

GINHAWA

Multifamily Housing Project in
Teacher's Village, Quezon City

DESIGN PROBLEM

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken an immense emotional toll on humankind, with people around the world struggling with increased everyday pressures that come with living, working, and schooling from home. While many families benefited from spending more time together, some relationships suffered. Arguments and disputes increased at the height of the lockdown, and forced proximity between family members provided a challenge for privacy. Minimal access to the outdoors and open air spaces within the home also posed threats to the mental health of individuals.

New residential design schemes should, then, deliver means to balance public and private spaces in the home with an additional focus on openness to the outdoors.

DESIGN APPROACH

Ginhawa (n.)

- [Tagalog] ease; relief; rest; comfort
- [Hiligaynon] breath; respiration

The main goal of this design project, entitled "Ginhawa", is to create family homes that will be able to support relationships and allow for individual and familial growth within the household. The scheme was designed to help families find "ease" and "comfort" within the house and themselves, while also taking into account the literal and figurative "breath" that a bite of nature can give within the city.

DESIGN CONCEPTS & TRANSLATIONS



OPENNESS

Courtyards create a sense of openness in an inward manner.



SIMPLICITY

Crispness of geometric spaces and light finishes highlight a simple elegance.



PRIVACY

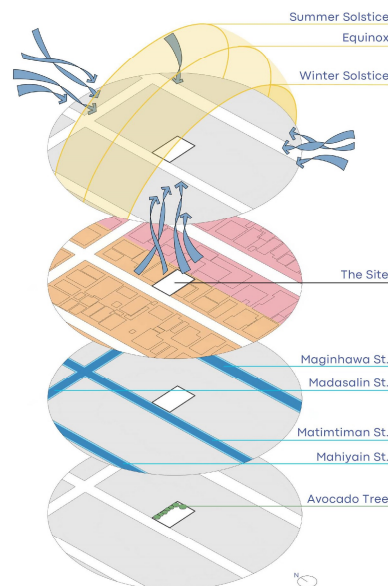
Separate, staggered bedrooms and covered facades encourage privacy.



CONNECTIVITY

Central stairwell for circulation connects individual spaces of the home.

SITE ANALYSIS



Micro-Climate

Wind Paths

Size and Zoning

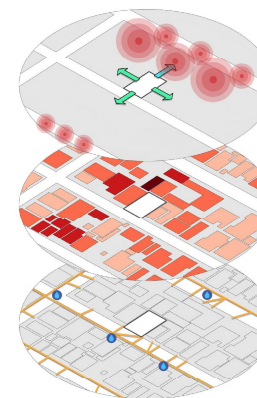
- R-2 Medium Density Residential Zone
- Special Urban Development Zone
- 400 sq.m. (25m x 16m) property
- Oriented with the street side facing West
- NBCP Zoning: Division A-2, Maximum R-2
- QC Zoning Ordinance: Residential R-2

Circulation

- Pedestrian Circulation
- Vehicular Circulation

Natural Physical Features

- There is an avocado tree that has to be preserved at the rear of the property



Sensory

- Views: Residential
- Views: Commercial
- Noise

Man-Made Physical Features

- 1-Storey Structure
- 2-Storey Structure
- 3-Storey Structure
- 4-Storey Structure

Utilities

- Overhead Power Line
- Sewer Manhole
- Storm drains along the sides of the streets

COMMON SURROUNDING FEATURES



Concrete Sidewalk w/
Red Square Accents



Concrete Masonry
Construction



Gable Roof w/
G.I. Sheets



Metal Driveway
Gates

SWOT ANALYSIS

STRENGTHS

- Site is located in an area with moderate foot traffic and low to moderate vehicular traffic, with easy access to minor and major public transportation routes
- Existing topography of the site is relatively flat
- Site has good existing vegetation

WEAKNESSES

- Site is an interior lot oriented with the street side facing West, unfavorable for the tropical climate
- Site is relatively more shaded on the North and East sides, while the West and South sides are left exposed to the harsher sun

