



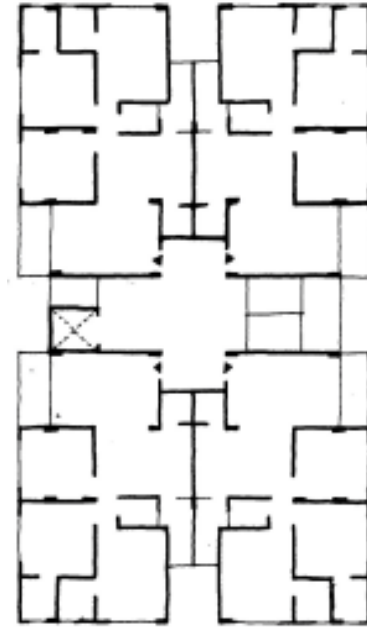
# What is a Balcony?

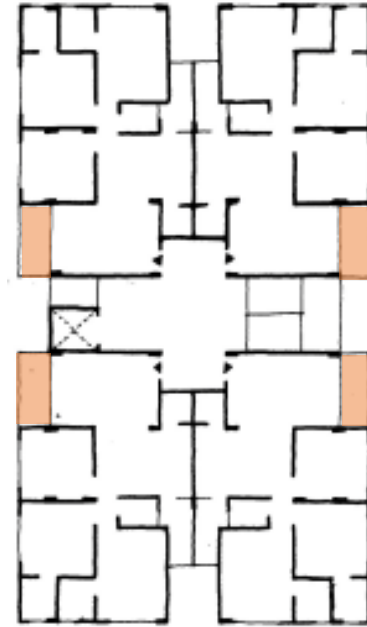
What **activities** are they used for? How should they be **designed**?



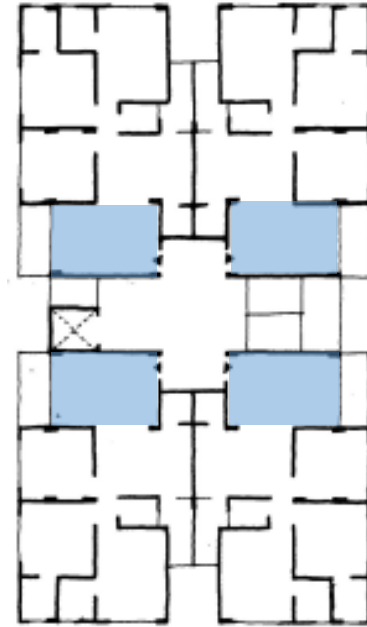
The dictionary definition of a balcony is – **“A platform built on an upstairs outside wall of a building, with a wall or a rail around it.”**

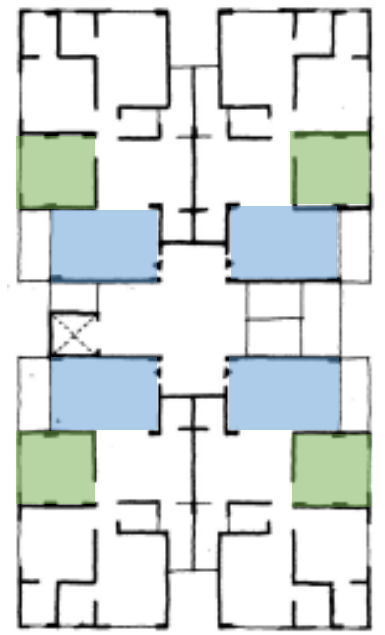
That is indeed how most of us see it – and thus, that is how balconies are made, **not designed**, in housing projects.

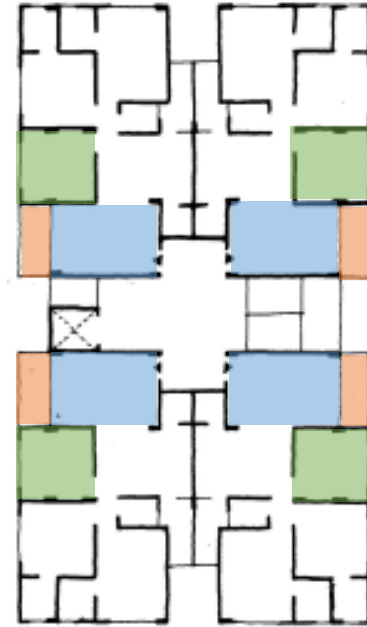


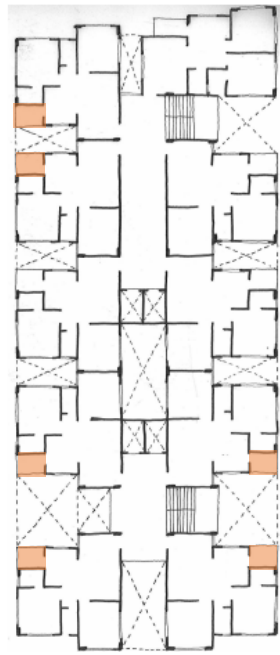
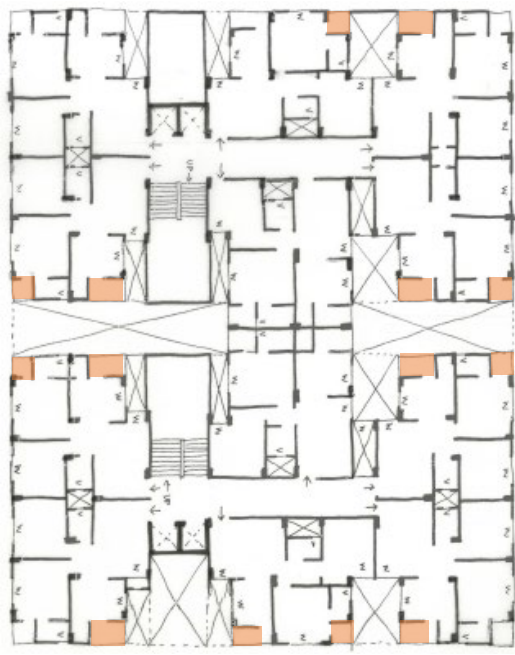
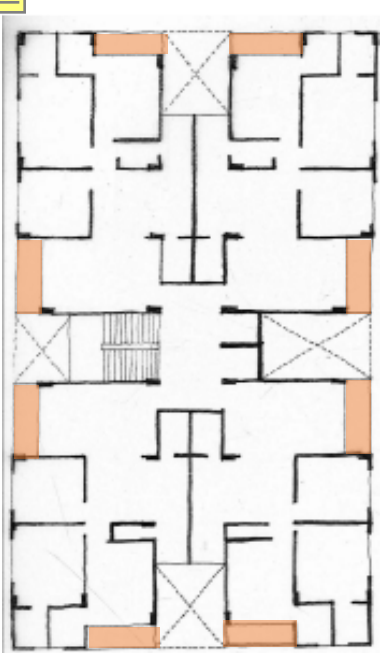




