

**ULISBOA | FACULDADE DE ARQUITECTURA | MIARQ | PROJECTO VI | SEMESTRE VI | ANO LECTIVO 2025-2026**  
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EXERCISE I SYLLABUS

## **COLLECTIVE DWELLING**

**URBAN AND ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT FOR COLLECTIVE HOUSING**



Herman Hertzberger, Weesperstraat Student Residence, Amsterdam, 1959–1966

## 01. CONTEXT AND SITE

The work of Semester VI aims to consolidate and deepen design skills through a critical reflection on the theme of collective housing, starting from an urban context toward the definition of the building, while addressing key thematic challenges that shape contemporary architectural practice.

In the 2025/2026 academic year, the second semester takes as its study area the district of Telheiras, bounded by the Second Ring Road (Segunda Circular), Estrada da Luz, Travessa da Luz, Rua Fernando Namora, and Rua Prof. Jorge Campinos. The project will be developed in coordination with an urban solution produced within the Urbanism course unit in the previous semester.

The intervention area covers approximately 5 hectares, within which an urban operation has been defined, including public spaces, new pedestrian connections, and a development area dedicated to collective housing, services, and commerce.



Intervention area | contextual orthophotomap

## 02. OBJECTIVES

The exercise develops themes introduced in the first semester and has as its main objectives to respond simultaneously to:

- The consolidation of a previously developed urban strategy, accepted as the working basis, which takes into account its surroundings and the existing urban systems;
- The appropriate functional resolution of a collective housing programme, which must necessarily superimpose, on different levels, the residential programme, commercial uses, and underground parking;
- The development of a qualified architectural project, intentional in its language and aesthetic approach, framed by references from the Theory and History of Architecture, through the expressive manipulation and organisation of the various constituent elements of the proposal, allowing the whole to be read as an “architectural language” and achieving a coherent synthesis that goes beyond the specific resolution of each individual design challenge;

- The development of systems of transition that qualify the relationship between the building and the city, through the articulation between public space and collective spaces, promoting a habitable threshold that integrates the architectural object into the surrounding urban fabric;
- Its effective technical resolution, correctly and fully represented at multiple scales, supported by an elementary structural concept, basic regulatory compliance, general constructive solutions, and the accommodation of technical infrastructures.

The architectural project to be developed is based on an urban design proposal produced within the Urbanism course unit during the first semester. This preliminary study was selected from a set of three finalist proposals chosen by the design studio tutors [see ANNEX I], following a pre-selection carried out by the Urbanism tutors based on all group projects developed across the ten classes of that course unit.

By establishing points of intersection with other course units, the exercise aims to implement, through a practical project, a “synthesis of knowledge”, materialising in the final semester of the Bachelor’s degree in Architectural Studies a disciplinary convergence of multiple architectural domains.

In addition to the generic issues identified above, the project must reflect upon the contemporary residential condition—urban and architectural—stimulating new debates around the demands and perception of individual, family, and collective domestic space. This reflection should take into account the current global and national context of housing shortage, as well as profound social transformations (including groups beyond the traditional family unit, such as students, migrants, and even tourists), and significant changes in living patterns. These include evolving gender roles, population ageing, changes in family structures, and shifts in work paradigms—particularly the increasing prevalence of remote work, often carried out from home.

Within this context, the exercise questions which architectural design resources, in both built and unbuilt space, can contribute to addressing the current functional and social demands of individuals and families. Among others, the following themes are suggested:

- **Versatility and adaptability** – The pressing need for multifunctionality in domestic spaces, as well as in shared building spaces, calls for a reconsideration of established housing models, promoting the ability of each household to adapt space to its changing needs over time.
- **Transitional spaces** – Within this same context, transitional spaces can function as areas of relationship between domestic, collective, and public space, acting as zones of individual and/or collective decompression—being outside while still at home.
- **Hybrid or indeterminate spaces** – In the realm of collective spaces, hybridity or indeterminacy allows operational flexibility, enabling the accommodation of unexpected uses.

