

EDGEWATER HOUSING

Edgewater Housing

Biloxi, MS

In collaboration with Jude Leblanc

The galleries of France and Europe as well as the linear bazaars of the Middle East developed as organic pedestrian links within larger networks of urban passages. The contemporary shopping mall operates internally as such a pedestrian network. It differs from the European model in that it is usually cut off from the city because of the scale of the parking lot, and because all of the programmed interior spaces turn exclusively to this internal system.

The logic of shopping mall configurations result in a characteristic typical too much of today's large buildings, long mute facades. The wall-housing prototype exploits the blank wall as an enclosure for a semi-private linear mews. The linear space of this green belt is repeated in an adjacent layer of thin contiguous dwelling units. The scale of the units is reflected in the new façade, which is punctuated at intervals by large portals to the shopping mall. The façade which fronts the parking lot is composed of relatively small punch windows while the façade which faces the green "lungs" of the garden is composed of large expanses of glazing.

THE DWELLINGS

Construction. A poured in place platform on columns supports frame construction above. The front façade and the penthouse roofs are finished in copper while the garden façade is sheathed in galvanized steel.

Parking. Parking is accommodated at the base of the building. A steel ivy-covered trellis located at the rear wall both secures and screens the garden beyond.

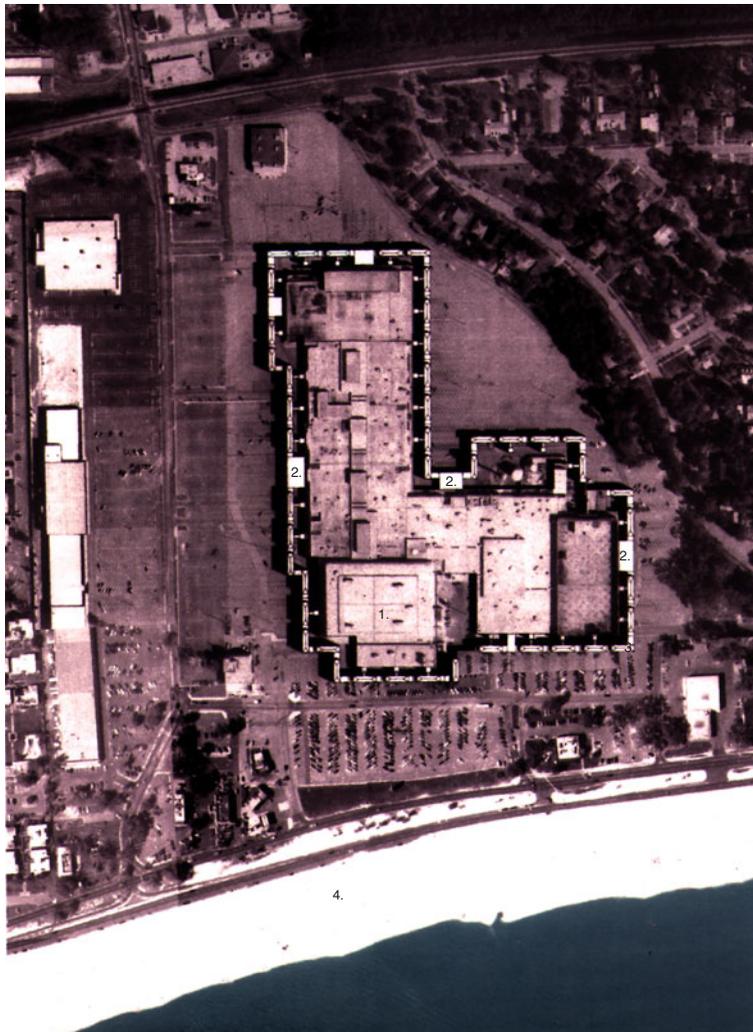
Section. The principal dwellings are duplexes, one and one-half rooms deep. They are organized to accommodate a number of use scenarios. Spatial precedents for these unit configurations include the Narkomfin Apartments by Ginzburg and Milinis, The Unite d’Habitation by Le Corbusier, and the vernacular dogtrot house.

