

reBUIL
DOWN
CONNI
the
FUTURE

Boundaries
17

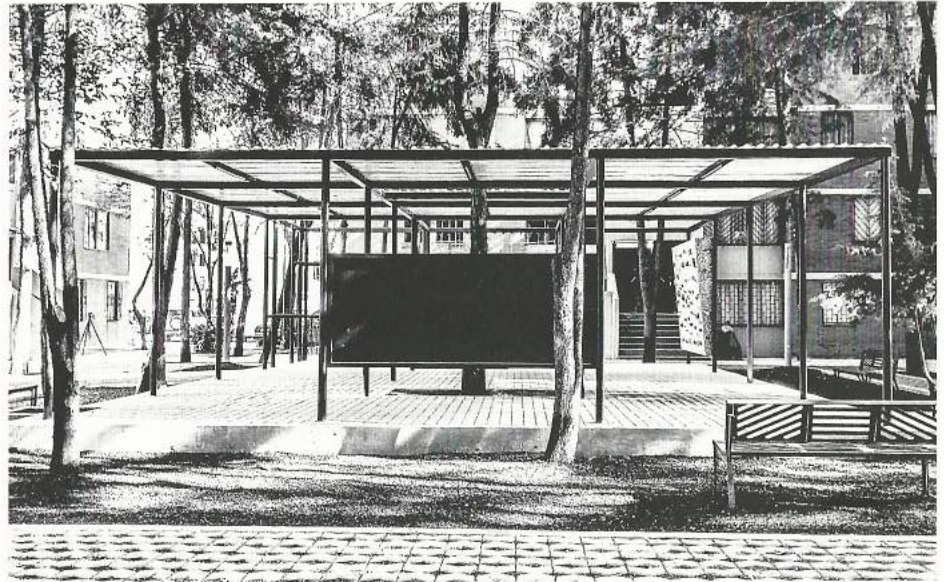
*culture
sustainable architecture,
fostering culture



Rozana Montiel, *Común-unidad*. Ph. © Sandra Péreznieto

Común-Unidad

ROZANA MONTIEL



One of the "modules". Ph. © Sandra Péreznieto

STUDIO

Rozana Montiel

DESIGN

Rozana Montiel, Alin V. Wallach

WITH

Cecilia Brañas, Diana León, Valery Michalon,
Luis Galán

BUILT BY

Dragados

MATERIALS / TECHNIQUES

structural steel, polycarbonate sheets
(roof), pine wood (ceiling), concrete cobble
(permeable pavements), panels made of
recycled plastic (climbing wall)

SUSTAINABILITY FACTS

permeable pavements, light structure, low
maintenance and materials that were affordable

CLIENT

Taitung County Government

DIMENSIONS

rehabilitated area: 5000 m²
roofed areas: 480 m²

BUDGET

MXN 3,200 m² / € 160 m²

CHRONOLOGY

2015

SITE

Unidad Habitacional San Pablo Xalpa,
Delegación Azcapotzalco, Ciudad de México,
Mexico

PHOTOS

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pereznieto.com

It is a public space rehabilitation project for San Pablo Xalpa Housing Unit in Azcapotzalco, Mexico City. The unit used to be divided in sectors by walls, fences and barriers built by its inhabitants over time, which did not allow the community to benefit from available public spaces. The goal was to transform a "divided apartment unit" into a "neighbourhood common-unit" by designing with the community and not just for the community through the implementation of several actions. The project strategy was to work with the barriers created by its inhabitants: to permeate them, to democratize them and to grant them new meaning in order to create "unity" within the unit.