The exercise also defines specific objectives, including:

- The definition of relationships between the proposed built form, pre-existing elements, and the surrounding context, both in terms of built space and exterior spaces;
- The recognition and use of different modes of repetition and aggregation as structuring systems that confer unity, extension, and diversity to the architectural object;
- The ability to use predefined rules as stimuli for design;
- The dimensioning of housing units according to clear and coherent principles that recognise and accommodate different practices and temporalities (daily life, seasons, different generations, conviviality or sequencing over time, and emerging demands);
- The qualified characterisation of intermediate spaces between the city, the building, and the dwelling;

- The articulation and dimensioning of access and shared circulation systems as an effective functional structure, a qualified spatial structure, and a transitional device (interior–exterior, public–private, individual–collective, domestic–urban);
- Compliance with habitability conditions, namely lighting, ventilation, shading, privacy, safety, and accessibility to housing units and neighbouring buildings;
- The establishment of relationships between structural, infrastructural, and spatial dimensioning;
- The definition of a constructive solution based on the composition of architectural elements, capable of characterising and qualifying both interior and exterior spaces.

### 03. PROGRAMME

#### Programmatic Constraints

The first phase of the work, comprising both a group and an individual component, begins by evaluating and adjusting the urban proposal adopted in each class and its volumetric occupation, subsequently developing a typological aggregation system with the definition of the corresponding articulation and functional distribution structures.

Establishing a complementary relationship with the Urbanism course, the urban proposal should consolidate the concepts previously defined in the preliminary proposal, ensuring qualities of integration within the intervention area, adjustment of levels, consolidation of access points, and characterization of the exterior space.

Through the following phases, the program considers a set of interrelated minimum parameters that allow for the construction of a residential complex with commercial and service spaces, typologically diverse.

The proposal to be developed should thus ensure the following:

#### Number and Type of Housing Units

##### Plan Class C

- Number of large housing units: 14–18
- Number of small housing units: 28–36

##### Plan Class E

- Number of large housing units: 14–18
- Number of small housing units: 28–36

##### Plan Class F

- Number of large housing units: 22–27
- Number of small housing units: 44–54

The ‘large’ housing units should be understood as suitable for accommodating a family nucleus of at least 5 people. The ‘small’ housing units should accommodate a minimum of 2 people.

The built complex must necessarily consider the vertical superposition of the two types of units (‘small’ and ‘large’), ensuring compatibility in structural, infrastructural, spatial, and aesthetic aspects.

Although the project is based on two unit types (‘small’ and ‘large’), the existence of typological variants or exceptions may be considered. This includes units that explore a particular feature related to their location within the built complex or their connection with another unit; the possibility of using some of their spaces for non-residential purposes; or a special relationship with the access system, among other aspects.

seus espaços para fins não habitacionais ou uma relação particular com o sistema de acessos, entre outros.

#### Maximum Areas of the Housing Units

- Maximum Gross Area of a Large Housing Unit: 160 m<sup>2</sup>

- Maximum Gross Area of a Small Housing Unit: 80 m<sup>2</sup>
- A storage room of 12 m<sup>2</sup> must also be provided for each unit.

The indicated gross areas include the unit area measured along the exterior perimeter of its walls, including balconies, as well as its proportional share of common circulation areas (both vertical and horizontal). The area allocated to any balconies must not exceed 20% of the unit's gross area.

All units must accommodate the various functions of living in a broad sense and be accessible from the perspective of universal mobility, with accessibility up to the unit entrance. In addition, at least one 'large' unit and one 'small' unit must be fully accessible.

The design of the units should include areas for laundry or storage, as well as conditions that enhance the energy efficiency of the dwelling (dual orientation, shading of glazed openings, and natural ventilation) and ensure the healthiness of all habitable spaces (including the possibility of natural ventilation in kitchens or other lighter facilities, such as kitchenettes).

