

PRÁCTICA

Profile

PRÁCTICA is an architecture, urbanism and design firm that was born as a continuation of its partners' long-lasting collaboration at Harvard University. Conceived as an multidisciplinary platform, PRÁCTICA aims to materialize innovative local ideas in a global design environment. The unique character of each individual project is strongly emphasized through the design process, searching to give simple solutions to an increasingly complex and saturated environment. Each project, regardless of scale or program, always offers a one-of-a-kind opportunity to discover specific conditions and to avoid immediate and conventional answers.

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Team

Jaime Daroca

Jaime Daroca Guerrero is a Spain-based architect currently teaching at Academy of Art University (San Francisco, CA). Jaime holds a Masters in Architecture II from Harvard University Graduate School of Design (2015) and a degree in Architecture from the Technical School of Architecture of Seville (ETSAS, 2010).

Jaime previously worked at e2a architekten in Zurich (2010-2013), and at Daroca Arquitectos in Seville (2004-2010). Jaime has held several research and teaching positions at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design (2013-2015) and at GSAPP Columbia University (2015-2016). His work has been exhibited at the Harvard GSD and at ETSAS.

José Mayoral

José Mayoral Moratilla is a Chile-based architect currently teaching at Universidad Catolica de Chile and at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. Jose was trained as an architect in both Spain and the Netherlands (2010). He holds a Master in Architecture from Harvard University (2014) where he obtained the Harvard Faculty Design Award upon his graduation.

José has worked in several architectural firms including Herzog and de Meuron in Basel (2010-2012), Abalos-Sentkiewicz (2014) and RMA (2014-2015). He has taught courses and studios in institutions including Universidad Católica de Chile (2016) and Harvard University Graduate School of Design where he was appointed teaching associate (2014-2015). His work has been exhibited at the MoMA (New York City, NY, 2015) and he has co-designed the Ephemeral Urbanism Pavilion at the 2016 Venice Architecture Biennale. He is the coauthor of the book ‘EPHEMERAL URBANISM: Looking at Cities in Permanent Cities in Flux’ (2016), and co-curator of the 20th Chilean Biennial of Architecture and Urbanism (Valparaíso, 2017).

José Ramón Sierra

José Ramón Sierra Gómez de León is a Spain-based architect currently teaching at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, CA. He holds a Bachelor and Master in Architecture from the Technical School of Architecture of Madrid (ETSAM, 2013), and a Master in Architecture with Distinction from Harvard University Graduate School of Design (2015).

Jose Ramon has previously worked at several international offices such as David Chipperfield Architects (London, 2015-2016), Rafael Moneo (Madrid, 2011-2013), Tod Williams Billie Tsien (New York City, 2014) and Sergison Bates Architects (London, 2009). He also taught at Harvard GSD (2013-2015). Jose Ramon Sierra’s academic and professional work has been publicly displayed and published at several exhibitions and publications at Harvard University, the University of Seville, and the 20th Chilean Biennial of Architecture and Urbanism.

SOCIAL HOUSING IN MALAGA

Malaga, Spain.

This project focuses on the development of new typological housing models based on their energy efficiency, sustainable, pedestrian and ecological urbanization; and in the vegetation diversity, making the Green Block an example of 21st century urban intervention.

The buildings in their typology and volumetric solution are conditioned by their orientation, maximizing the effect of the natural climatic conditions of the site over the passive strategies of the dwellings and commercial area. The proposed structure is composed of solid elements of cross-laminated timber in opposition to the traditional systems of concrete or steel. This material of great resistance and positive impact on the environment has the potential to become the sustainable solution for the future development of our cities.

In collaboration with Daroca Arquitectos.

