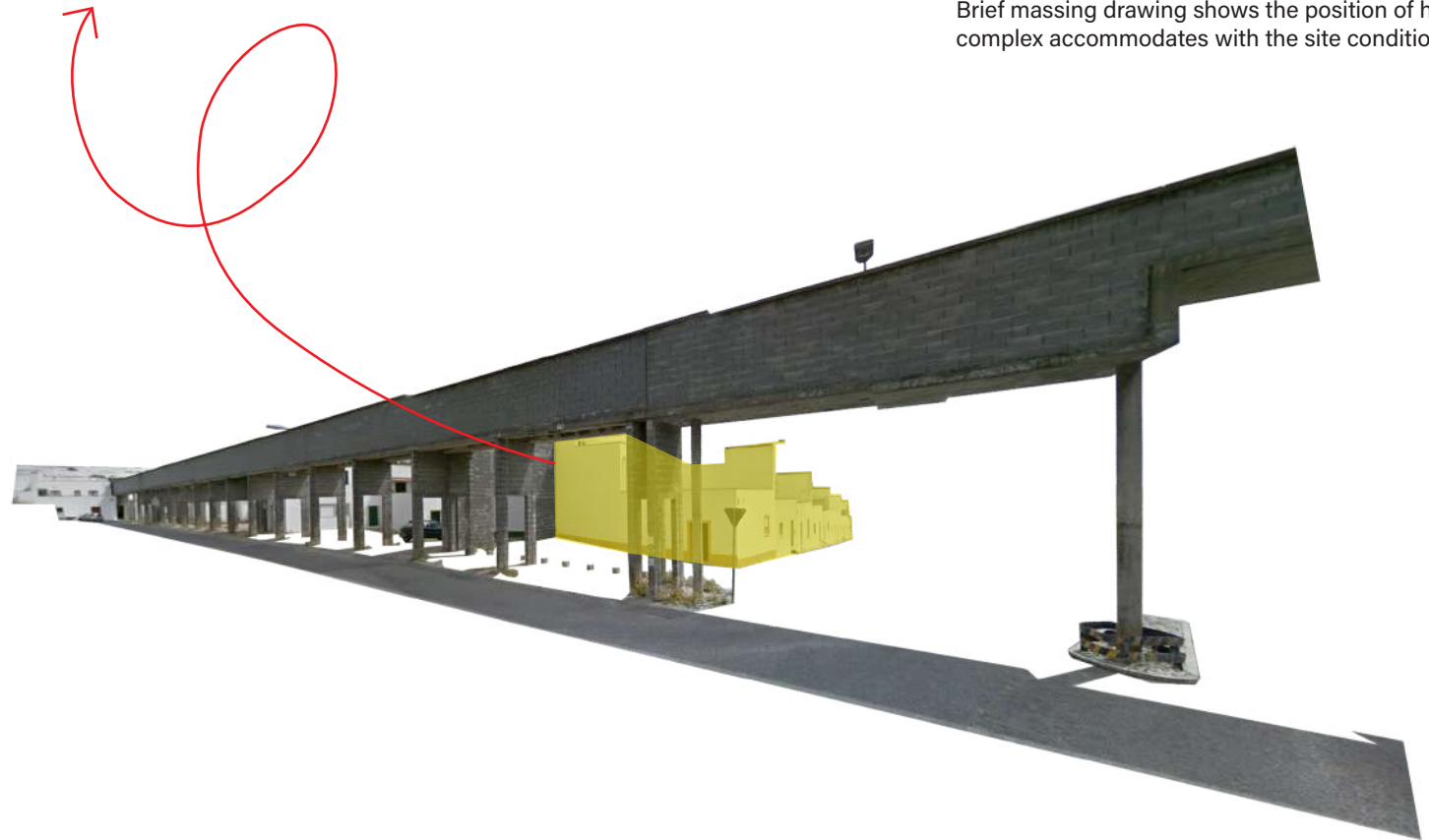


Siza's Sketch 2

3. Follow existing site topography



Brief massing drawing shows the position of housing complex accommodates with the site condition





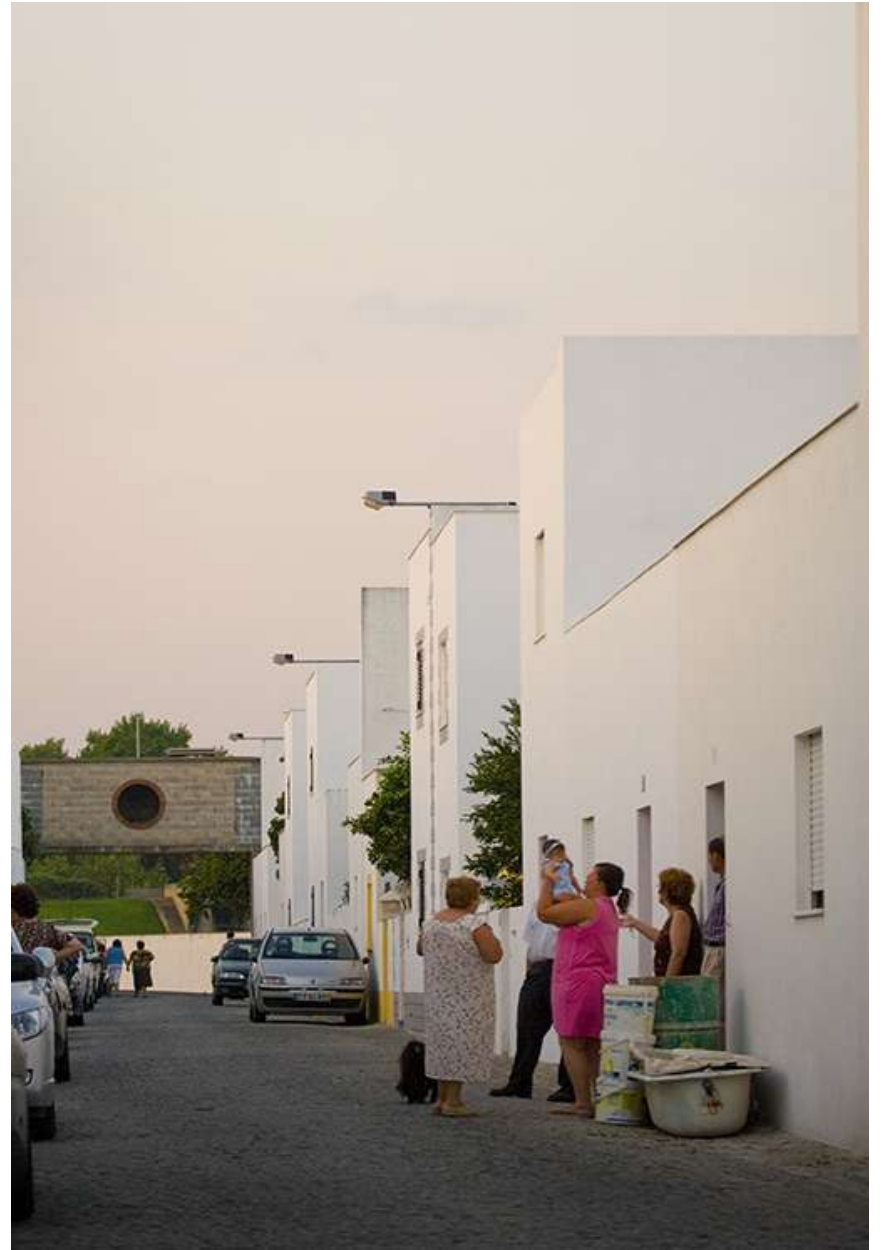
Orthographic drawings shows the topography condition at site.