Under no circumstances are living spaces acceptable without a direct connection to the exterior.

### Commercial and Service Areas

The minimum gross area allocated to commercial and service spaces must comply with the provisions established in each urban plan developed in the respective class. The various commercial or service spaces should include a minimum sub-program, such as basic sanitary facilities, support areas, or storage, appropriate to the size of the units.

Provision should be made for a designated area to support a community-based organization within the neighborhood in which the building is located.

### Collective Areas

Areas for communal use:

- Condominium room: 2 m<sup>2</sup> per housing unit (small or large), with a minimum total of 70 m<sup>2</sup>
- Gym: maximum total of 200 m<sup>2</sup>
- Community space: 150 m<sup>2</sup>

Regulatory requirements regarding spaces for waste disposal and mailboxes must also be considered.

### Parking Provision

Parking to be integrated within the developed plots must be intended for residents and permanent users of the commercial and service spaces, in the following proportions:

- One space (25 m<sup>2</sup>) for each housing unit (small or large)
- One space (25 m<sup>2</sup>) for every 100 m<sup>2</sup> of commercial or service area

Underground parking spaces must necessarily be located within the perimeter of the developed plot(s) and may under no circumstances be situated beneath existing public roads. Underground spaces are dedicated exclusively to the use of the building's occupants.

All different programmatic components (residential, commercial/service, and parking) must be vertically integrated within the built complex to be developed.

### Outdoor Spaces

Based on the preliminary proposal defined in Urbanism, the outdoor spaces must be an integral part of the project and should reflect an integrated relationship with the built environment, as well as the richness of their natural features within the urban fabric of the study area. These outdoor spaces may function as complementary areas to the housing units and as transitional zones between private spaces, common areas, and public spaces.

#### **04. PHASING**

The exercise is divided into three phases, each subdivided into several tasks.

PHASE 1 – Urban Consolidation and Preliminary Building Study

This phase comprises 2 tasks.

PHASE 2 – “Assembly” of the Building – Base Project

This phase comprises 3 tasks.

PHASE 3 – Constitutive and Constructive Materialization, Critical and Theoretical Foundation

This phase comprises 2 tasks, with the second task (critical and theoretical foundation) being developed for examination.

Each phase and task will be developed according to its specific content, with incursions into the following phase to support project decision-making, and into the previous phase to adjust choices in light of the more detailed development of the proposal.

## PHASE 1

**Exercise for In-depth Urban Solution Development**, emphasizing the maintenance of the principles previously established by the urban project (form, volume, solids–voids, levels, parceling, etc.).

### **Task 1: Consolidation of the Urban Project [in groups of 3 or 4 students]**

Analysis of a portion of the urban project adopted by the class (proposed by the instructor) and development of a strategy for defining the built spaces and open areas, considering their relationship with the urban context.

Present the evaluations and any necessary adjustments of the solution, taking into account:

- Terrain modeling (topography);
- Definition and design of unbuilt spaces (public and private);
- Relationships with the surrounding context.

**Reference scale:** 1:500

**Deadline:** 2 classes, 11 February

### **Task 2: Definition of the General Concept for the Study Building [individual work]**

**PRELIMINARY STUDY** of the functional organization of the complex: general strategy for the aggregation of housing units and their distribution system, in line with the initially assumed strategic proposal, including the location of access points, vertical and horizontal circulation systems, and the location of units differentiated by type/size:

- Definition of the spatial organization/location of public functions: commercial and service areas;
- Definition of the building's vertical and horizontal access systems;
- Aggregation strategy for large and small housing units;
- Definition of the location of collective areas and their integration with the building's overall organization.

**Reference scale:** 1:500

**Deadline:** 2 classes, 23 February

**Submission of Tasks 1 and 2:** 23 February, according to the elements defined below.

## PHASE 2

**Development of the "ASSEMBLY" OF THE BUILDING / GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL STUDY**, with the definition of spatial and support structures based on the cellular design of the housing unit.