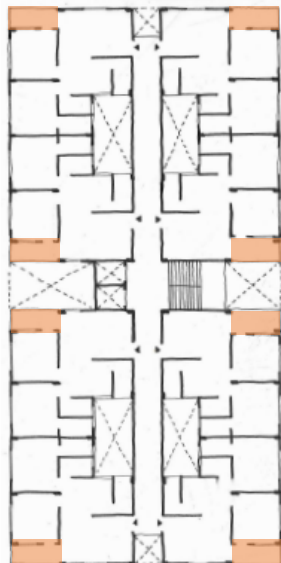
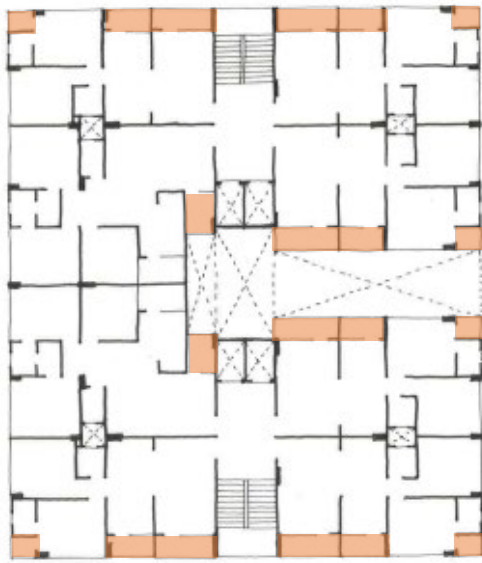
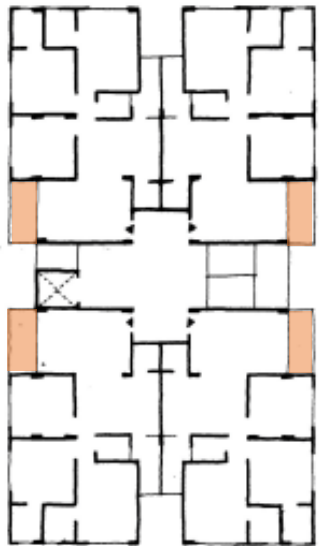








Balconies which emerge to occupy the gap in line between toilet and bedrooms or living rooms and bedrooms



In case of most housing projects, balconies are treated as an afterthought. A required amenity in a unit – to aid the market value of the project.



What questions should we ask to make ourselves start thinking about balconies as spaces which need to be designed?



# What is it derived from?

When multi – storeyed housing started coming up, what activities were the balconies designed to accommodate?