Home/Office. Each duplex apartment has three entries, which allow various use scenarios. These include a major entry to a foyer leading to the main living spaces, an entry leading to a room, which could serve as a home office, and a service entrance to the kitchen.

Housing for the Elderly. The penthouse units are designed in response to a growing elderly population. The dwellings are conceived and would be experienced as aerial iteration of detached houses. These flats are accessible by elevator. They are organized along a rooftop linear sidewalk, which connects the private garden terraces of each dwelling.

Housing communities designed for the unique desires and needs of the elderly is a new development type, which is currently being tested in the market. Such new communities for retirement age residents include recreation and health care facilities. Unfortunately as with the current phenomenon of “gated” suburban housing proposals, such communities for the elderly often result in isolated homogenized constituencies.

This proposal can accommodate the particular needs of the elderly without the social impoverishment of total segregation. The mall itself offers a social outlet and place for waling and exercise. Health care facilities located in or near the mall could serve the elderly as well as the larger community.

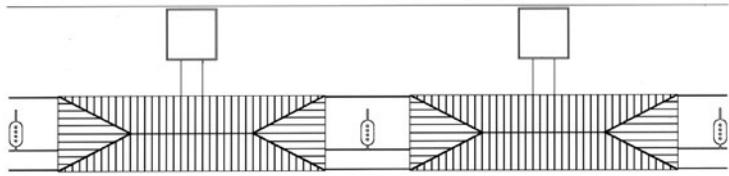


Aerial of Edgewater Mall with Mask Type Housing

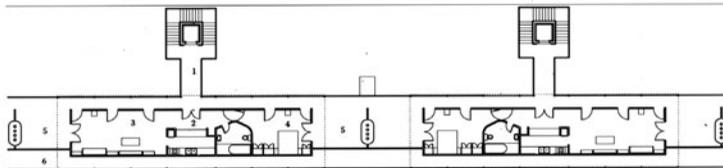
LEGEND

- 1.....Edgewater Mall
- 2.....Entry to Mall
- 3.....Proposed Housing and Home Office
- 4.....Beach