### **Task 3: Drawing the Housing Units**

Using a base scale of 1:200, but with studies at 1:100 and/or 1:50, consider **WHAT KIND OF HOUSES DO WE WANT?** What is the conceptual basis for the design of large and small units? Task 3 is therefore dedicated to the drawing of the housing units, based on:

- Definition of a conceptual structure for the unit, reflecting on large and small variants and modes of access;
- Sizing and drawing of the units, considering the relative proportion of the different rooms, the role of each space, and the relationship with the exterior;
- Integration with a support structure, defined as a larger framework common to the other areas of the building;
- Positioning and sizing of infrastructural systems;
- Definition of compositional elements that contribute to the overall compositional reading/architectural language of the building.

**Reference scale:** 1:200

**Deadline:** 4 weeks, 7 classes, 18 March

#### **Task 4: Drawing Public and Collective Areas**

Building on the stabilization of Phase 1 and working at a 1:200 scale, Task 4 is dedicated to the definition and drawing of the building's public and collective areas (without neglecting unbuilt spaces), aiming to:

- Dimension and draw commercial areas, service spaces, and collective areas, with special attention to access points to the building, both in the residential component (entrance hall or other private spaces) and the public component (commercial and service areas);
- Integrate these areas with a support structure, defined through a structural grid compatible with the housing units;
- Consider the compositional expression/architectural language of this built component as part of the whole;
- Resolve the adopted parking solution.

**Deadline:** 3 weeks, 5 classes, 15 April

#### **Task 5: On a Compositional Sense**

Task 5 is dedicated to re-evaluating the whole and ensuring alignment with the initial objective of the exercise: **“manipulation and organization of the various constituent elements of the proposal in an expressive way that allows the appreciation of the whole as an ‘architectural language,’ achieving a qualified synthesis that transcends the specific resolution of each individual design challenge.”**

**Deadline:** 3 weeks, 6 classes, 6 May

**Intermediate presentation of Phase 2:** 8 April, according to the elements defined

**Submission of Tasks 3, 4, and 5:** 10 May, according to the elements defined below

### **PHASE 3**

#### **Development and Detailing of the Architectural Project Expression at Larger Scales and Constitutive Materialization. Project Rationale and Its Critical, Theoretical, and Disciplinary Framework.**

##### **Task 6: Constitutive Logic vs. Constructive Logic**

With a compositional sense already stabilized and the programmatic requirements fulfilled – and with structural and infrastructural issues already considered in relation to the architectural concept – the project must now specify the principles of constitution and constructive logic, characterizing, at a 1:50 scale, the elements and materials that define the building's expression.

##### **Task 7: Critical and Theoretical Rationale**

Preparation of a text presenting the critical and theoretical rationale of the project, anchored to the topics discussed in theoretical classes, the content delivered by the instructor in practical sessions, and the recommended bibliography.

**Deadline:** 2 weeks, 4 classes

**Submission of Task 6 and project completion:** 25 May

**Submission of Task 7:** at the exam, together with the final process, formalized as a digital PDF submission

## 05. MEANS, WORKING SCALES, AND FINAL DELIVERABLES

The project design should preferably use traditional drawing media (pencil, ink, graphite, markers, pens, gouache, charcoal, etc.) on opaque or transparent paper, with a minimum paper size of A2.

Study models should be produced at the scales used in the drawings or at other convenient scales, as part of the project research process.

The final panels, in A1 format, portrait orientation, may make use of computer-aided design.

### PHASE 1

**Task 1:** The reference scale for consolidating the urban solution is 1:500, with integration drawings and solutions for the characterization of Public Space, considering the following minimum deliverables:

- Plans, Sections, and Elevations at 1:500;
- Study models.