A verandah/otla

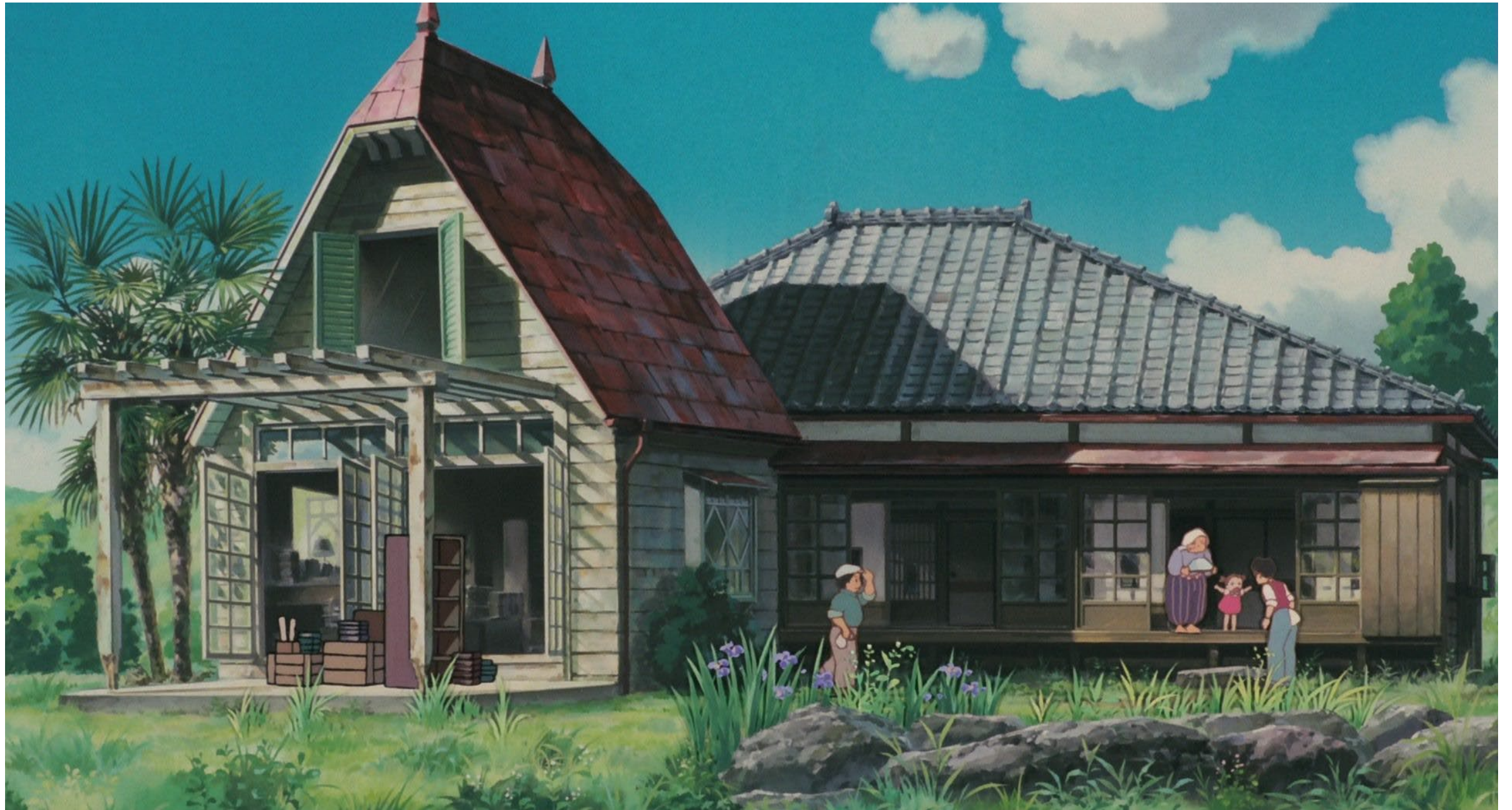
A courtyard/backyard

A jharoka/bay window

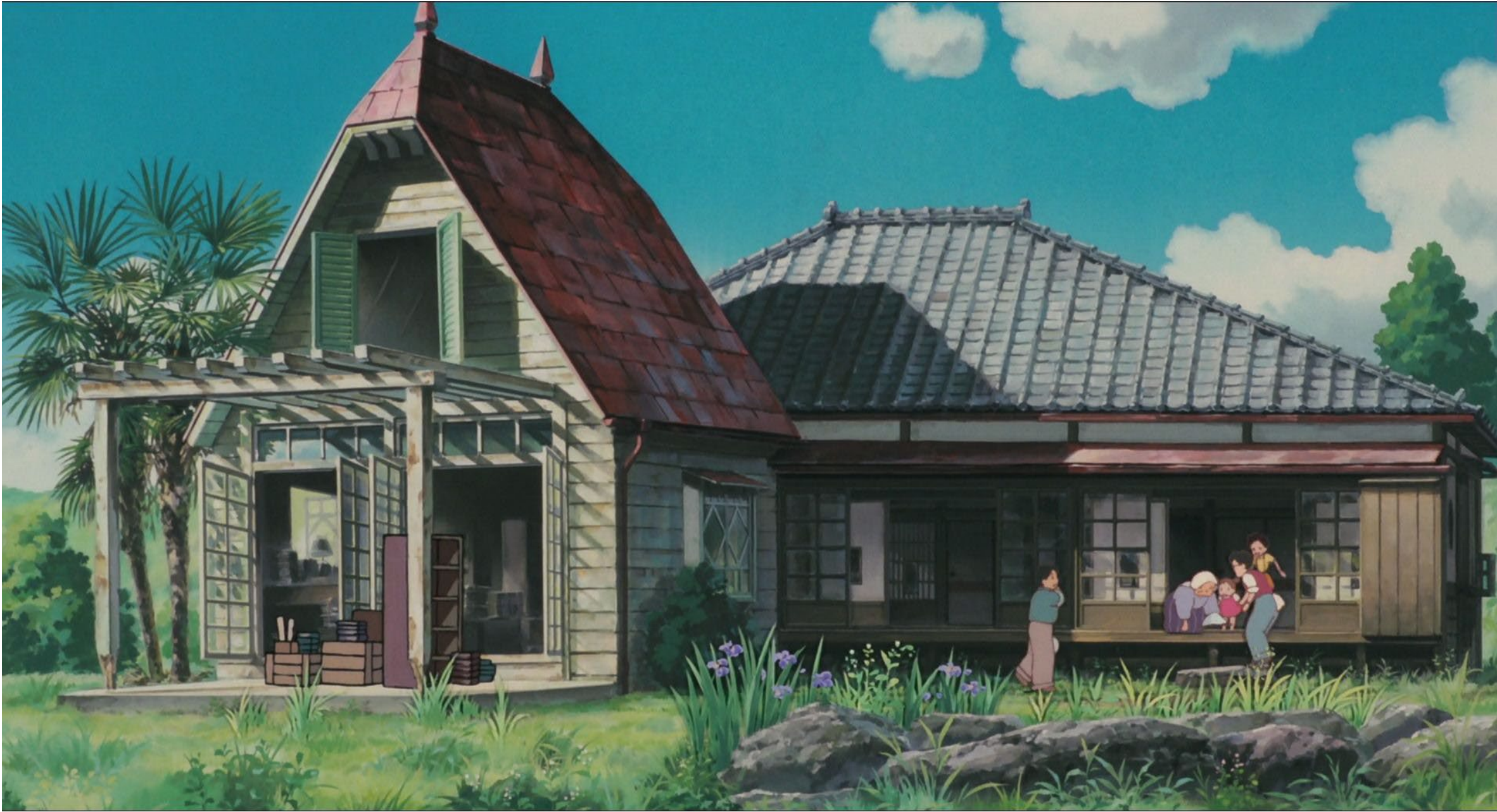
A terrace

- A place to chat with neighbours
- A place to have a cup of chai and read newspaper
- A place to buy wares from vendors
- A place to greet guests and welcome them into your house
- A place to keep a watch on the child playing outside
- A place to meet friends
- A place to play with pets