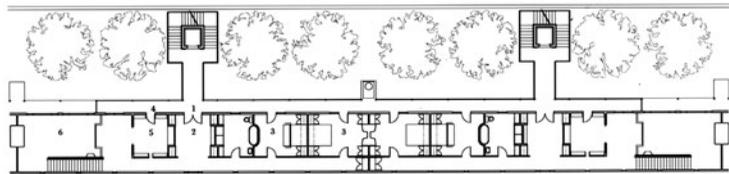
Roof Plan



1. Private Entry
2. Foyer
3. Living Room
4. Bedroom
5. Private Terrace
6. Semi-Public Promenade

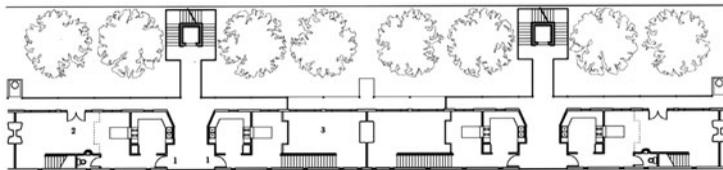
Penthouse Floor Plan

1. Entry
2. Foyer
3. Bedroom
4. Second Entry
5. Office, Library, or Study
6. Living Room Below



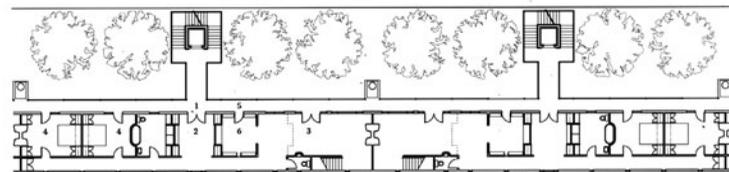
Fourth Floor Plan

1. Service Entry
2. Living Room
3. Living Room Below



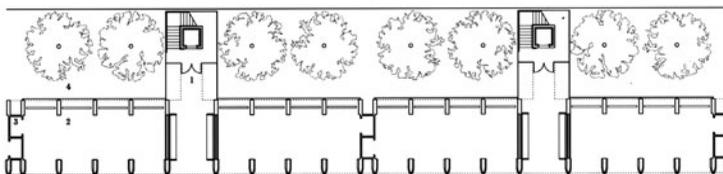
Third Floor Plan

1. Entry
2. Foyer
3. Living Room
4. Bedroom
5. Second Entry
6. Office, Library, or Study

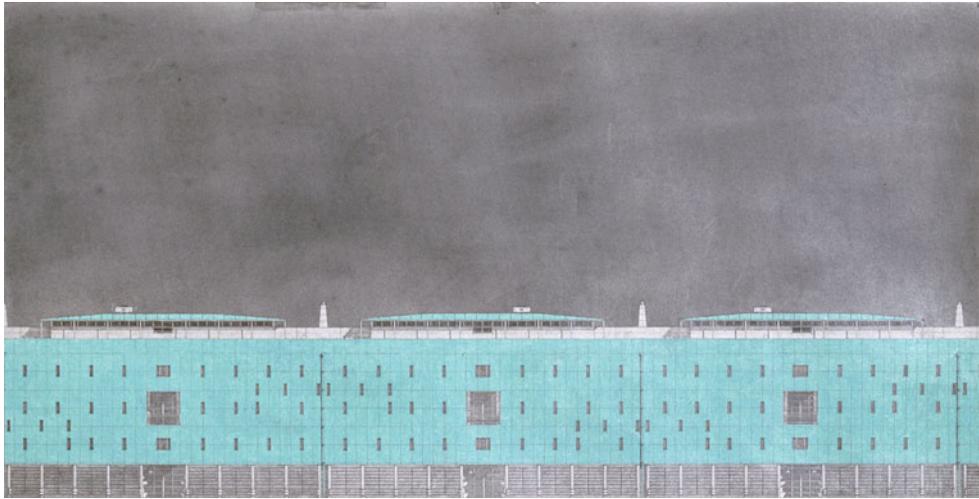


Second Floor Plan

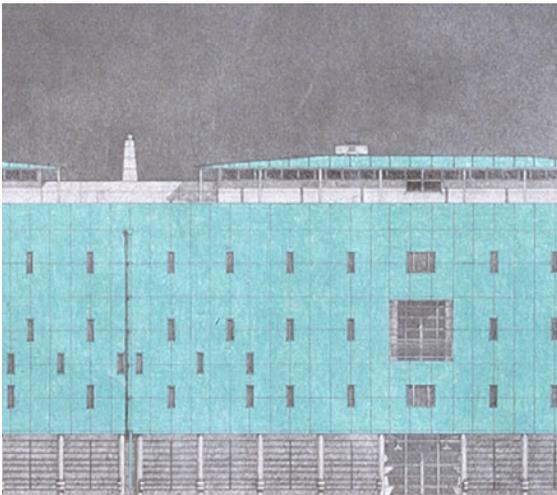
1. Building Entry
2. Parking
3. Storage
4. Common Mews