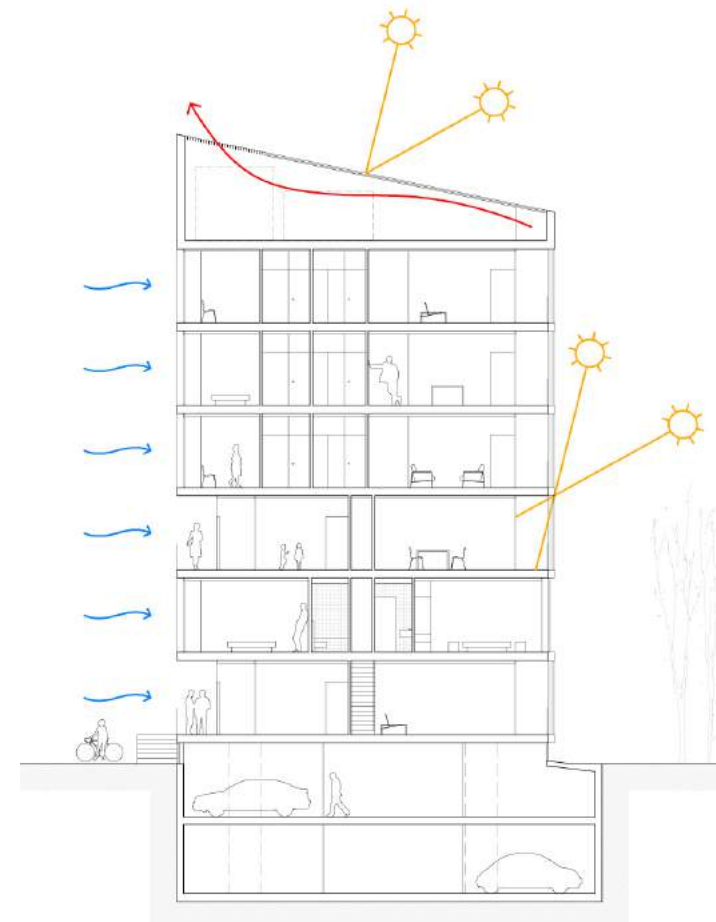
Type: Mixed use, residential and commercial.

Client: Malga Municipality.

Area: 15.196 m2

Year: 2017 -

Status: Competition, first price. Ongoing.



RETHINKING SOMES

Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

Producing a diverse range of solutions to the varied conditions of the river Somes, this proposal reimagines the role of the river as it crosses through Cluj-Napoca for over 15 kilometers.

The Somes is envisioned as an urban connector of public spaces and green areas as well as the primary circulation path for pedestrians and bicycles. A system of terraces expands the river's edge and allows it to permeate into the urban fabric. As the river section is widened, the existing hard edge is transformed into a softer and more natural environment with the inclusion of local vegetation, rocks and sand. This system of terraces allows the river to become more accessible and incorporates areas for recreation where a diverse range of activities can take place. A system of longitudinal bicycle and pedestrian paths give continuity to the circulation routes along the river, currently fragmented, and allows the Somes to become the primary spine of movement throughout the city.

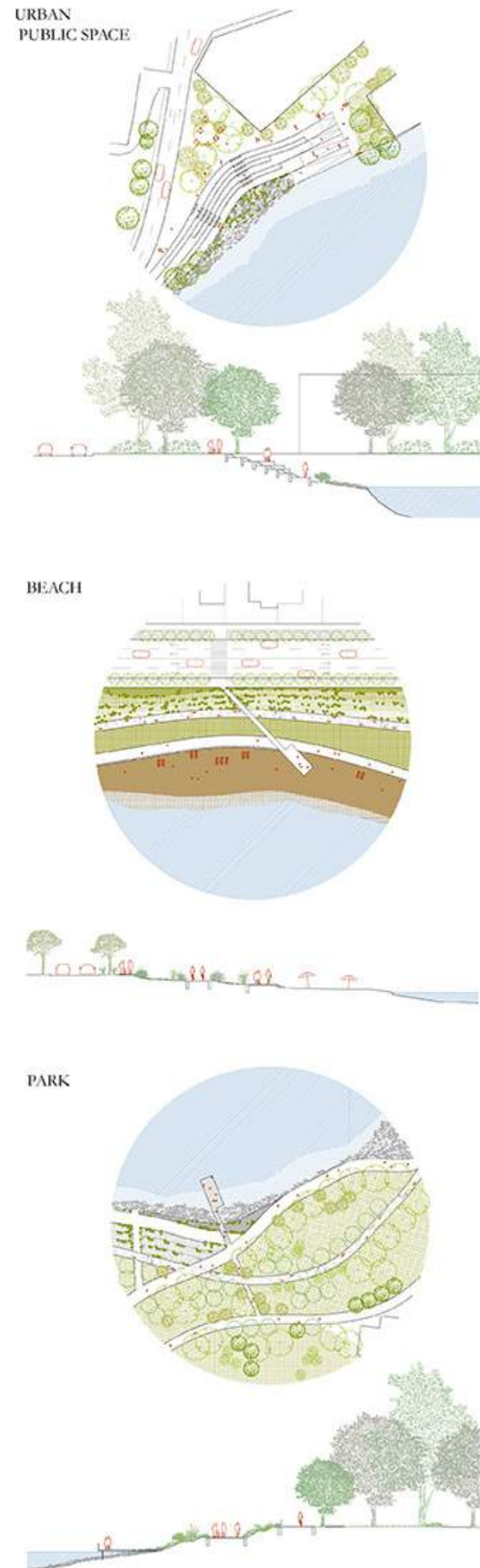
Type: Mixed use, public space, master plan.

Client: Cluj-Napoca Municipality.