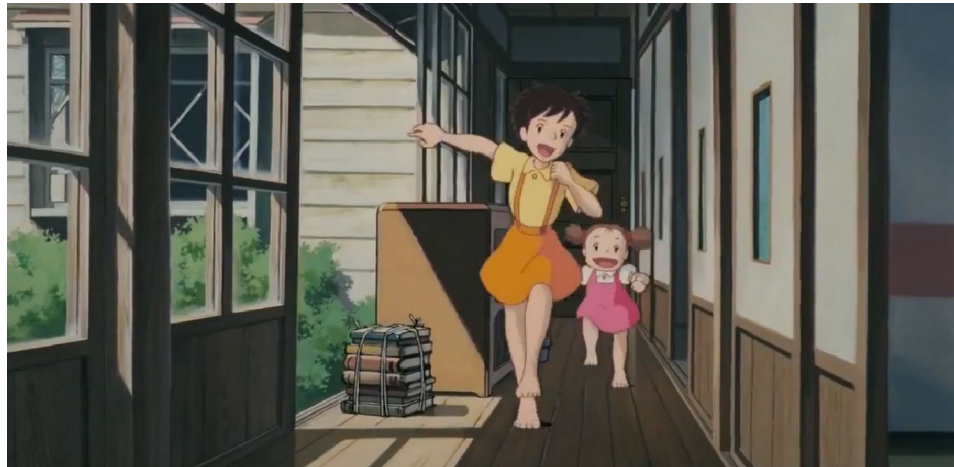














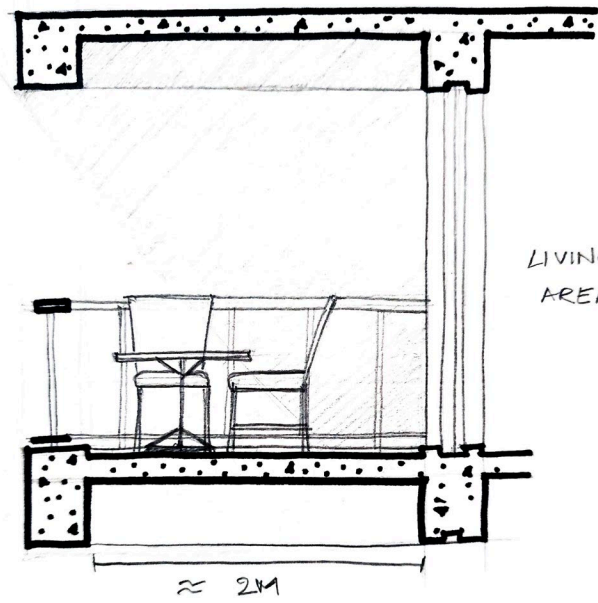
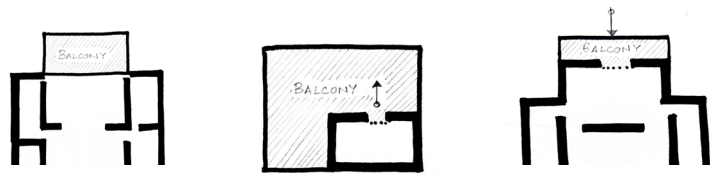


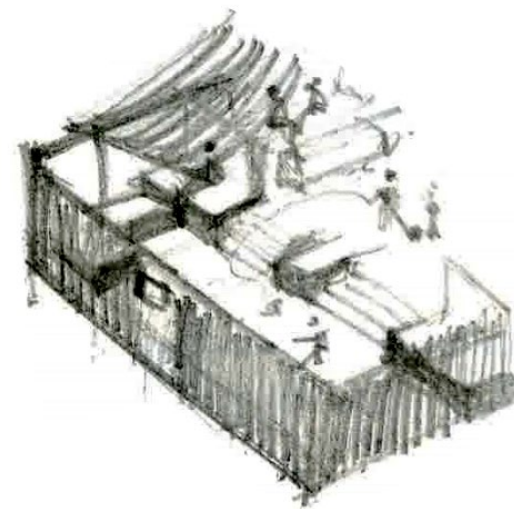
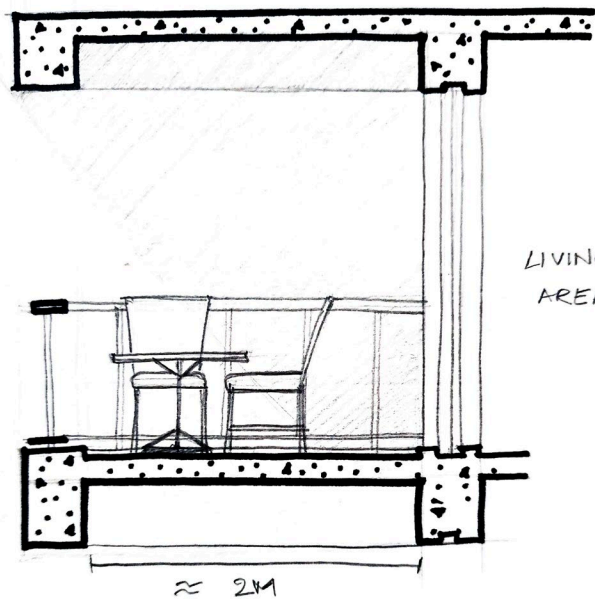
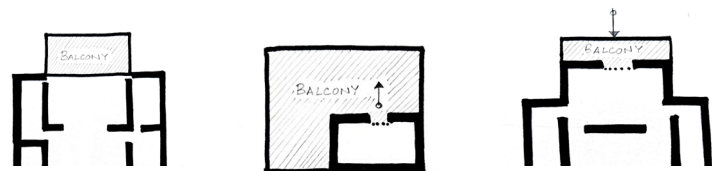




If your program brief was not a space – but these activities – how would you design?

