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## **Behind the Quotidian Screen**

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Behind the Quotidian Screen is our proposition for new contemporary urban development in historic centers; a model for communal and affordable housing; simultaneously it forms a unified urban whole, while sustaining deference to each inhabitant.

To achieve this image, the screen—a taught perforated white metal facade—follows the contours of each parcel. Rising up to five meters in height, the screen differentiates the street from the housing blocks behind. We believe clarity of the form and it's logic give a coherence to the surrounding environment. It provides a ready-made image that the residents can own, modify, and take pride in—the screen is their icon.

On the south side of the development, we propose a simple park. Thru the use of different shapes on ground, materials and textures, and play structures, the use of the park is completely indeterminate; rather it serves as a framework—like the screen—for serendipity. Here too, the screen wraps on either side of the park, focusing the view towards the beautiful landscape.

In order to dampen the infiltration of the city from entering the residences, the screen works to negotiate the difference between the purely public and domestic. It allows for a peaceful transition—the screen is a threshold.

The screen baffles the city noise and diffuses the hot Summer sun—creating a series of shared spaces between each of the eight new units and the street. It allows for it's own microclimate—the screen conditions outside living space.

Behind the Quotidian Screen reactivates the "in-between" spaces to generate new common areas where the residents can mingle, laugh, play, eat and entertain—this is how communities are formed. Here, you can park your bike, nurture your garden, and teach your child to walk—the screen is like a piece of urban furniture.

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