**Task 2:** The reference scale for the preliminary study of the building is 1:500, considering the following minimum deliverables:

- Plans and Sections at 1:500;
- Study models.

### PHASE 2

The reference scale for the development of the entirety of **Phase 2 – “Assembly” of the Building / General Architectural Study** is 1:200, considering the following minimum deliverables:

- Plans, Sections, and Elevations of the built complex at 1:200;
- Study models;
- Detailed study of two typical housing units at a larger scale (1:100);
- Presentation of a summary table with the number and type of units, areas by type of use, number of occupants, and parking.

The working process for this phase should particularly address issues such as the three-dimensional integration of the building's various components, façade composition, internal organization of the units, relationship with the ground and public space, structural grid, and infrastructural systems.

### PHASE 3

**Task 6:** The reference scale for the development/detailing of the architectural project's expression/image is **1:50**, considering the following minimum deliverables:

- Vertical section showing a significant portion of the building, its connection to the ground and termination with the sky, as well as the resolution of construction materials at 1:50;
- Partial elevation integrated with the section at 1:50;
- Study and final models.

The working process for this phase should particularly address the development of the building's expression from a **constitutive perspective** and in relation to **architectural detailing**.

**Task 7:** The project's contextual and justificatory text should freely develop a **critical and theoretical analysis of the proposal**, supporting the design decisions made in the various phases and aspects of the project, within the framework of the material covered during the semester, including content from theoretical classes, information delivered by the instructor in practical sessions, and the reference bibliography provided throughout the year:

- Text length: between 500 and 1000 words.

## 06. ASSESSMENT

(Based on the course sheet)

[...] In addition to the specific aspects contained in the FAUL Assessment Regulations, the students' work, to be evaluated throughout the semester, includes all aspects of their participation, whether individual or in groups, related to practical and theoretical assignments, interventions and contributions to discussions, or any other type of input arising from the work to be developed.

Within the framework of this course, registration for the first exam session depends on attendance at a minimum percentage of in-person sessions, which must not be less than 75%. If this minimum attendance is not met, except in cases provided by law, the student will not be allowed to take the first exam session and may only take the second session. According to the current regulations, only students with a continuous assessment grade equal to or higher than 7 (out of 10) will be allowed to sit for the first exam session.

The continuous assessment of the mandatory practical component is assigned by the student's instructor, based on interim evaluations, which will be cumulative and assessed across all classes by all instructors of the year, under the coordination of the course's scientific coordinator.

Exercise grades are weighted according to the nature of the work (group or individual) and its complexity. [...]

**Phase 01 – 20%**

**Phase 02 – 65%**

**Phase 03 – 15%**

[...] Participation, Attendance, and Performance in class (as reflected in the portfolio) will be continuously assessed, and their weighting will correspond to 10% of each of the three stages of the continuous assessment.

The final exam will consist of an oral examination, during which the student must present and discuss the entirety of the semester's work before a jury, composed of the student's instructor, an instructor from another class, and chaired by the course's scientific coordinator.

In the case of second-session exams or special exam periods, complementary evaluation elements may be requested, based on the same work and the same topics presented and developed during the semester.

The exam grade is assigned by the jury, composed of the student's instructor, other course instructors, and the chairing scientific coordinator; it is autonomous and overrides the continuous assessment grade.

## 06. CALENDAR

**Start:** 9 February 2025

**Submission of Phase 1:** 23 February – Digital book with panels and process, in PDF format, by 23:59, uploaded to the FA cloud.

**Submission of Phase 2:** 10 May – Digital book with panels and process, in PDF format, by 23:59, uploaded to the FA cloud.

**Submission of Phase 3:** 25 May – Digital book with panels and process, in PDF format, by 23:59, uploaded to the FA cloud.

**NOTE:** Each digital book submission must be incremental, always including the previous phases and starting from the most recent phase.