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- A place to have a cup of chai and read newspaper
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A verandah/otla

A courtyard/backyard

A jharoka/bay window

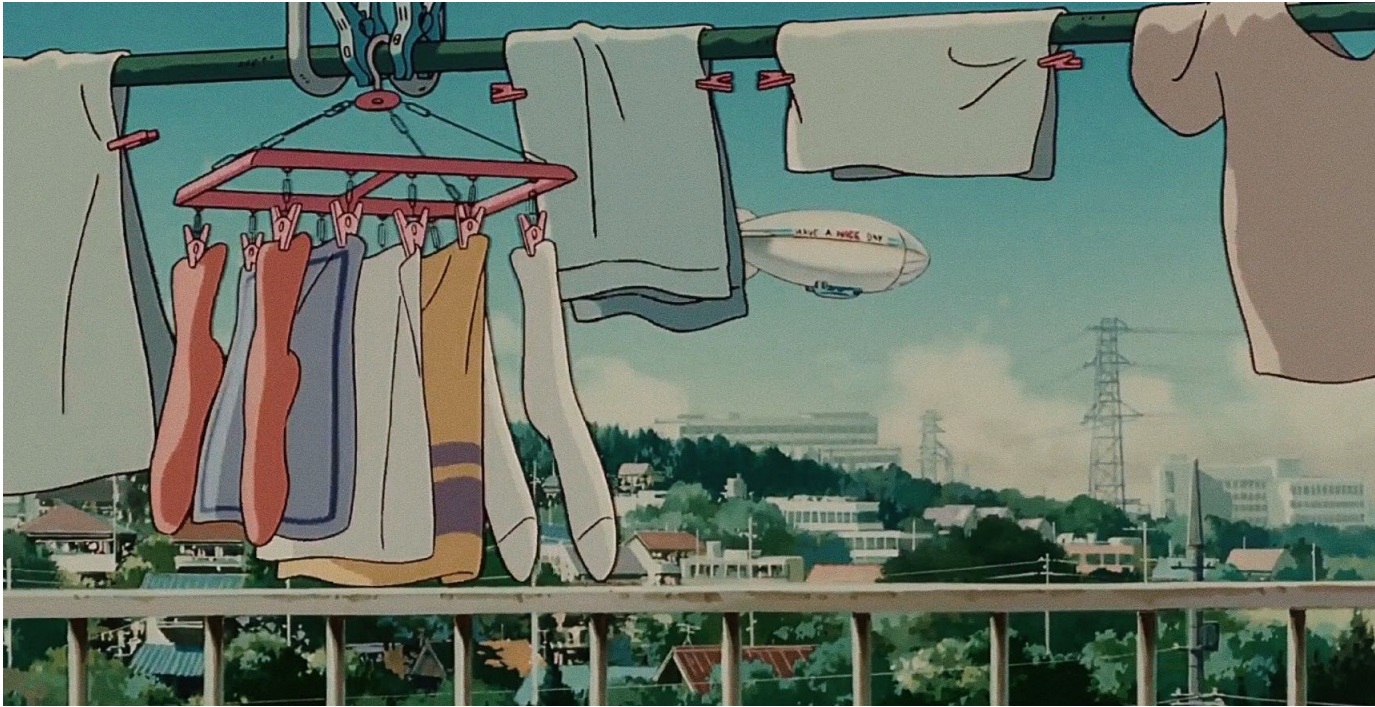
A terrace

- A place to wash utensils
- A place to dry pickles
- A place to have private conversations with family / close friends
- A place to celebrate events/festivals











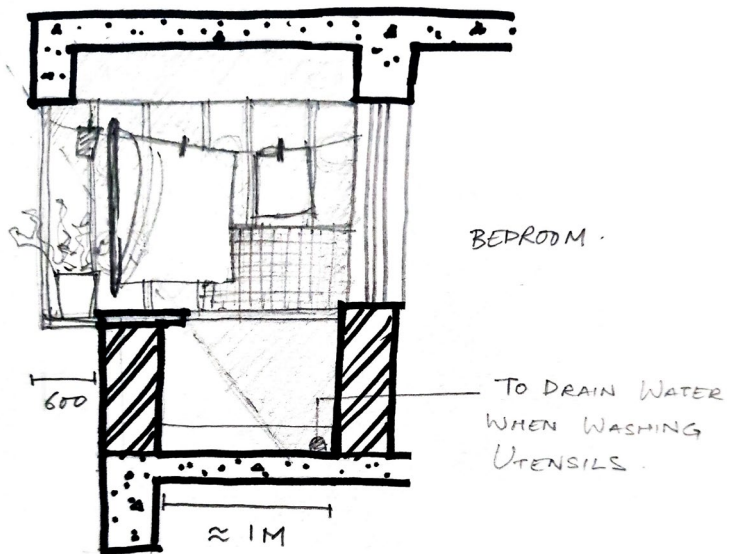
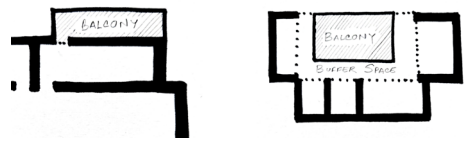