Existing Photo (Source: Architectural Review)



Photographs from the 1980s show streets minimally populated by cars
(Source: The Architectural Review)



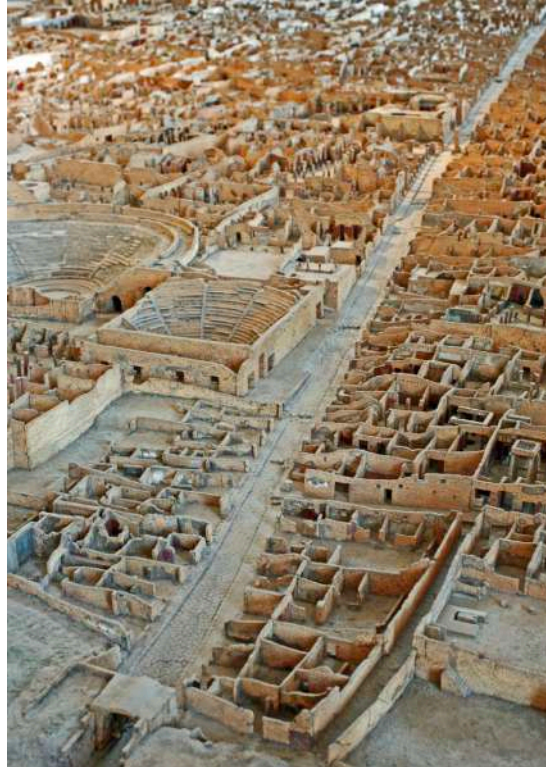
Contemporary photograph showing street life and the increased number of vehicles
(Source: The Architectural Review)

Disciplinary Context

The residential fabric of Pompeii & Herculaneum



Aerial View of Quinta da Malagueira
(Source: Portuguese Architectures)



A paper, wood and plaster scale model of Pompeii
by the archaeologist Giuseppe Fiorelli between
1861 and 1879
(Source: Flickr)



Ruins of Herculaneum
(Source: Britannica)

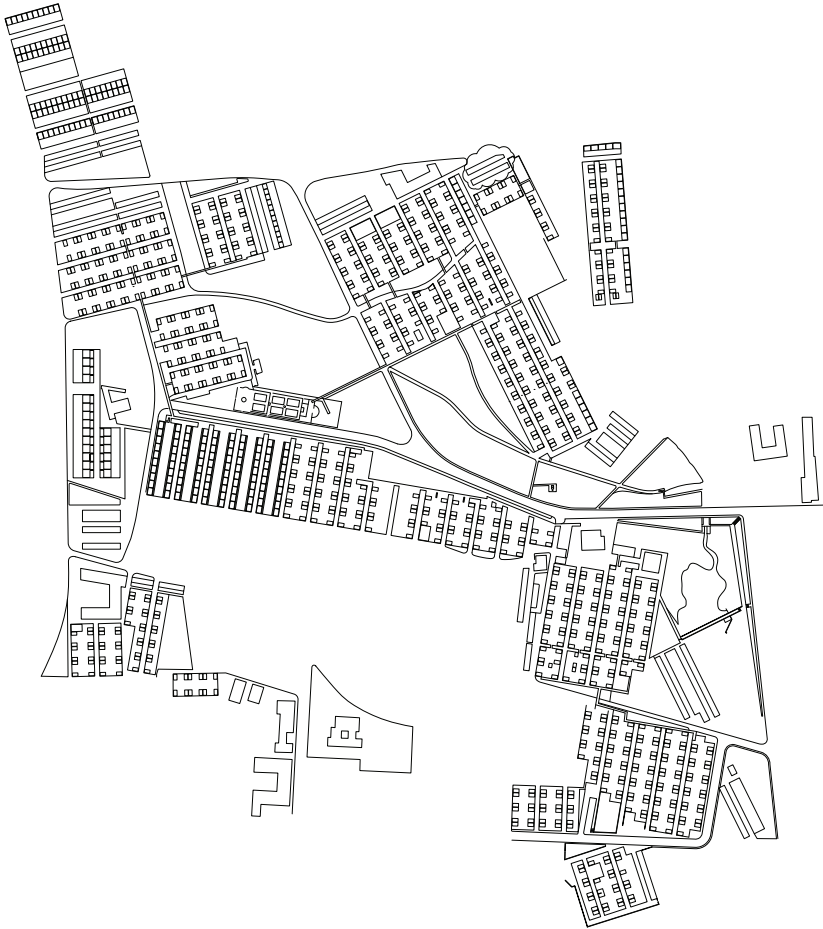
Project Periphery

Siza's work strongly relates to the Residential Fabric of Ancient ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

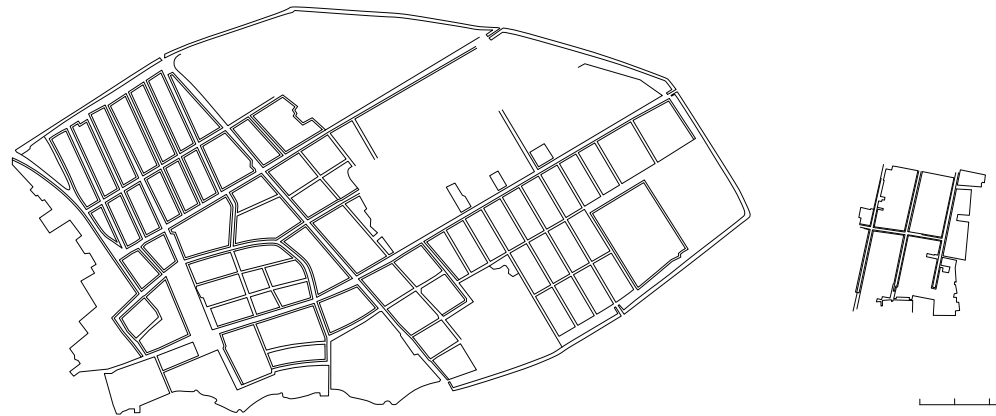
Both Pompeii and Herculaneum shares the characteristic of opening frontage to street. In addition, Pompeian buildings include peristyle and garden which Siza also translated into Quinta da Malagueira.