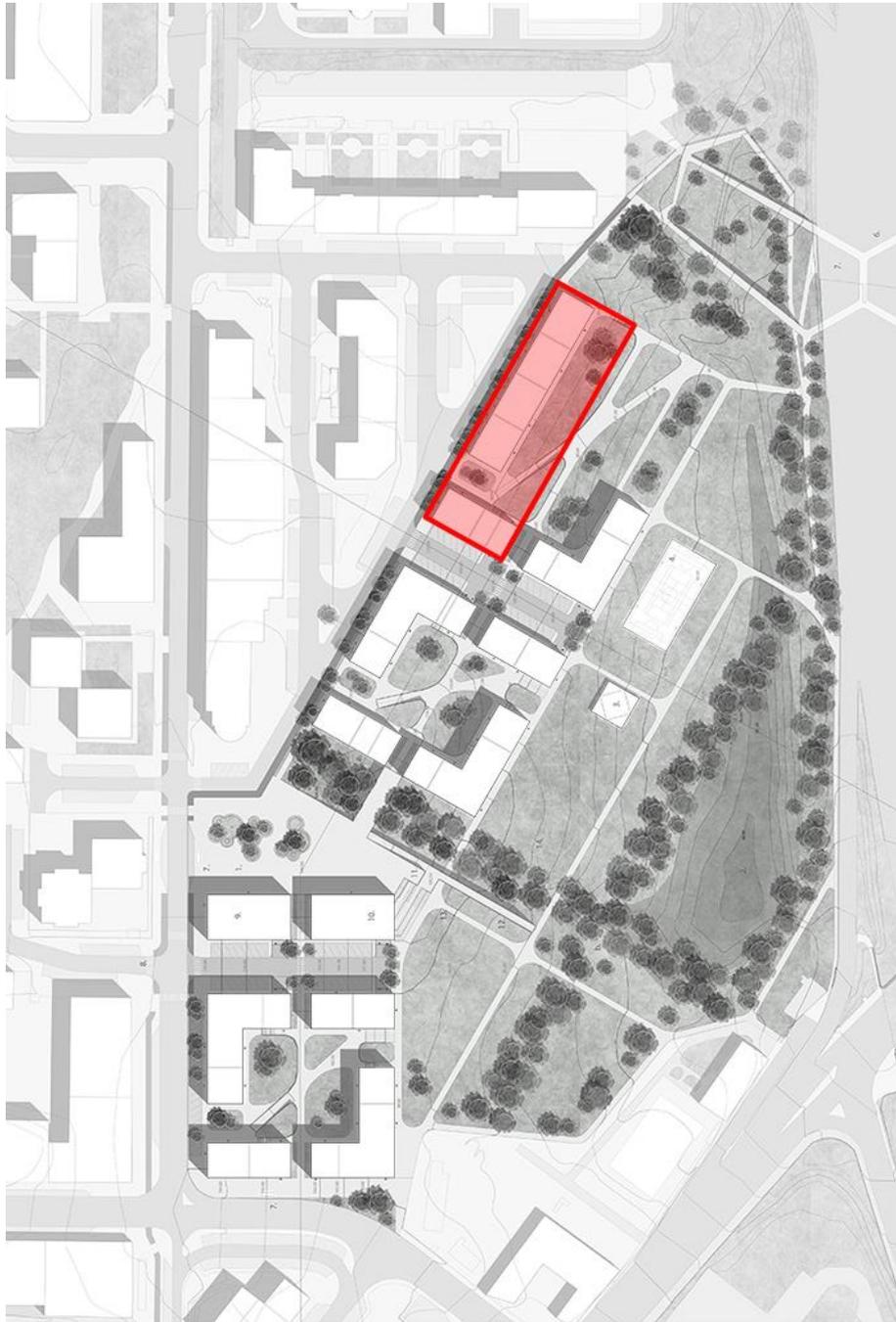
## 07. SPECIFIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Lisbon, 9 February 2026

