

what makes a plan more evocative or expressive?

why is there such a difference felt?

do we really need something like this?

why today most apartment plans feel the same?

what makes something banal?

I don't know

what can I do then?

so I started to search answers for my questions

how can I design an evocative plan?

why a plan needs to be evocative?

why can't people connect to the house?

is there any other plan which is felt similarly?

can I make a plan more evocative?

Plan A

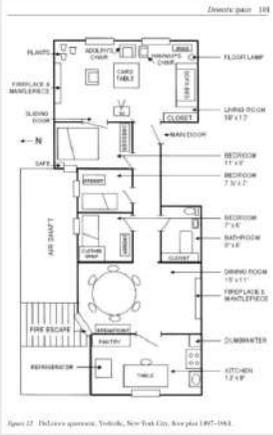


Figure 22 DeLano apartment, New York City, floor plan 1907-1963.

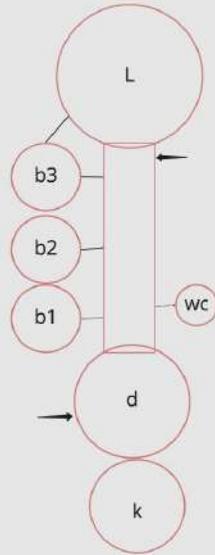


fig 3

Plan B

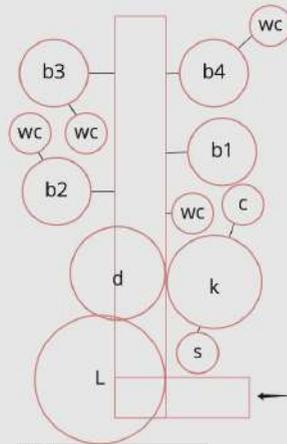


fig 4

so then the question arises that why is there such a difference felt in both the house plans?

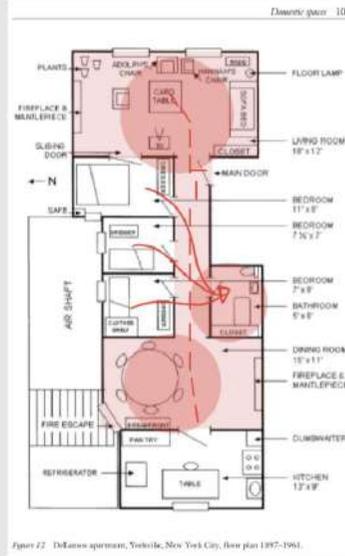
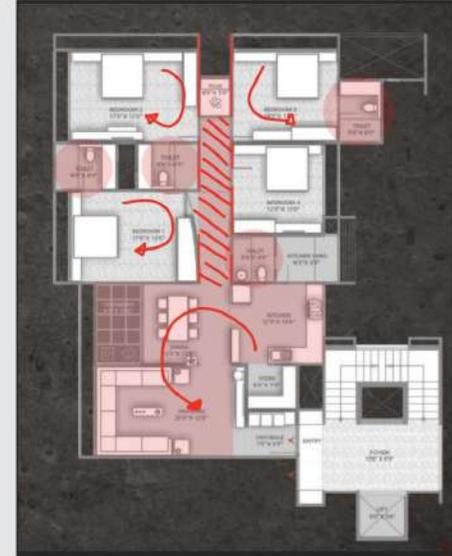


Figure 22 DeLano apartment, New York City, floor plan 1907-1963.



The plan on the right has different functions placed around the corridor, which makes it more active. Things like placement of a common bathroom itself allows more activities or more use of the corridor itself. Also the connection between both the semi private spaces of the house is the corridor itself

Whereas on the left hand side plan, the corridor seems like a dead space devoid of activities itself, as its functions reduces to connect most private and most public sphere of the house and not anything else.

does more activities allow more spatiality?

what happens when an apartment has 2 entrances to it?

how arrangement of the functions play a role in this?

what if I changed the location of the kitchen in Plan B, and kept it at the other end of the corridor? will it make a difference?

The way the entrance into the house happens?

what is threshold in an apartment?

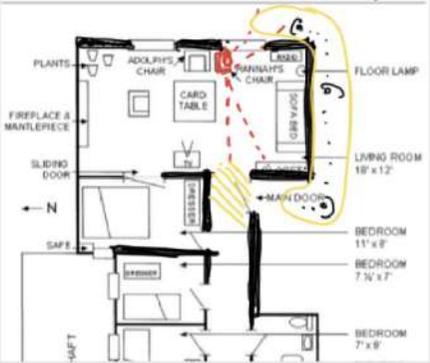


fig 8



fig 5

"From her chair, my great-grandmother not only commanded the **view of the street and entryway to the building** from the window on her left but also of the **threshold to the apartment itself** with a direct line of sight to the front door on her right. "

how threshold adds to the spatiality of the house?