The blocking structure of the massing draws parallel with the two Roman sites as well, all shares a hierarchy in street width. The relationship between private and public are shown through the street which the residents can expand their living on to.

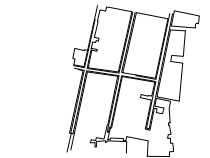
Topographically, the ruins of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Quinta da Malagueira are all situated and heavily influenced on irregular topography.



Quinta da Malagueira

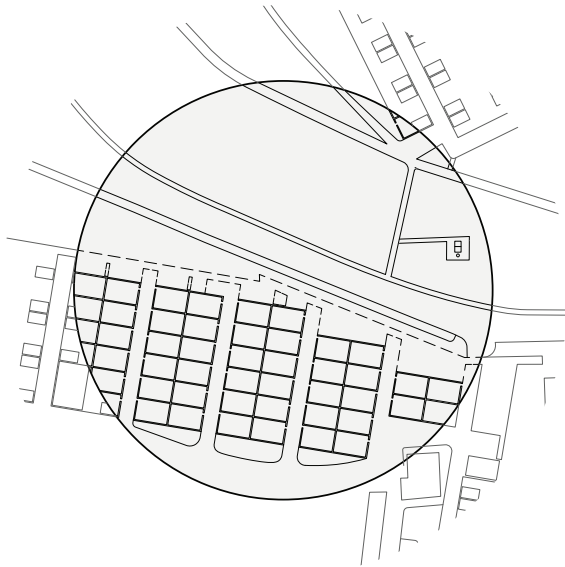


Ruins of Pompeii



Ruins of Herculaneum

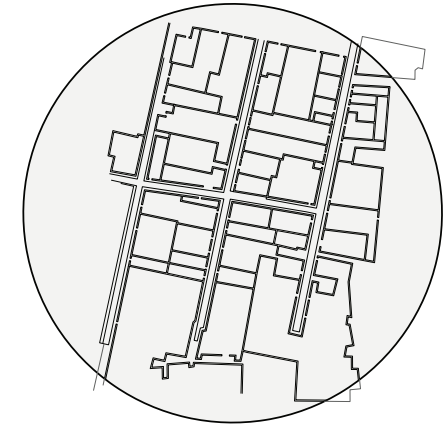
Diagram Maps



Quinta da Malagueira



Ruins of Pompeii



Ruins of Herculaneum

Architecturally, both Ancient Roman domus and Siza's work are expected to develop and change overtime, adapting and reacting to the changes in need. Siza took this project as an opportunity to further explore the living style of residents from informal housing, translating them into contemporary design with updated services.

The client Siza designed to more often do not have a stabled profession but rather sustain their living with commercial semi-nomadism, travelling town to town. As an result, the Portuguese Government wished to govern the city's periphery by providing formal housing structure on the outskirts of Evora.

General Assessment



Quinta da Malaguera is a rather successful housing project architecturally and in Urban Design. It address to the critical issue of identity and the lack of housing after the Carnation Revolution when the lower status citizen gained their voice in society.

The design of the complex are heavily governed and inherited by the site's existing condition and the city's rich historical background. Architecturally, the buildings offer sensitivity towards the spatial relationship to the residents by providing both open and enclosed spaces within a unit. In the beginning, Siza intended to support and help the creation of cooperatives by holding regular public meetings, discussing the necessary improvements and the design of the new neighbourhood. However, the scale of resident participation was ultimately dialed down by the developers. As an result, civic programs and social infrastructures were never implanted from Siza's initial ideology.

Reference

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Typology and Participation: The Architecture of Álvaro Siza

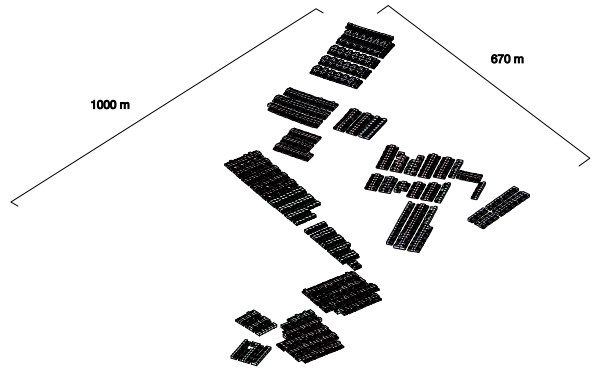
<https://www.artforum.com/print/201603/typology-and-participation-the-architecture-of-alvaro-siza-58115>

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https://ecommons.cornell.edu/bitstream/handle/1813/51630/vanRoggen_cornell_0058O_10112.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

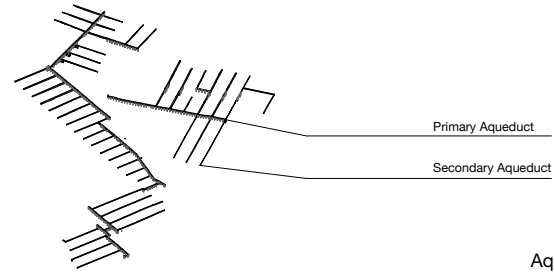
User Centered shape grammars for housing transformations

http://papers.cumincad.org/data/works/att/sigradi2018_1248.pdf

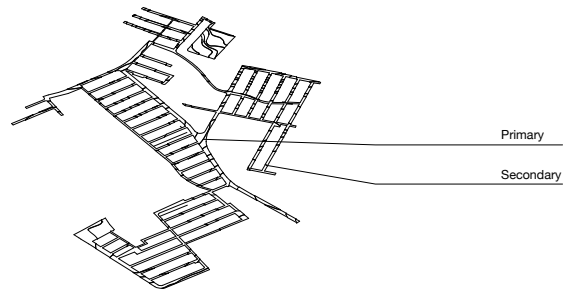


- Phase 1 (1977 - 1980)
- Phase 2 (1984 - 1987)
- Phase 3 (1988 - 1997)