Ground Floor Plan



Front Facade



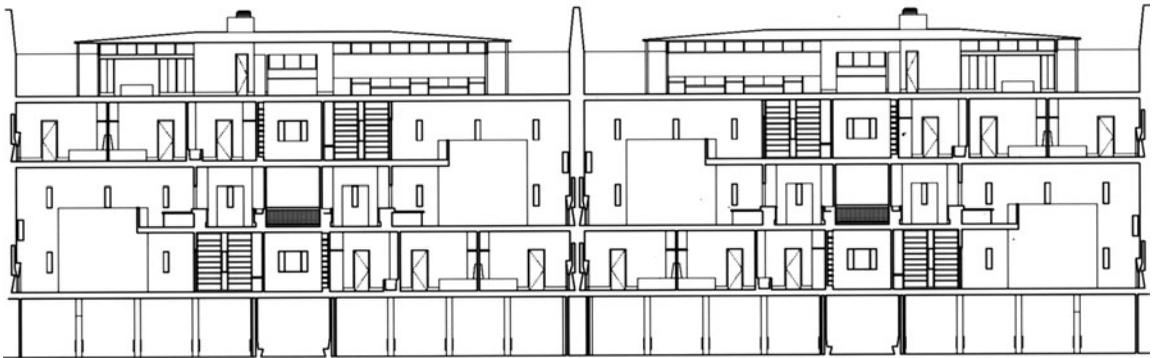
Detail of Front Facade



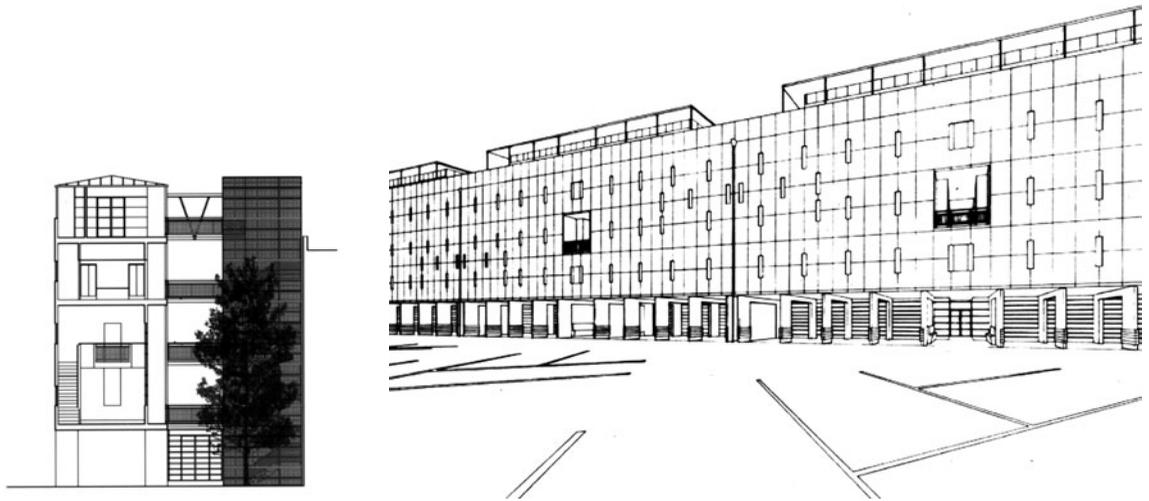
Detail of Front Facade



Garden Facade