**ANEXOS\_LOTES A INTERVIR**

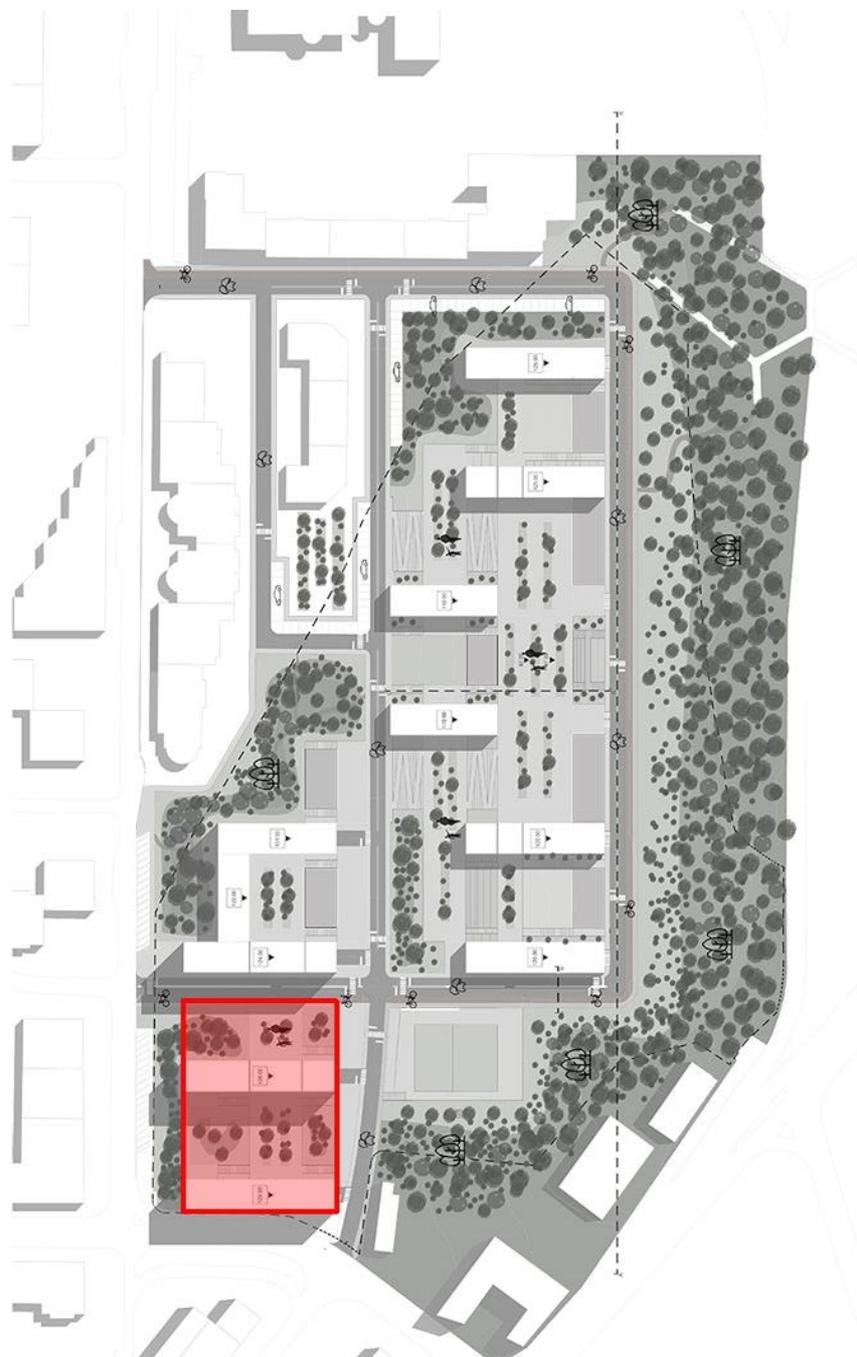
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