Phases

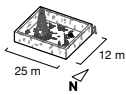


Aqueduct

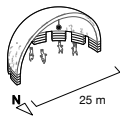


Streets

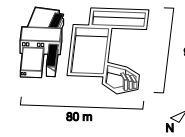
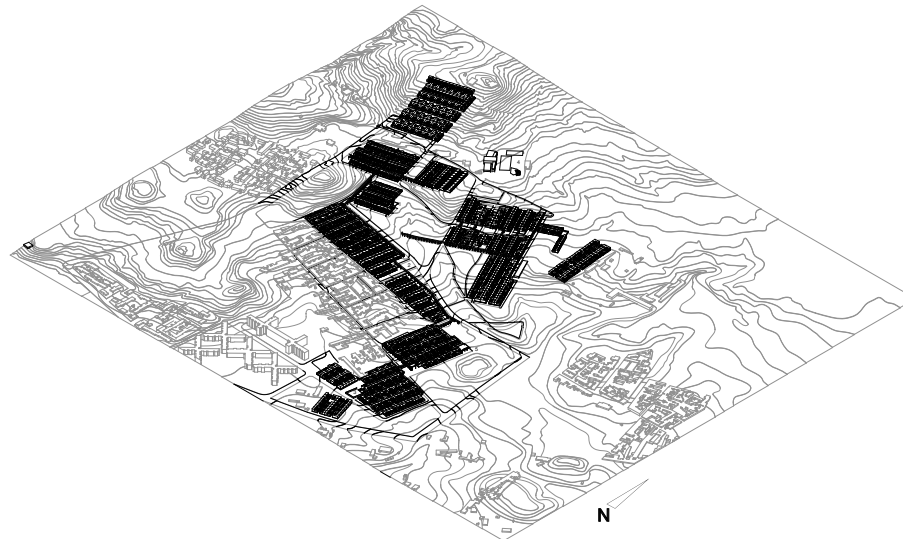
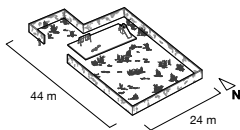
1. TV broadcasting Centre



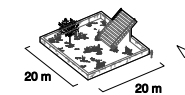
2. Cupola-covered square (Unbit)