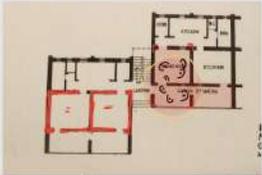


fig 6

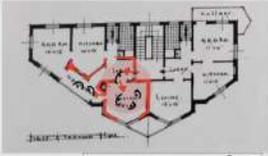


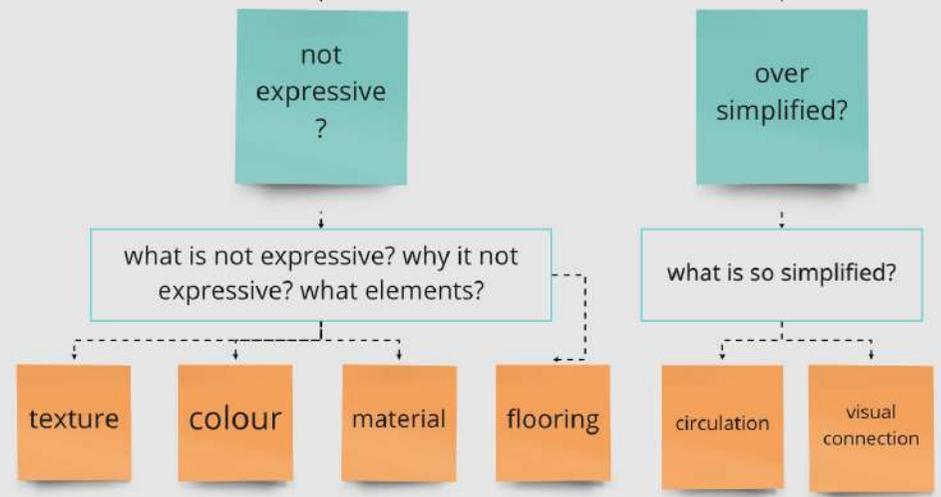
fig 7

is it defined by a space?

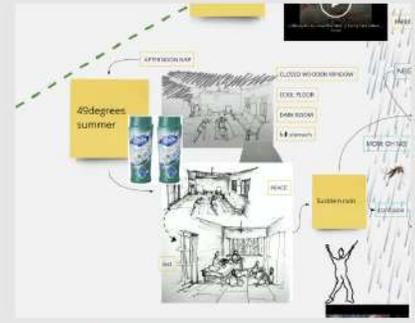
or like in the case of plan A, it simply the orientation of the furniture with respect to the entrance?

low degree of affordances?

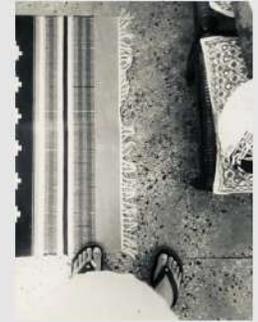
level of adaptability



Rough plaster texture allowing certain kind of activities establishes a connection



cool Kota stone flooring during the summer afternoon in a closed dark room (solid wooden window shutters)



why are aspects like scale and prortion or materiality not considered in a design?



fig 12

what is sequence of spaces in apartments or how does an apartment unfolds itself?

what happens when an apartment has 2 entrances to it?



fig 13

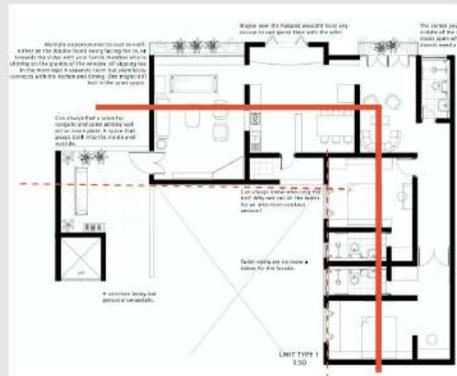


fig 14



this can also be seen how plans are in form.. linear or square and openings are articulated to see outside world but not the outside of the house itself

the plan on the right, by just having an L shaped configuration opens up the possibility of the same

where is architecture in an apartment plan?

"An open kitchen, that's also nice, because . . . when I am in the kitchen . . . and the whole family is here, you are so shut away . . . it's not so pleasant."



fig 16

what if the person from New York is asked to compare both the plans?

is it because the plan on the right here is typical and to the left atypical?

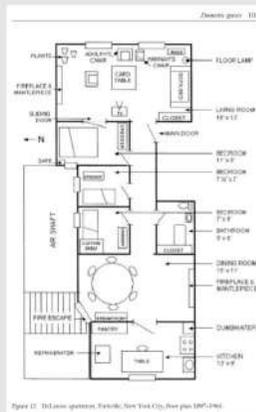
what exactly is the aspect which makes us feel something a typical?

who is the user?

from who's perspective is the plan being read?

is the same home evocative from a housewife perspective?

what role does a kitchen play in it?