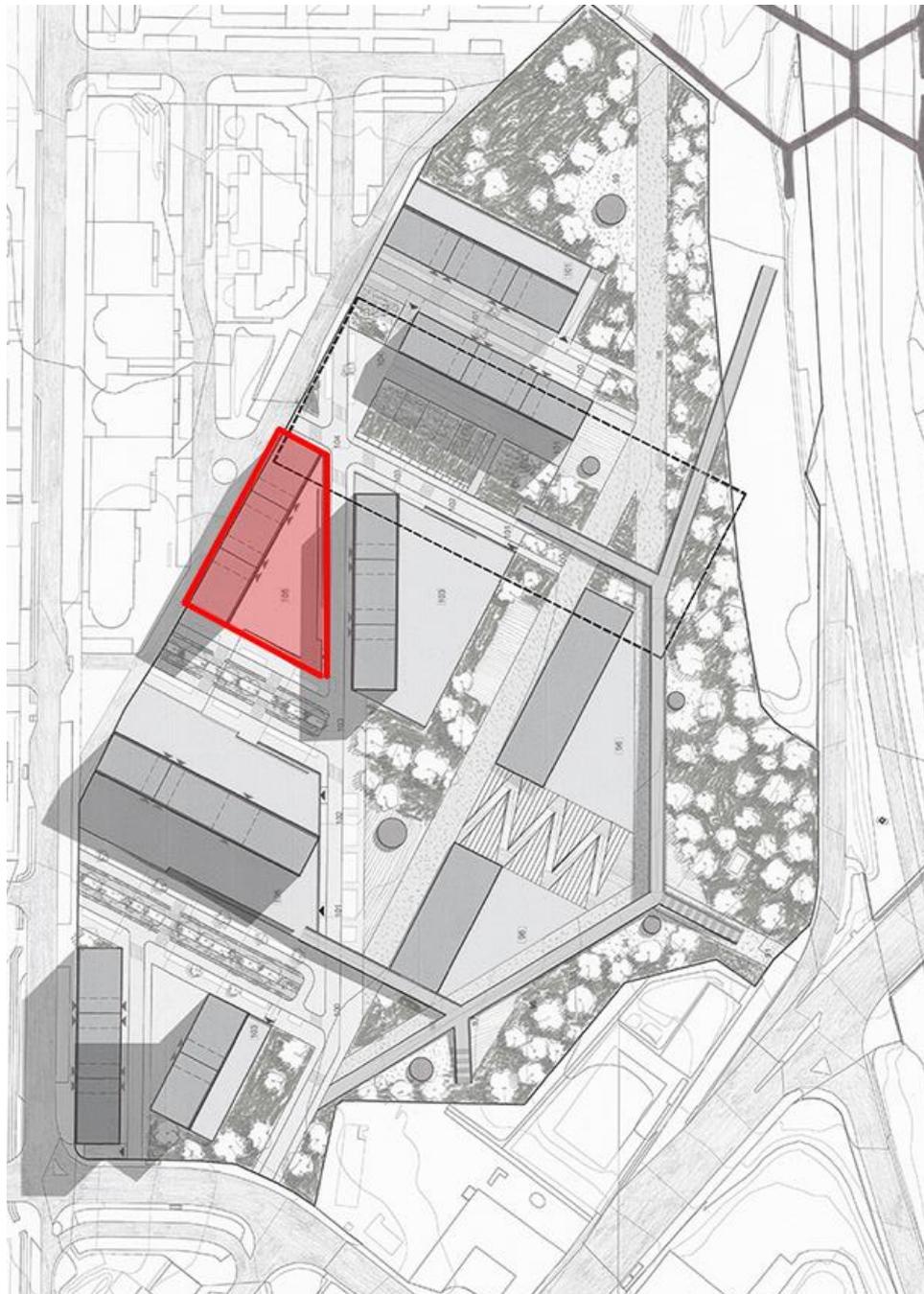
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