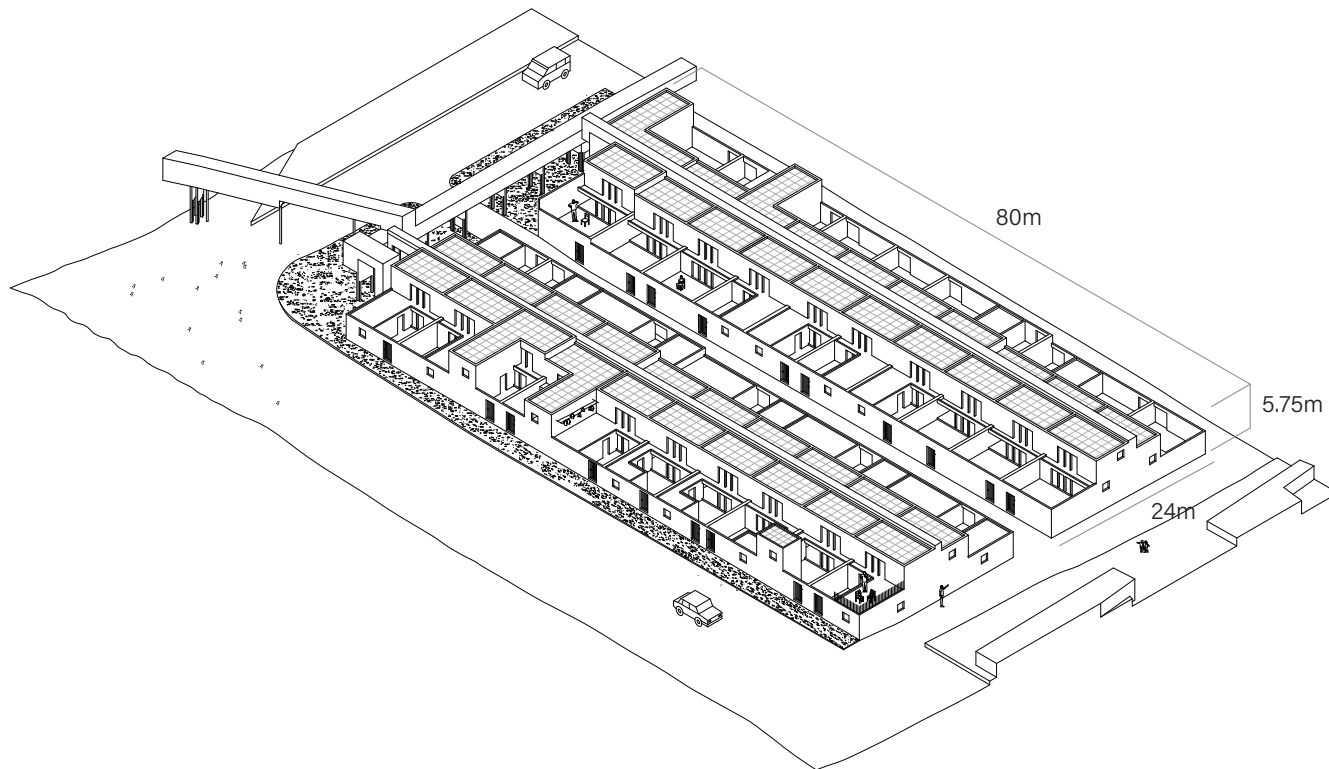
3. Playground



4. Municipal Swimming Pools



5. Amphitheater



Quinta da Malagueira Housing Block

Evora Portugal

0 10m

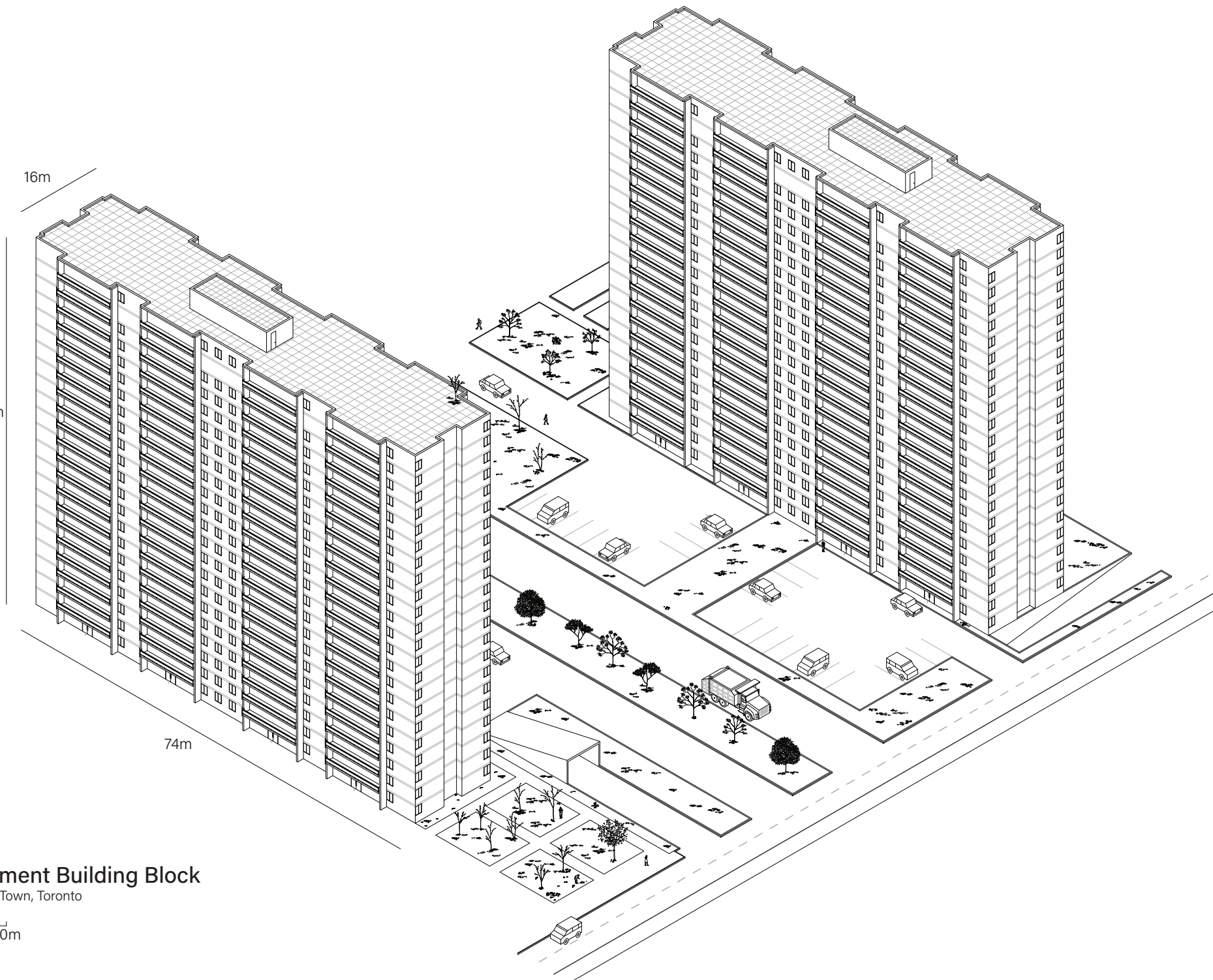
16m
62m

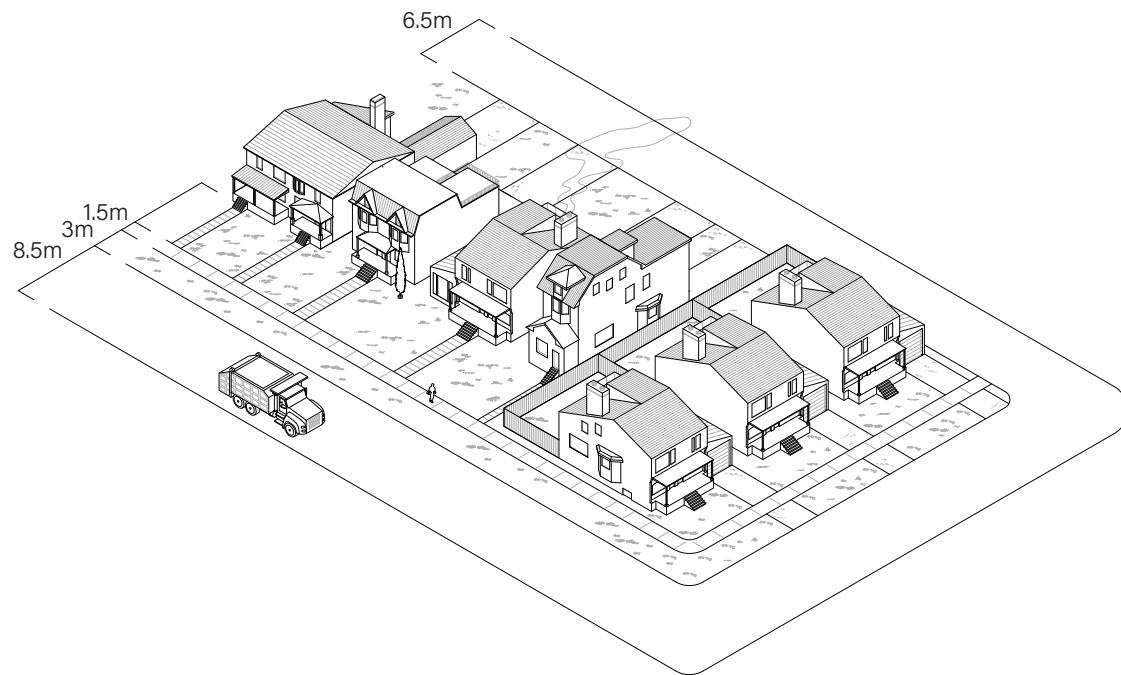
74m

Apartment Building Block

St James Town, Toronto

0 10m

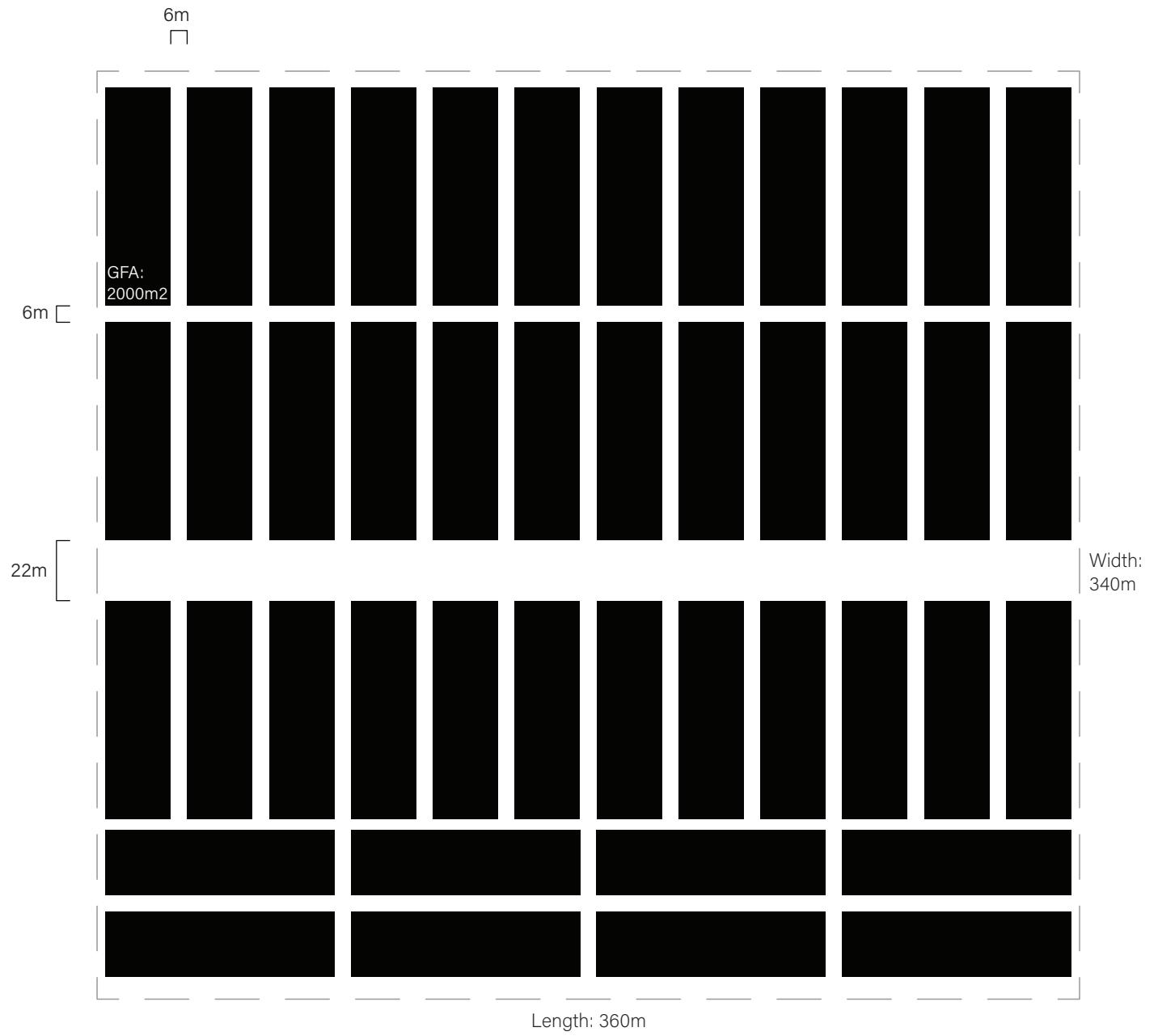




Suburban Housing Block