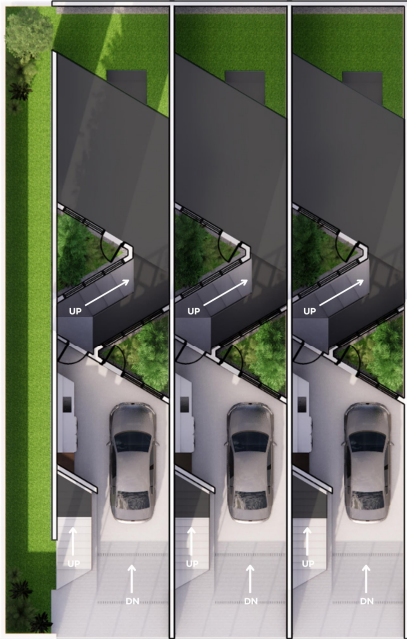
OPPORTUNITIES

- Site is of close proximity to different critical facilities such as schools and health facilities
- Designing to blend with the neighboring buildings is relatively easy since the commonly used materials and finishes are affordable and can be easily sourced

THREATS

- Zone behind the site is Special Urban Development, which may not make for the most peaceful residential space
- Neighboring buildings and unruly, low-hanging overhead power lines impede good scenic views

BUILDING PLANS AND EXTERIOR PERSPECTIVES



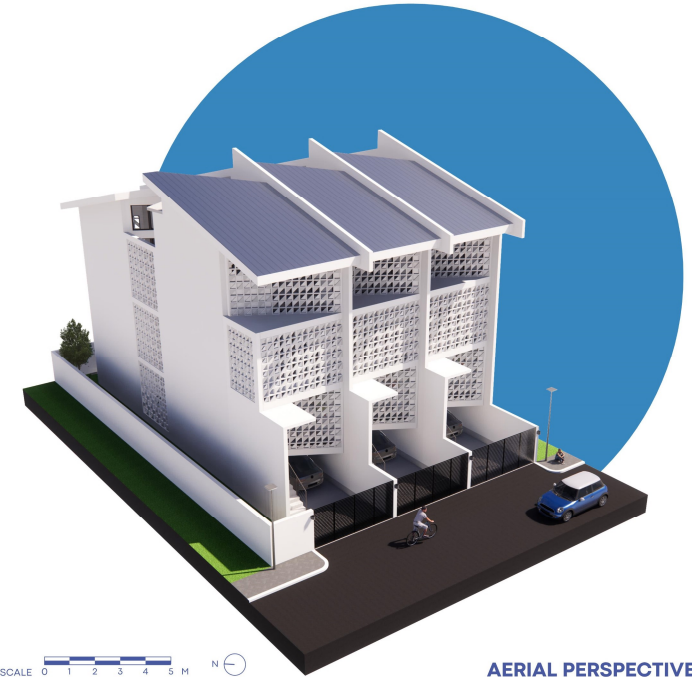
0.5F PLANS



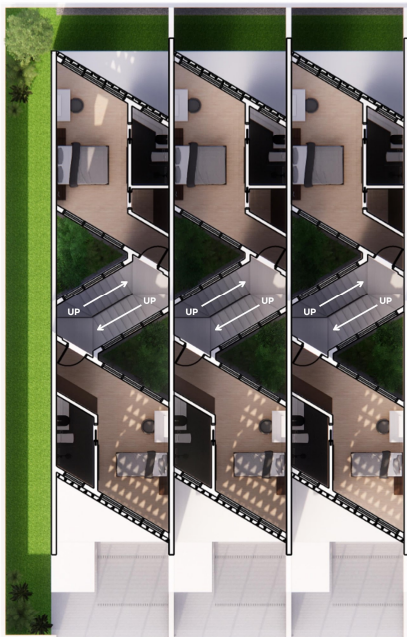
1F & 1.5F PLANS



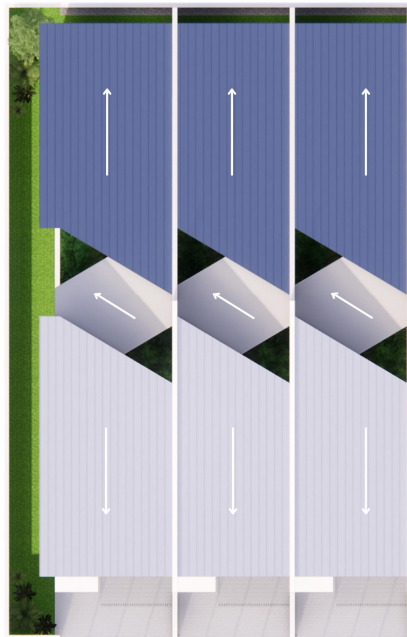
2F & 2.5F PLANS



AERIAL PERSPECTIVE



3F & 3.5F PLANS



ROOF PLANS



APPROACH PERSPECTIVE