Area: 147.800 m2.

Year: 2017 - .

Status: Competition, first prize. Ongoing.



EL CERCAO

Morón de la Frontera, Spain.

The refurbishment of this countryside house in an olive tree orchard off Seville is aimed to carry on the existing narrative of consecutive organic extensions to the original construction. This single-family home explores the potential of the pre-existing construction's interior spaces, as well as its integration in the surrounding rural landscape.

An new system of load-baring walls and terraces integrates the proposed external enclosures with the house and an existing watering pool. The materiality of the project recovers the original finishes of the countryside structure, linking itself to the rural vernacular architecture of the place.

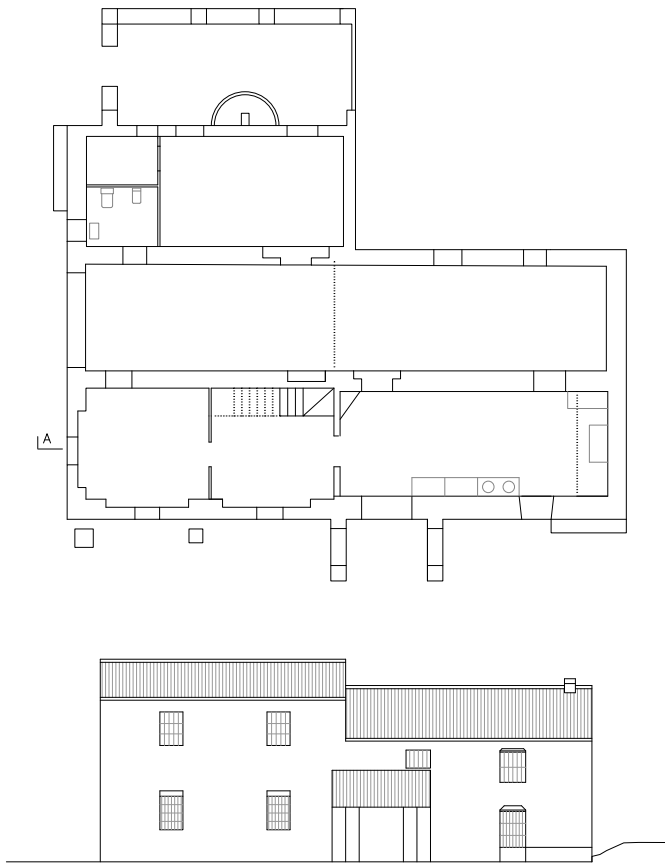
Type: Residential

Client: Private

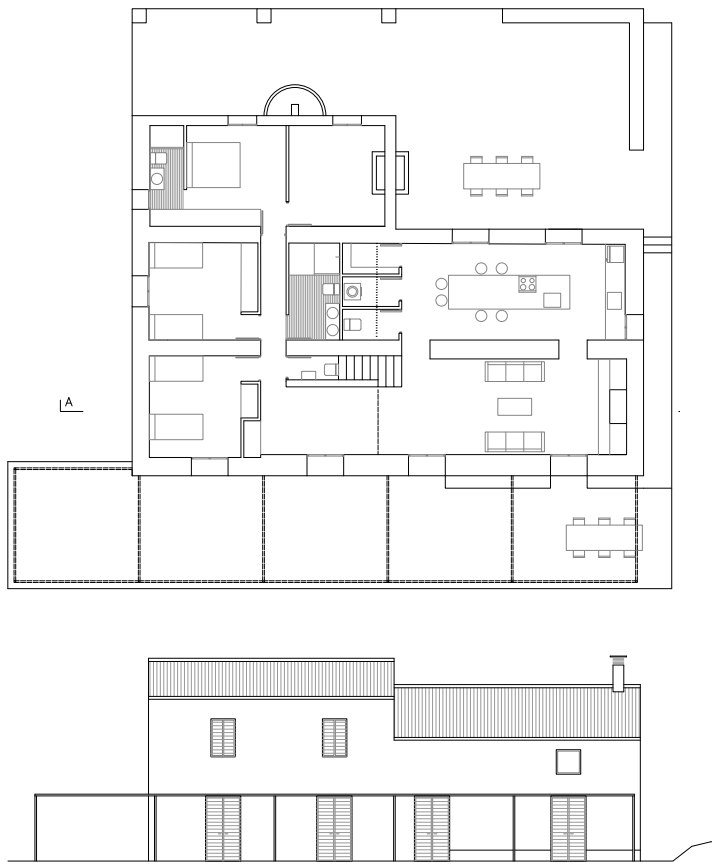
Area: 224 m2

Year: 2017 -

Status: Ongoing



Current condition.



Proposed condition.



OLD STREET

London, United Kingdom.