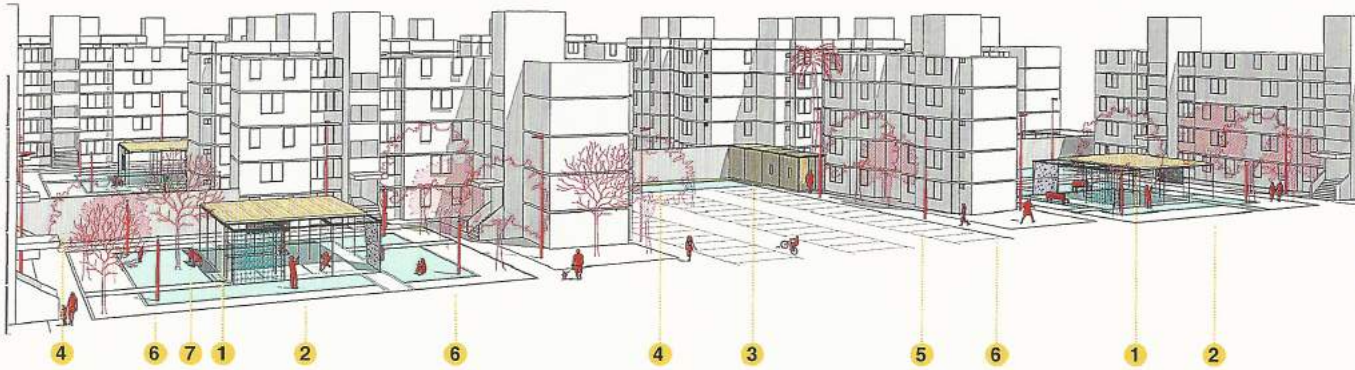
Before, the inhabitants of the unit's different sections recurrently implemented temporary coverings such as tarps in public areas for gatherings and parties, thus managing to extend their private area. By working with

them we managed to rescue the idea of covering certain spaces to be used as recreational and socializing areas.

Roofed modules were installed and equipped for different activities (blackboards, climbing walls, handrails and nets), which is far better than covering with tarps. The recovered public space became an extension of each apartment.

The strategy turned out to be efficient: people got together to contribute to redesign their unit and the change in public perception achieved was such that the neighbours themselves requested the fences be removed. The space spoke for itself and the unit's inhabitants decided to eliminate all barriers and to profit from exterior spaces thus filling them with public and common life.

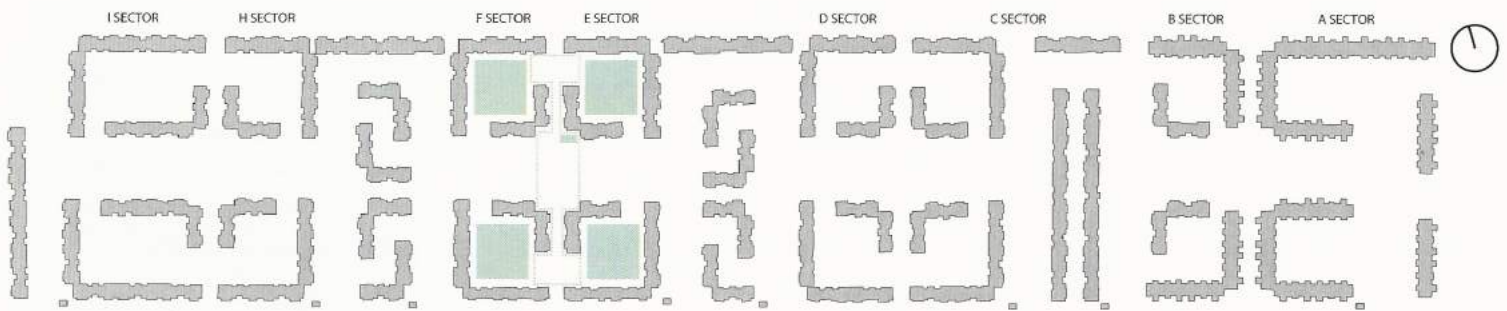
R.M.



- 7 interventions**
- 1 Multipurpose Roof modules
 - 2 New pavements and upkeep of green areas
 - 3 Reconstruction of the reading room "el saloncito"
 - 4 Murals over existing walls
 - 5 Playgrounds
 - 6 Lighting
 - 7 New benches and trash cans



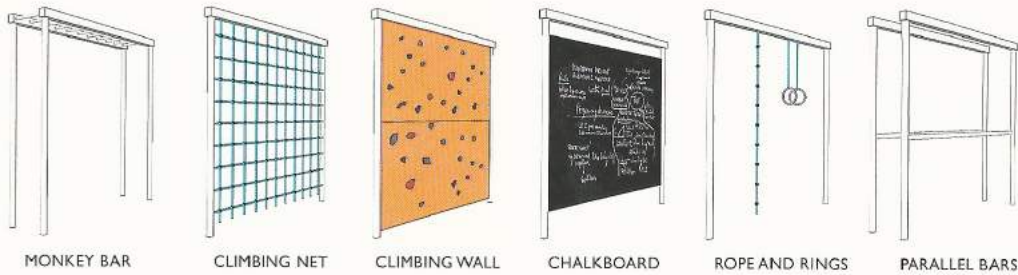
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Four rehabilitated courtyards, and the reading room "saloncito" (little box)



Ph. © Sandra Péreznieto



Façade modules