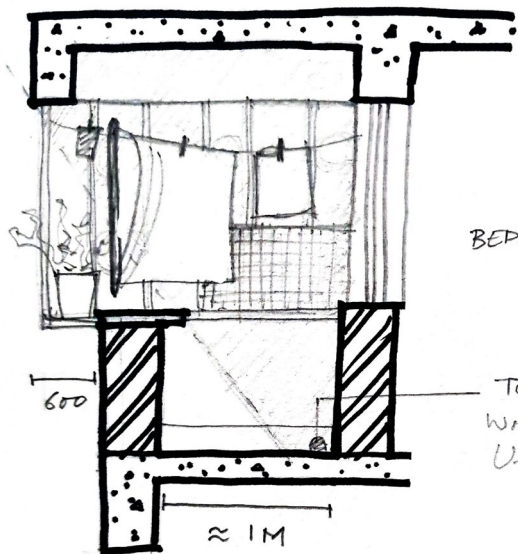
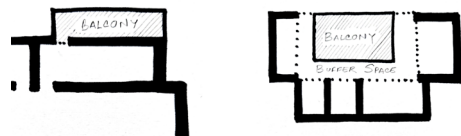


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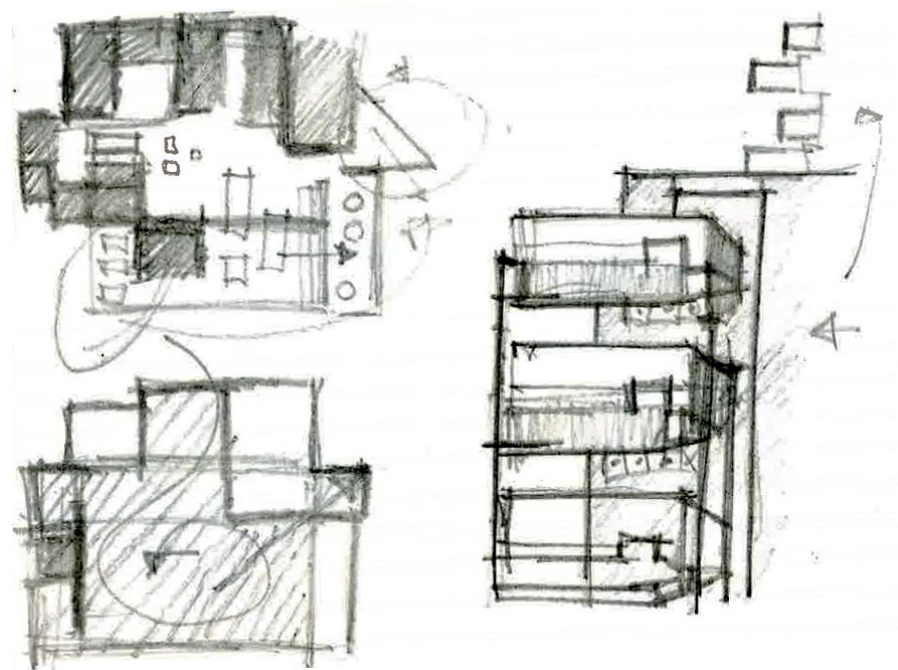






BEDROOM.

TO DRAIN WATER  
WHEN WASHING  
UTENSILS.





A verandah/otla

A courtyard/backyard

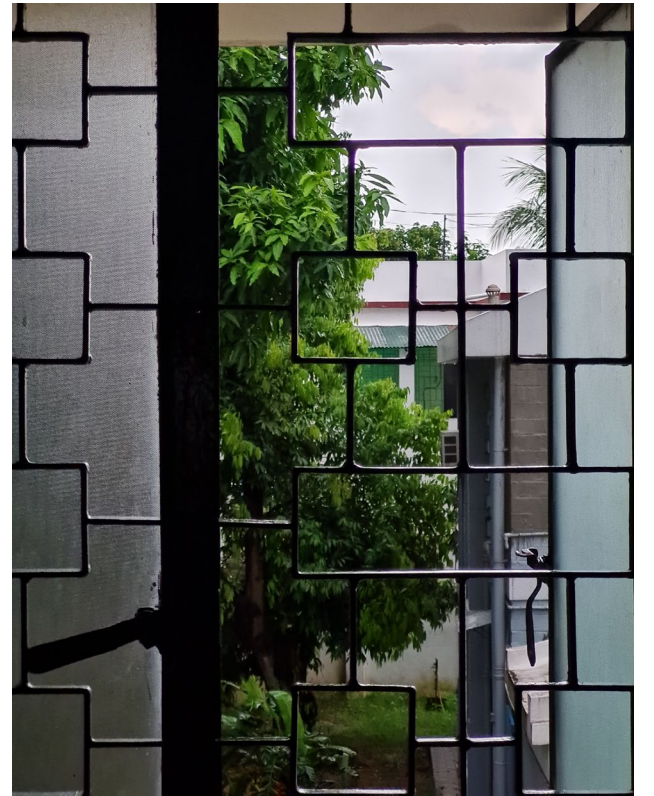
A jharoka/bay window

A terrace

- A place of surveillance
- A place to assist with issues of light, heat and wind