Scarborough, ON

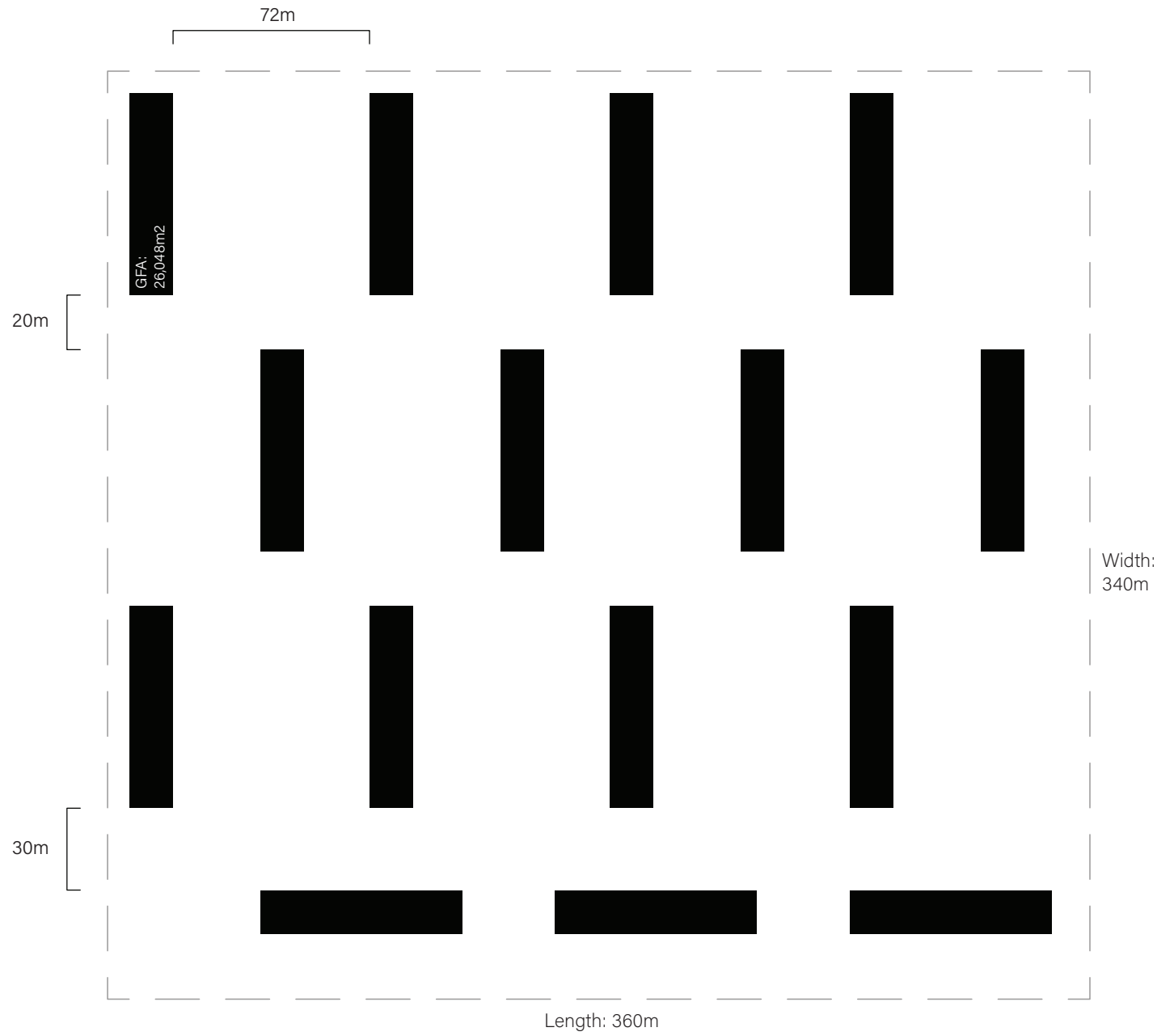
0 10m



Housing Block

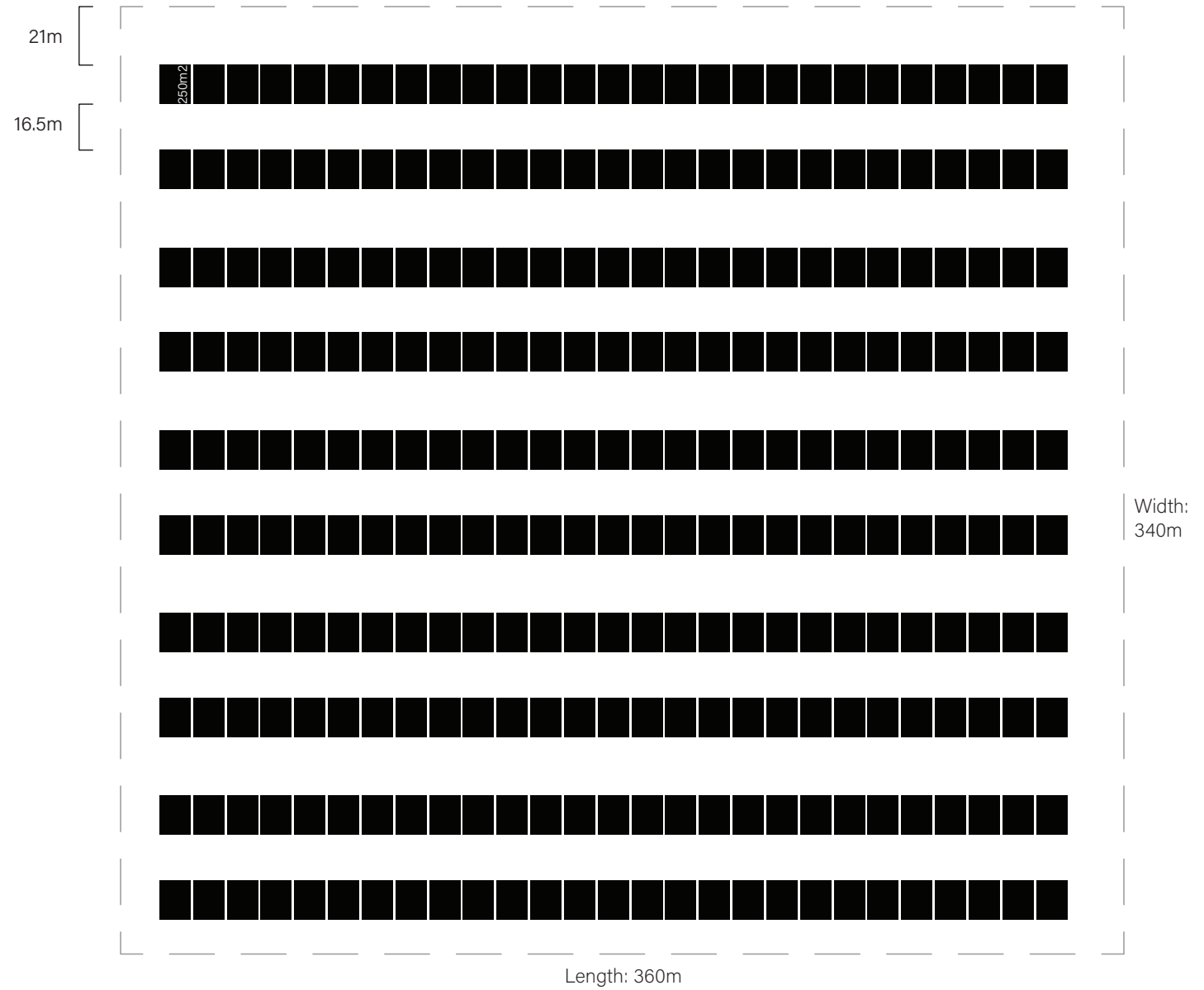
Quinta da Malagueira - Alvaro Siza

FAR: 0.72



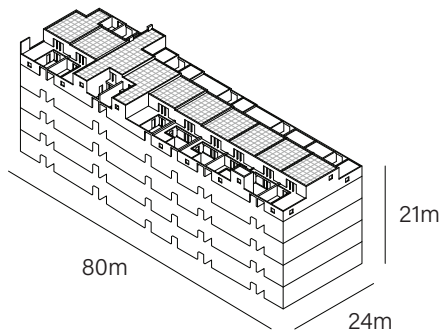
St James Town Apartment Block

FAR: 3.8



Scarborough Suburban Housing Block

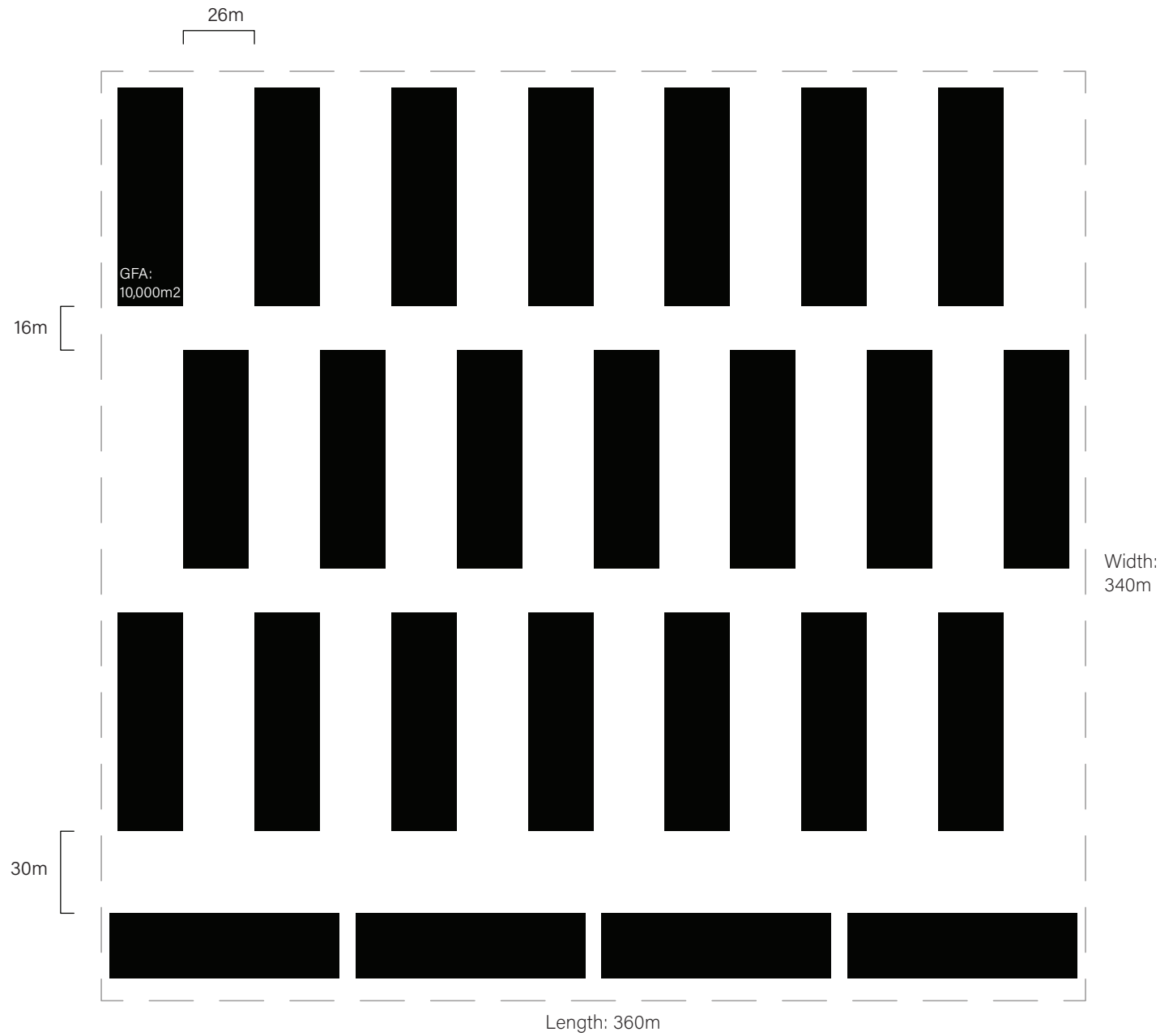
FAR: 0.55

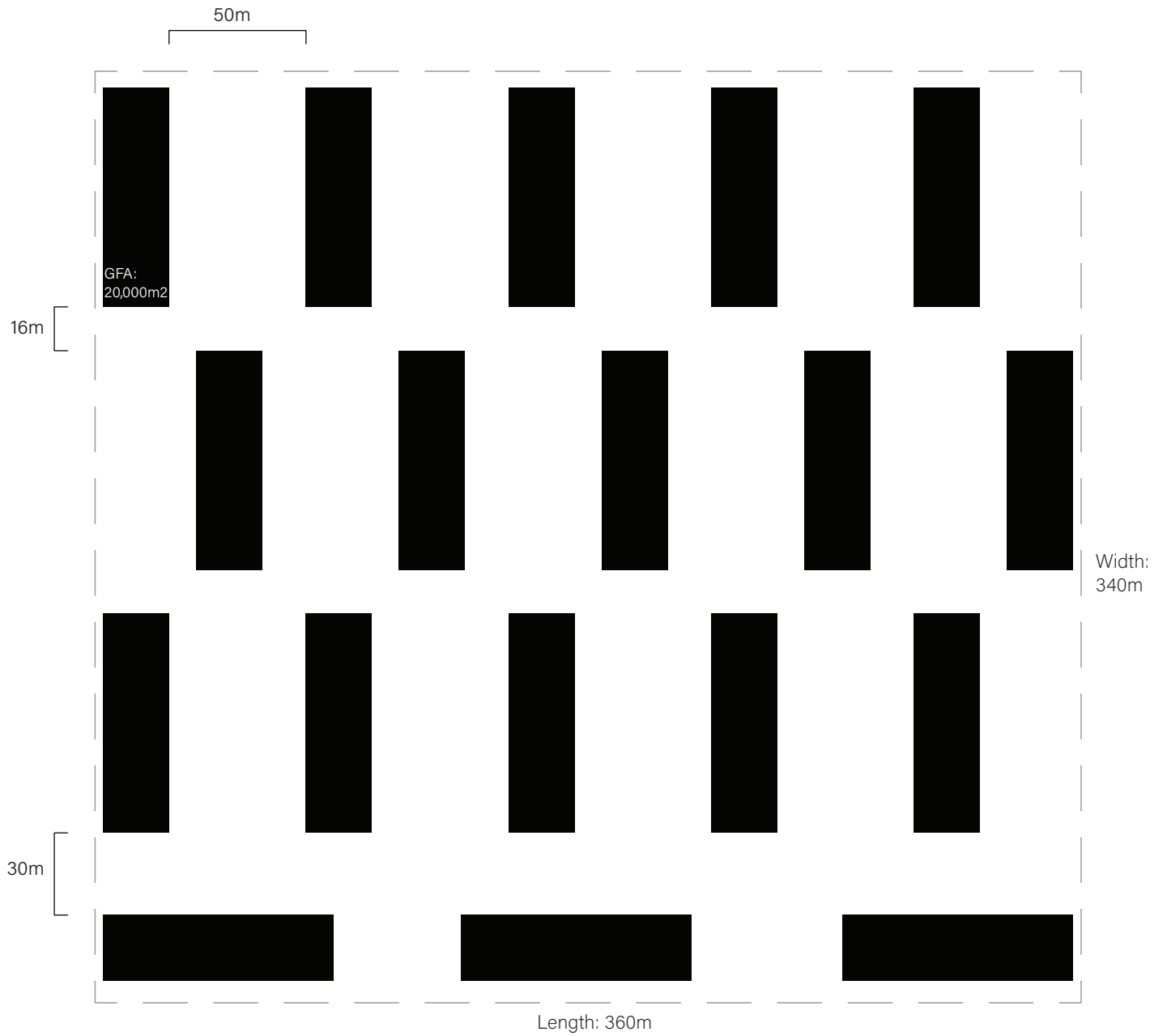