Yet the visual relationship between kitchen and living room is the reason others do not favor an open kitchen. Another woman added, pans scattered all around, dirty plates, and dishes piled up "for everybody to look at" gave her an unpleasant feeling.

fig 15

a home is a home because it blurs the line between the self and the surroundings, and challenges the line we try to draw between who we are and where we are.

www.theatlantic.com
The Atlantic

The Psychology of Home: Why Where You Live Means So Much

There's a reason why the first thing we often ask someone when we meet them, right after we learn their name, is "where's home for you?!"



TED www.ted.com

Home is where the art is

Artist Ian Strange turns decrepit suburban homes into art. Using paint and chainsaws, photography and film, he interrogates our concept of home and the narratives we build around it. In this talk, Strange discusses the creative and personal impulses beh...



fig 17



chiraghhilli.com

Homing and unhomeing: taxonomies of living

"Perhaps home is not a place but simply an irrevocable condition." — James Baldwin, *Giovanni's Room*
What is a home? What is a habit, a set of relationships or a combination of

never set in one particular form, space or time

it is set in

materiality

experiences

weathers

how we adjust our walk in moss ridden balconies

how we navigate light from the roshandaan

how we tackle the rain water from window above the bookrack

how cupboards smell

how can we design to cater these things?

What is a home? Is it a feeling, a habit, a set of relationships or a combination of materials and floor plans?

Analysis of a 'HOME'

It is proposed in this chapter to analyse a 'HOME' according to its different functions and see what apartments should be allocated both in small cottages and large houses, to fulfil them.

The word "HOME" connotes far more than a house giving a mere shelter for protection from the elements. It is a centre of social life; a place of health, comfort and happiness of the entire family in all the stages and conditions of life, viz. infancy, childhood, man-hood or woman-hood and old age,—also in health and in sickness; a place where the body and mind of the young children are nurtured so as to fit them for shouldering their responsibilities as future citizens and so on. Hence, in order to merit the title of HOME, it must provide adequately for the following life activities of the family :—

Function	Space allocation
(1) <i>Cooking.</i>	... In small cottages a room for kitchen inside a house. In large houses a cook room preferably away from the main house and attached to it by means of a covered passage.
(2) <i>Dining.</i>	
(a) Morning tea and breakfast	... Kitchen or the adjoining verandah.
(b) School children's hurried meals	... Kitchen.
(c) Family meals	... A separate dining room.
(d) Small parties	... Combination of dining and drawing room.
(e) Festive occasion	... Courtyard or garden.
(3) <i>Rest and relaxation.</i>	
(a) Conversation	... In small cottages the front verandah.
(b) News and other light reading	... Staircase hall or the drawing room.
(c) After-noon tea	... In large houses: lounge or staircase hall or the drawing room.



fig 18

What if both the plans are seen as a set of spaces which fulfill specific functions, then which one defines more appropriately the meaning of home?

What if both the plans are seen as a set of spaces which fulfill specific functions, then which one defines more appropriately the meaning of home?

What is a home? Is it a feeling, a habit, a set of relationships or a combination of materials and floor plans?

how can we design to cater these things?

is home limited to these physical boundaries?

is it the architecture or much more than that?

what it means to belong?

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will generalising them create a new typical?

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what if the person from New York is asked to compare both the plans?

from who's perspective it is compared from?

kitchen

perspective

user

atypical

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what is a home? may mean one thing to some, but have countless meanings to others.

what causes the feeling of the home?

what is a home?

what makes something banal?

lack of a narrative?

degree of adaptability

what is not expressive? why it not expressive? what elements?

what is so simplified?

circulation

visual connection

degrees of visual connection

multiple visual connections

circulation in modern vs vernacular

clear definition of circulation

ambiguity in plan in terms of circulation

where is architecture in this house? or any house?

why are aspects like scale and prortion or materiality not considered in a design?

what factors restricts a person to connect to a house?

can these factors be generalised?

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does more activities allow more spatiality?

what happens when an apartment has 2 entrances to it?

Do you terrazzo?

flooring

rough plaster texture allowing certain kind of activities establishes a connection

cool Kota stone flooring during the summer afternoon in a closed dark room (cold window shutters)

From her chair, my great-grandmother not only commanded the view of the street and entryway to the building from the window on her left but also of the threshold to the apartment itself with a direct line of sight to the front door on her right.

what is threshold in an apartment?

or like in the case of plan A, it simply the orientation of the furniture with respect to the entrance

is it defined by a space?

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how threshold adds to the spatiality of the house?

people are not able to connect to the house

the degree of connection to the house is less

why?

banal / mundane?

not evocative?

low degree of affordances?

not expressive?

over simplified?

spatial configuration

topology of the plan

elements of space making

scale

proportion

light

texture

colour

material

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