This small one-bedroom residential project is located within a former multi-storage industrial 19th Century building. The proposal recovers the previously neglected cast-iron structural elements, as well as establishes new residential spaces by laying out a series of built-in furniture pieces that follow a constant grid. The furniture emerges as the main defining element in all spaces, as the same regular timber grid is utilised in different ways such as desk, shelf, cabinet, kitchen or closet.

The dim London sun incidence is maximised in the living room by a set of big mirrors embedded in the furniture grid aimed to reflect the natural light coming in through the balconies on the opposite wall. The materiality of the proposal is completed by different carefully chosen white and grey marbles that cover the bathroom and kitchen surfaces.

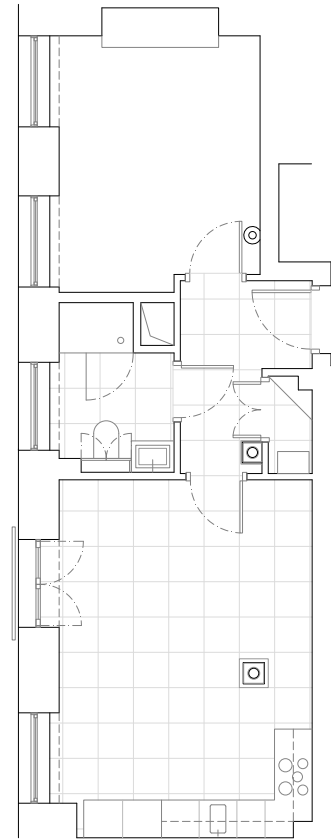
Type: Residential.

Client: Private.

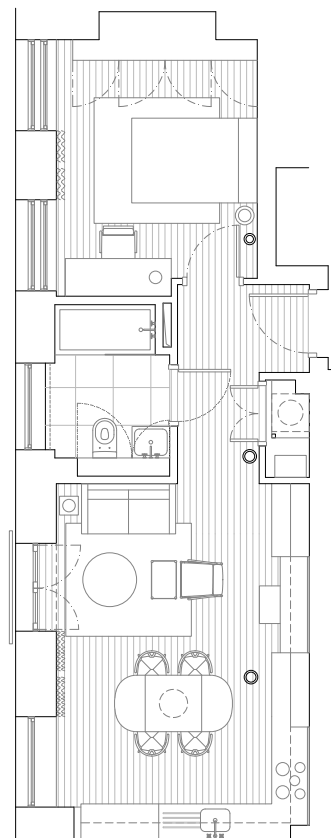
Area: 52 m2.

Year: 2017.

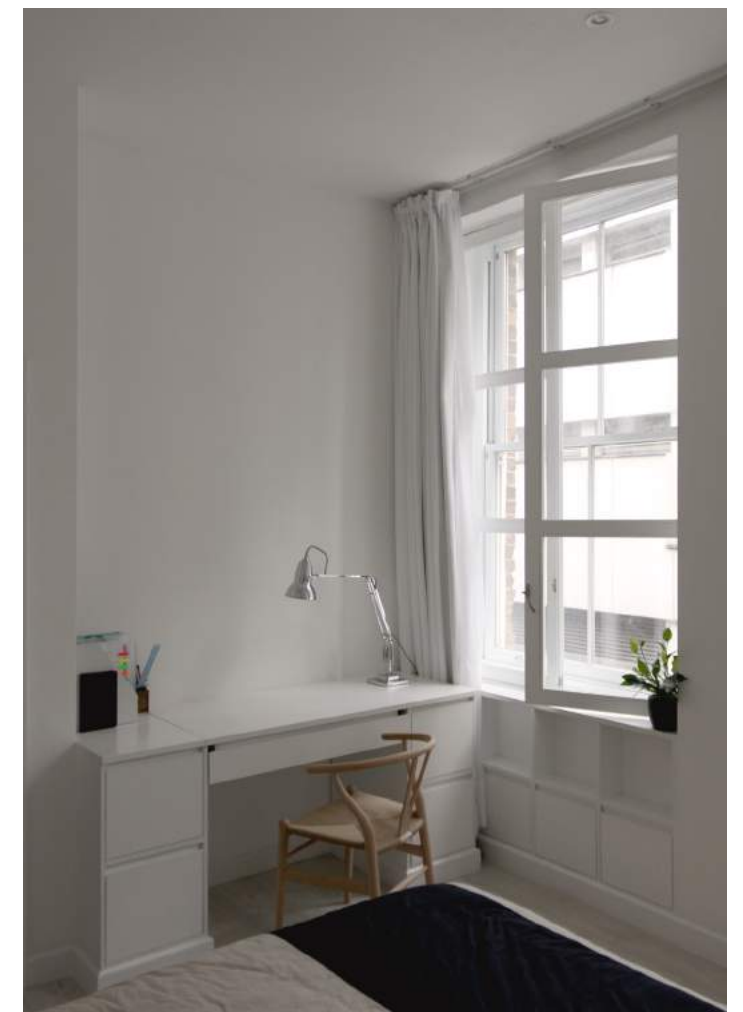
Status: Completed.