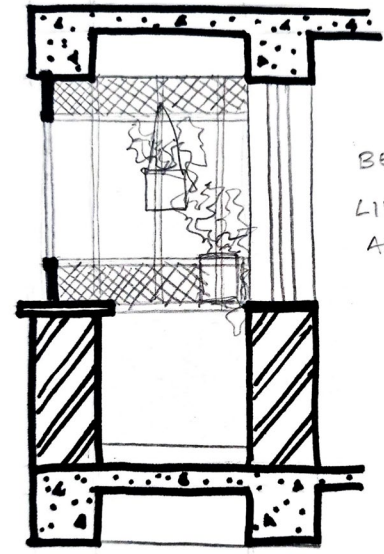
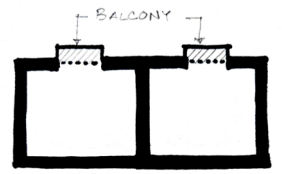






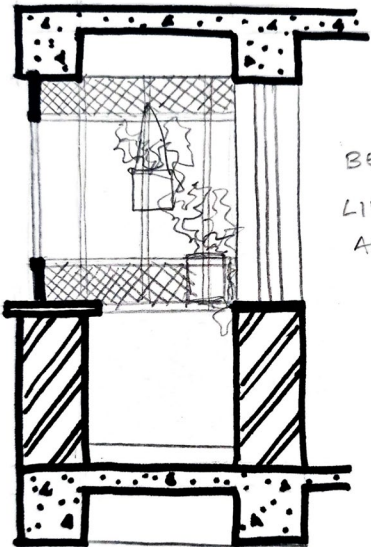
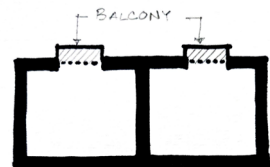
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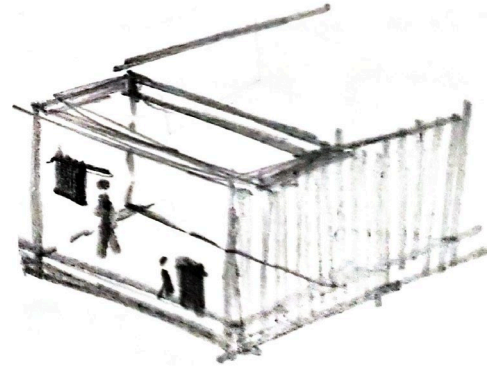
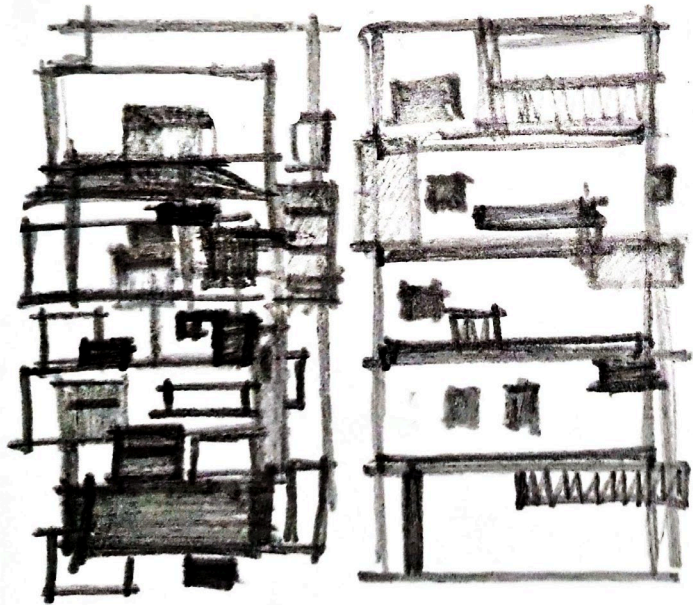
BEDROOM /  
LIVING  
AREA

≈ 0.8 M



BEDROOM/  
LIVING  
AREA

≈ 0.8 M





A verandah/otla

A courtyard/backyard

A jharoka/bay window

A terrace

- A place for drying clothes
- Place to air out old blankets
- A place to play/fly kites
- A place to enjoy the view from
- A place for a garden
- A place for children to play

















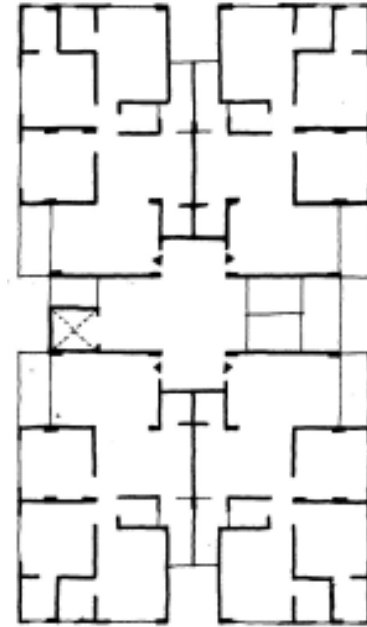
Balconies - What **activities** are they used for? How should they be **designed**?