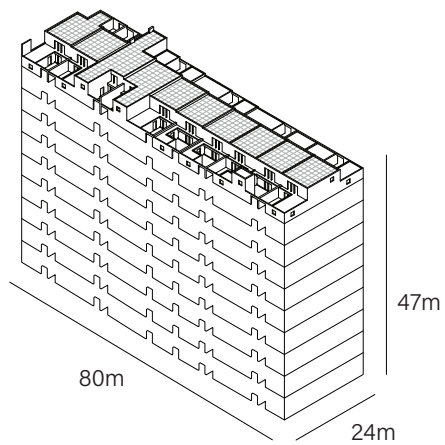


Housing Block

Quinta da Malagueira - Alvaro Siza
Alternation 1

FAR: 2.0





Housing Block

Quinta da Malagueira - Alvaro Siza
Alternation 2

FAR: 3.0

Style A

	patio	entrance	opening	kitchen	bathroom	living	bedroom	metrics
T1								GFA: 44 m ²
	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
T2								GFA: 57 m ²
	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
T3								GFA: 92 m ²
	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
T4								GFA: 108 m ²
	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
T5								GFA: 118 m ²

Style B

patio entrance opening kitchen bathroom living bedroom metrics

T1

GFA: 39 m²

T2

GFA: 52 m²

T3

GFA: 88 m²

T4

GFA: 97 m²

T5

GFA: 100 m²