Existing condition.



Proposed condition.



SOCIAL HOUSING IN JEREZ

Jerez de la Frontera, Spain.

The city typology chosen for this public housing development is the closed block with an open air central courtyard. This layout makes it possible to build 16 double-orientation units on every floor. The two vertical communications cores connect with every apartment through a series of open galleries that surround the courtyard.

The units are organised in a double layer typology. On the outer layer, all living spaces including living rooms and bedrooms, are protected from the outdoor climatic conditions by a thick wall that hosts alternate closets and balconies. These openings are therefore protected from excessive sun incidence in the summer and rain in winter. The inner layer includes all bathrooms and kitchens in connection to the open galleries in the courtyard.

In collaboration with Daroca Arquitectos.

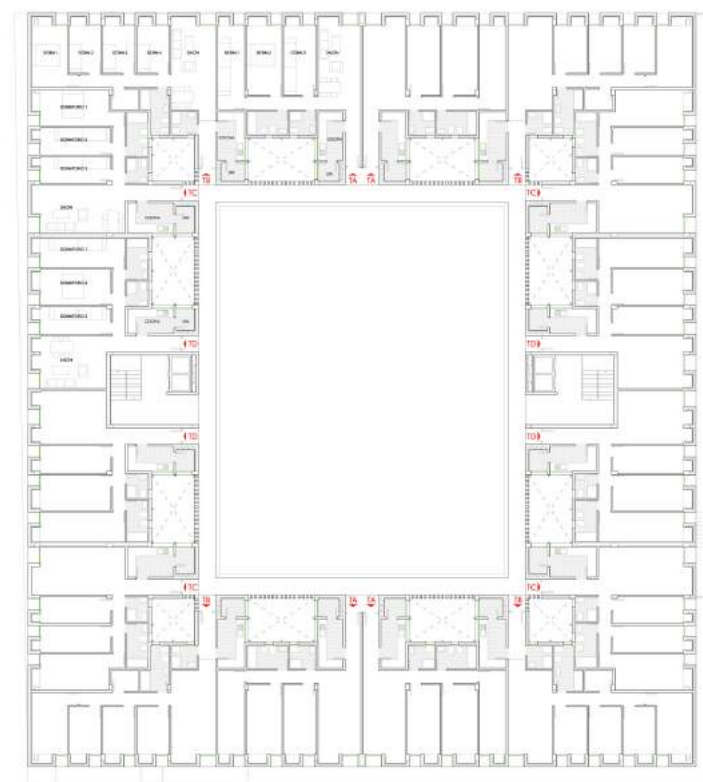
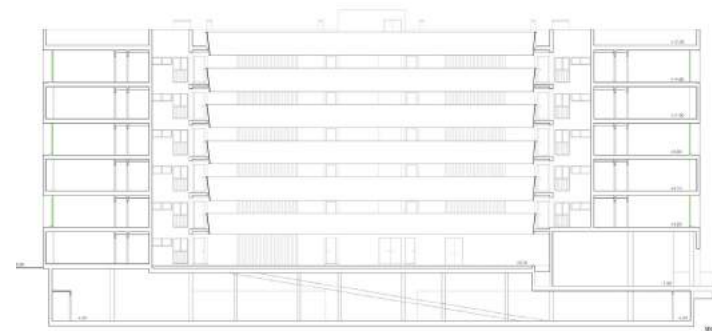
Type: Residential.

