Archipulse
History and the Present
Urban How
Between Spaces and Places
In the Corner
Infrastructures
Cities on the move
Transitional Spaces
Secret House  _ AGi Architects

Kuwait's urban fabric mostly consists of detached single-family homes highlighting a clear example of city-sprawl. To adapt to the desert climate, the distances between the built volumes are minimal, resulting in shaded spaces between houses. These spaces that work well as temperature regulators result in facades with little privacy and limited views. This creates an added challenge to create projects with personality that are not based purely on an exercise in facade design.

Given these circumstances, our focus was to design a home that expresses the clients' needs, clearly marking the buffers and transitions that any guest could understand. There are guided routes, hidden areas, exposed areas that are all expressed through the architecture, rather than signage. We want the house from the street to be seen as a resounding permeable volume, that is not transparent, however friendly yet private.

Physical barriers can be seen in varying degrees impeding passage or vision to reach the large opening on the upper terrace that allows you to see through the house. From the inside, the barriers become the volumes that open onto the guests, the rooms that dominate the spaces on the upper levels, defining the spaces below them.

The search for an understanding of the nature of an Islamic family culture living with a Western lifestyle has shaped the overlap of concepts and is reflected in the relevance of the major pieces in the facade, privacy and sun protection. This house was a very peculiar request. Typically the client has a specific program and an actual site, and our job is to make the two complement one another. In the case of the Secret House, the client was occupying the given site in a house that neither met their aesthetic desires, nor their programmatic needs. This design thus becomes a personal expression of their present conditions, and at the same time creates a space capable of holding their hopes for the future.

It is a place with great potential, with wonderful views of the city, and a family who wants privacy. We plan to design a system that would unify these requirements: a house that looks towards
alternating with areas for daily family use. From this level, a staircase runs through the courtyard and leads up to a more private space with a large covered terrace that opens out on the main facade. This allows you to enjoy both the city skyline and the sea view at the horizon in a private, shaded and lush landscaped area.

베일의 점

크레이드의 도시는 대부분 단독 주택으로 이루어져 있다. 대도시 주변의 무단별게 울타리는 주택은 훨씬 더 많은 주택구역은 주택구역 등으로 돌아서 있다. 이는 주택 구역의 면제를 막기 위해 건물 사이를 떠넘겨 줄지 않고 그늘지게 하는 의도도 갖고 있다. 하지만 모든 주택은 그늘 없고, 열람과 너무 가까운 사람 들이 보호되지 못한다. 이에 실종적인 주택 설계를 넘어서는 곳이 있는 주택을 제외로 한다.

서양의 설계방식으로 사는 이들은 가정의 특성을 연구해 설계를 구성하고 여기에 적합하게 허용한다. 사

생활을 보호하는 목소리를 더해 설계를 진행한다. 앞

에서 말을 적절한 위치에 대응하여 가장 허용한 보

이를 앞으로, 진천하지만 적절한 느낌을 준다. 전

적적으로 비용적인 도움으로 설계했으나 최대기

중안에 드로스에 적합한 사시가 보호하는

통상, 이를 다양한 경계를 둘 수 있도록 한 것이다. 집

의 중앙에는 벽이 없으며, 가문이 좁게 둘러싸여 다양한

벽으로 벽을 만들 수 있다. 이 벽을 통해 주택을 올려 둘러

드는데 집 전체의 화환이 한데에 들어간다. 또한, 벽은 위로 방을 구분하지만, 그에 따라 아래층의 공간

도 구분되게 된다.

Project: Sikkens House
Architects: AG Architects
Project team: Dr. Nassir B. Alkhouzani, Joaquim Pires-Goncalves, Bruno Gomez, Shanti Adamad, Beba Abramian, Abdallah B. El Din, Rabab Saeed, Fatimah Verheije, Nawaas Das, Maria Theresa Alafroz, Haneen Alkhouzani, Daniel Muheir Medrand, Soomin Yang, Myu Lee
Location: Shuwailak B. Kuwait
User: housing
Bldg. area: 2,000m²
Completion: 2000