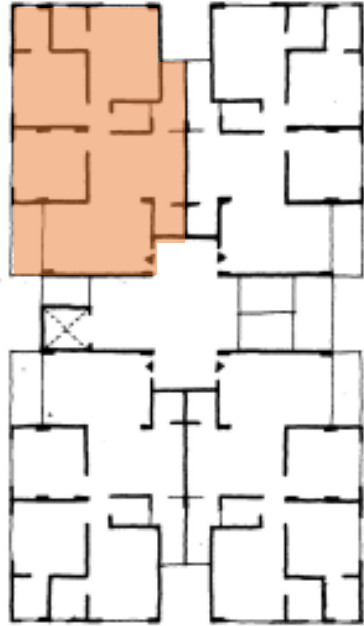




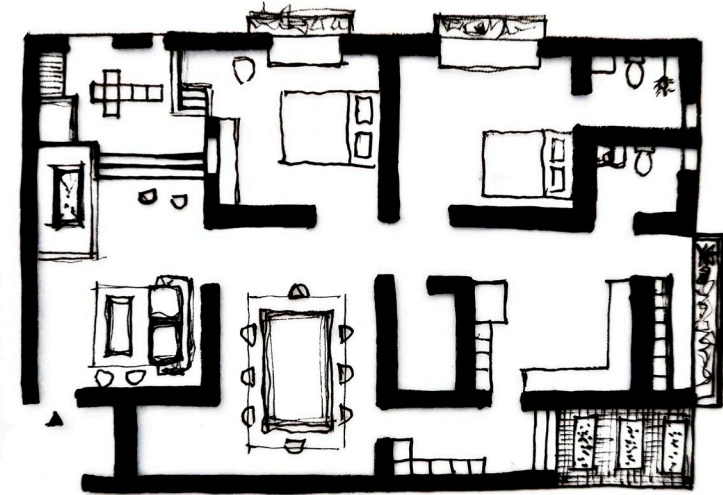
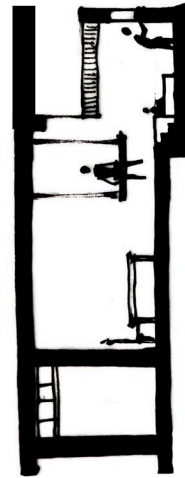
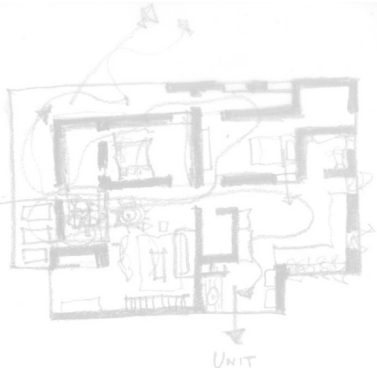
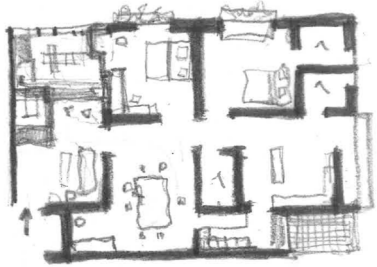
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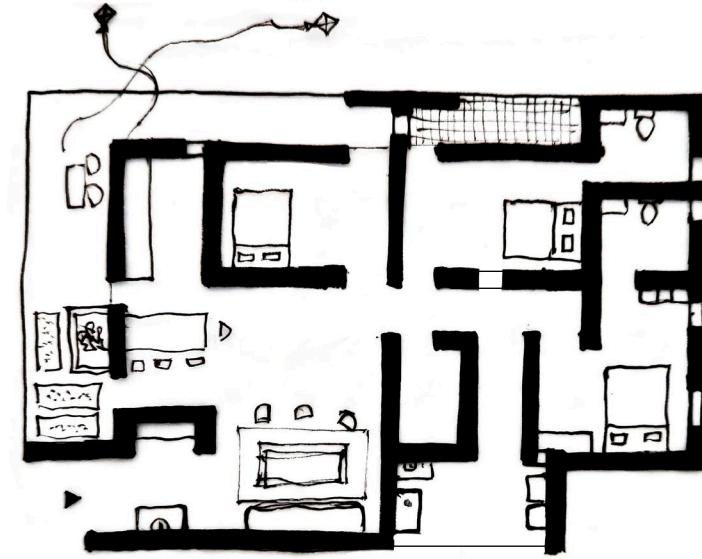
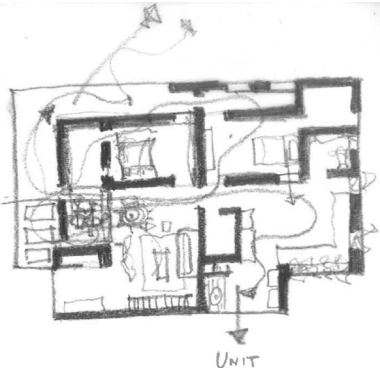






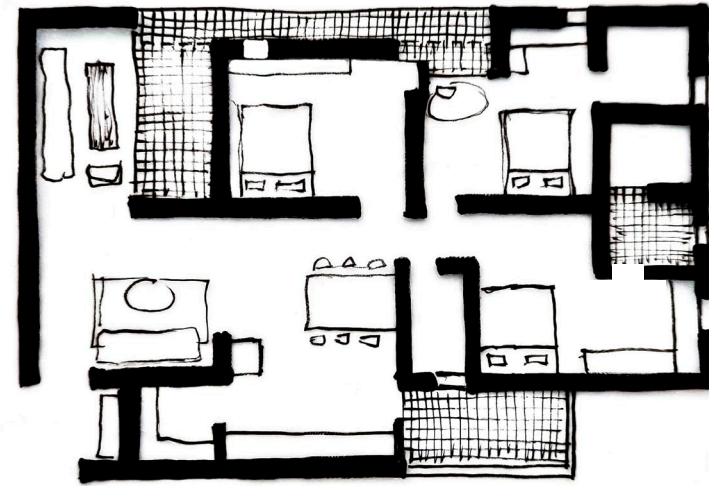
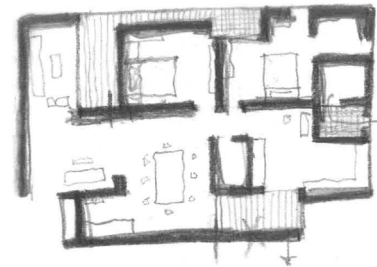
Apartment was modified from a 3 BHK to a 2 BHK.

The house opens inwards to accommodate different (personal) functions



Apartment was retained as a 3 BHK

The house opens itself to the outside. Rooms inside become a place to play



Apartment was retained as a 3 BHK

Forming pockets of spaces which could accommodate different (personal) functions