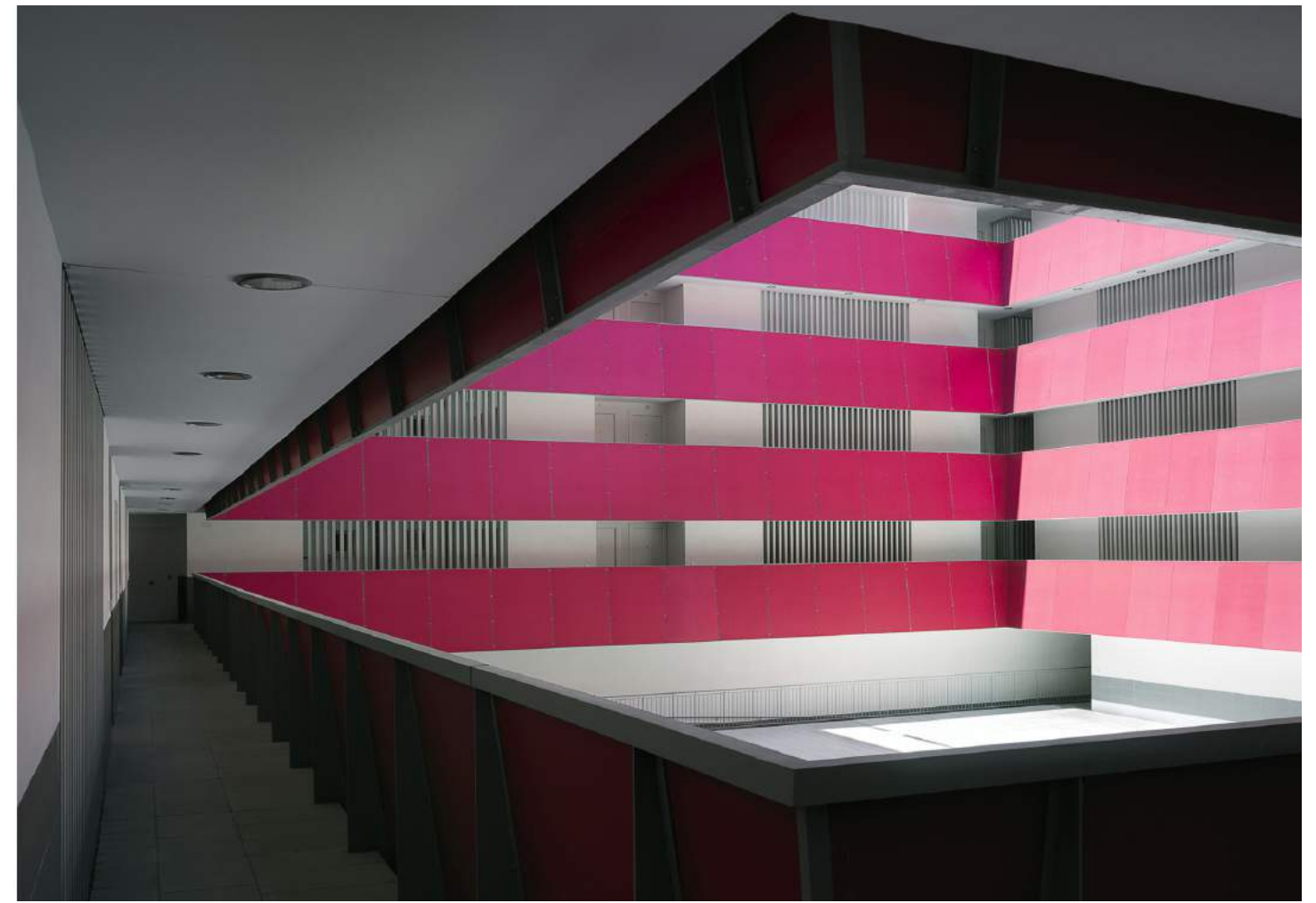
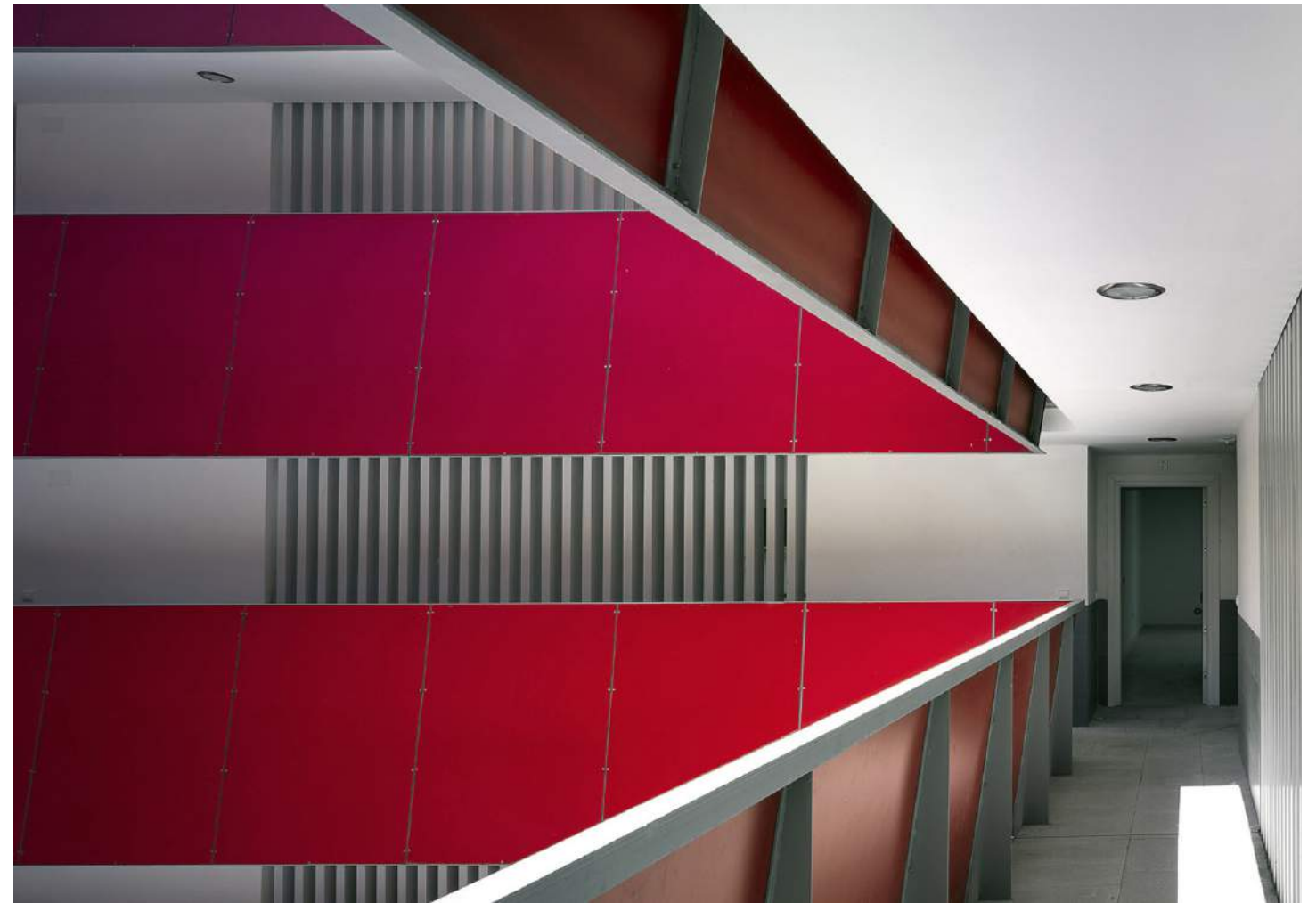
Client: Municipality of Jerez.