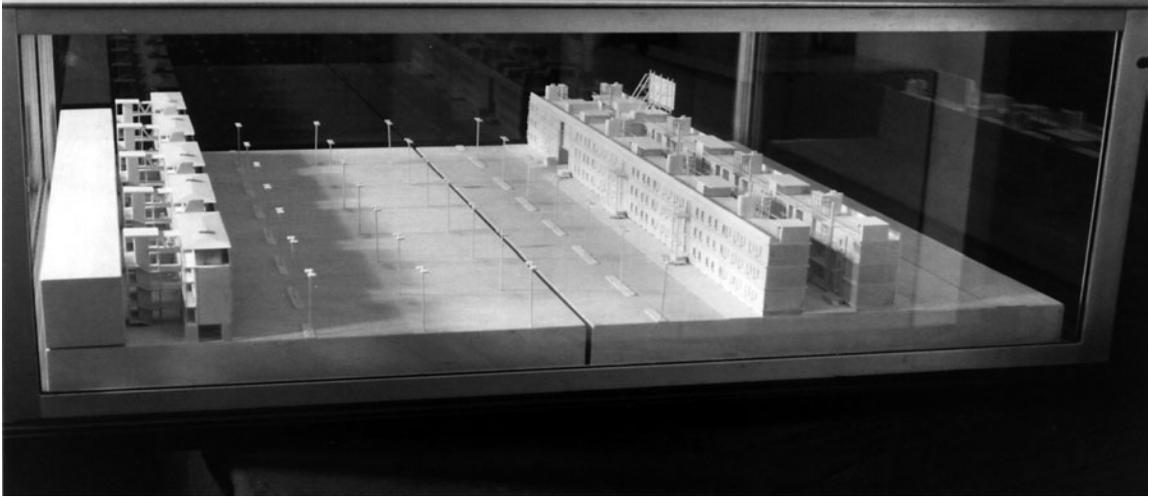


Longitudal Section



Lateral Section

Exterior View of Front Facade



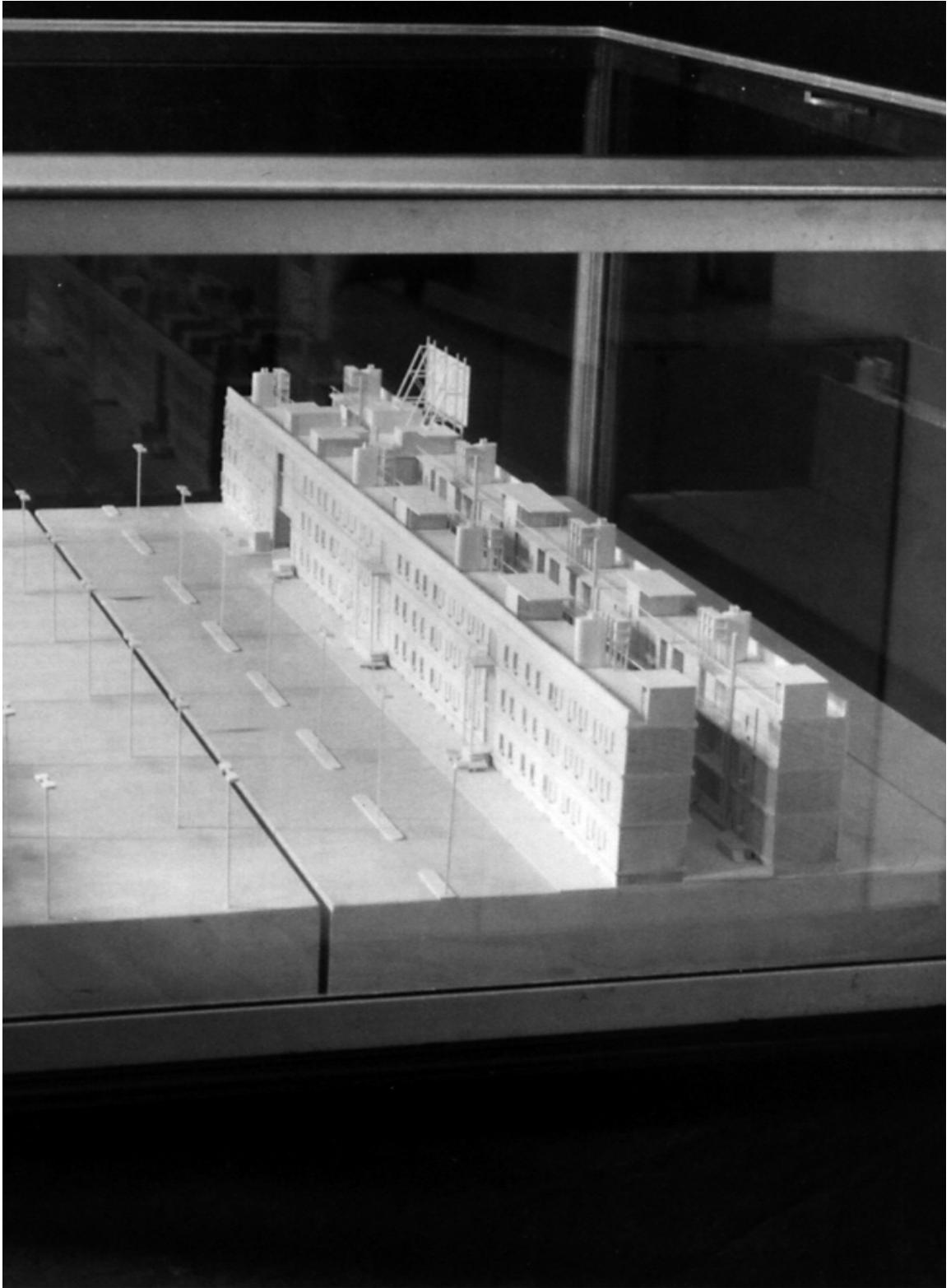
Model



Model



View of Living Room



Model