Area: 12.764 m2.

Year: 2013.

Status: Completed.





FAUSTINO ÁLVAREZ

Seville, Spain.

This residential refurbishment project located in downtown Seville combined two duplex apartment into a larger two-storey home. The unification of the two original units implies the total reorganisation of the spaces, and the reduction of the duplicated uses, such as vertical communications, kitchens and bathrooms. The resulting spaces show generous proportions, such as the five-balcony living room facing Faustino Álvarez Street.

The materiality of the project is simplified to a timber flooring for all main spaces, tempered glass for new internal partitions, and stainless steel for details.

In collaboration with Esther Mayoral.

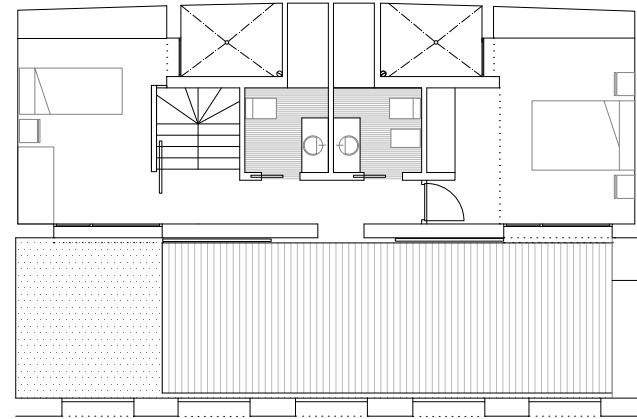
Type: Residential.

Client: Private.

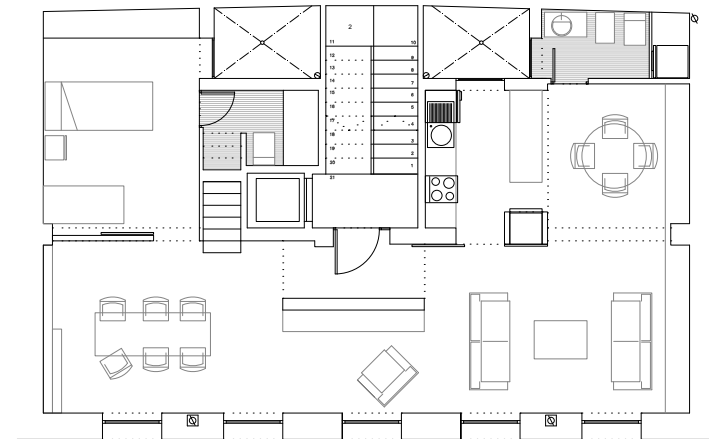
Area: 145 m2.

Year: 2015.

Status: Completed.

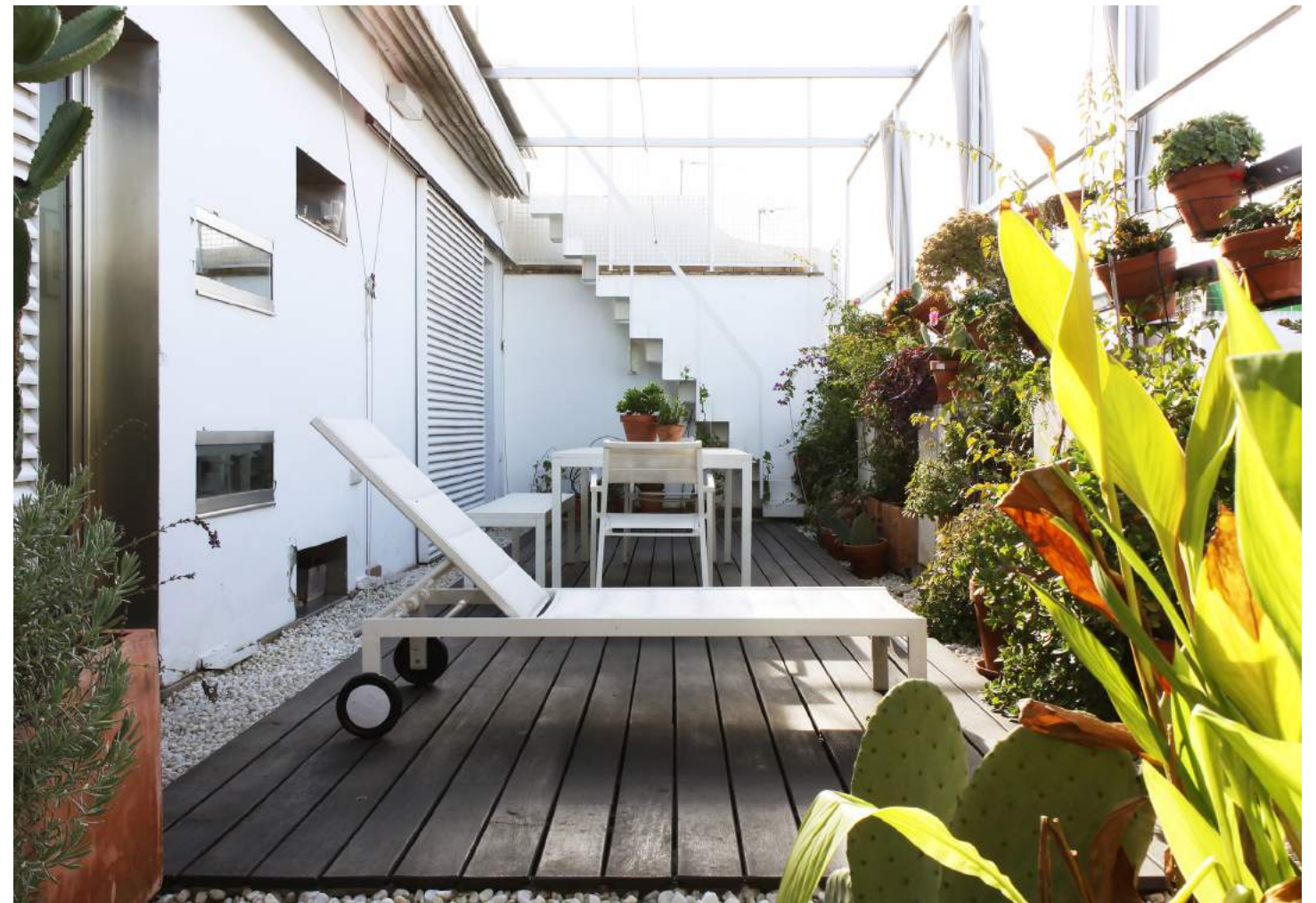


Upper floor plan.



Lower floor plan.





COUNTRYSIDE CHAPEL

Morón de la Frontera, Spain.

This countryside chapel is located within a former storage facility in a traditional rural “cortijo” in Seville. Taking advantage of the triangular shape of the existing construction, the project proposes one continuous space open to the exterior in contact with nature and maximising the perspective of the altar area. Slight opening on the triangle’s vertices enable natural lighting and emphasize the geometry of the place.

In collaboration with Daroca Arquitectos.

Type: Equipment.

Client: Private.

Area: 15 m2.

Year: 2015.

Status: Completed.



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