

A Cultural Housing Model and Interior Design for the Elderly in Korea

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This model is developed from a single comprehensive research project, which started as a cultural policy research project sponsored by the Ministry of Culture in Korea. The purpose of the project was first, to develop a housing model with a taste of the Korean culture and second, to suggest ways to disseminate the model throughout Korea. Various research methods, such as literature surveying, interviewing, mailing surveying and delphi method, were employed.

Consequently, the idea of new residential environment for a three-generation-family, which is a potential solution to the future and current elderly problems in Korea, was proposed. Also, this could increase the quality of family life. In addition to that, ways to disseminate the model in terms of public policies and architectural plannings, including the interior design, were presented.

It is no exaggeration to state that this model came about as a potential solution to the present and future family and social problems. This model exposed the existing "conflicts between the elders and their married sons and especially, daughters-in-law," to the public. At the same time, the model suggested a way to accommodate the controversial issue in a more modernized way with the attempt to cope with the elderly problems in Korea, thus, establishing ethnic and cultural identity.

The issue was so intertwined with other factors that it was impossible to solve one without considering the other problems. Therefore, there was no solution to the problems unless the total welfare of the family was considered; One cannot discuss the topic of day to day modes of life meaningfully without mentioning the family and elders' welfare; one cannot think of the idea of house planning and design without cultural issues.

The modes of life are very important as they reflect one's thinking process. Also, the modes form the basis of national strength, as well as being casual factors to problems. Thus, the highly industrialized society emphasizes the need to review the modes of life. Accordingly, one is required to reconsider the housing design so as to facilitate a desirable living condition.

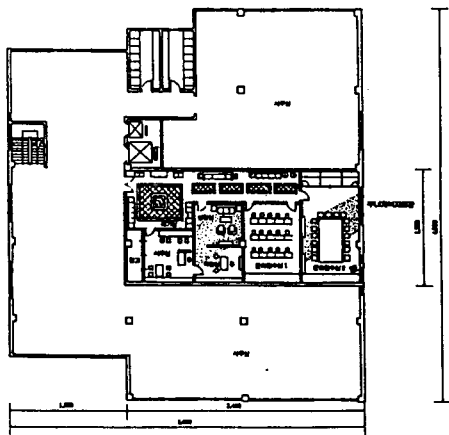
In the more construction oriented future, this concept of "making a house affordable rather than merely making it as a physical entity" is significant.

The characteristics of the three-generation-family-apartment, as shown, are the following: (a) various unit plans that provide different degrees of privacy between the elders and their married son's living quarters, (b) a senior center, which provides healthcare services and social activities for the elders, and (c) a family welfare center, which is for residents-use-only, provides day-

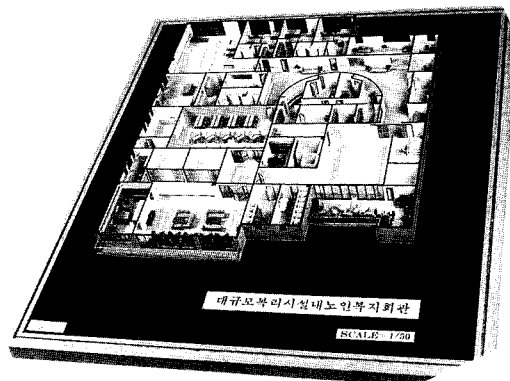
care center, a library, and a multipurpose clubhouse. Additionally, the overall construction of the apartment is geared towards promotion of residents' feeling of togetherness and attachment to the community. The apartment has to accommodate future social trends and positive aspects of our traditional society. Indeed, the modified old concepts can be tools for solving current family and social problems.

According to the results of the cultural research, professor Tai-Hwan Park planned an architectural model of the community plan for the neighboring districts of the city, while professor Kyung-Hoi Lee planned for the

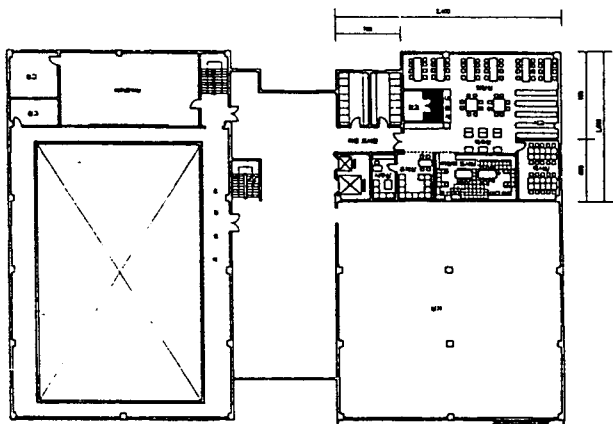
central part of the city. On the basis of the latter model, interiors of shared space and residential units were designed. This community has both a large scale and a small scale Welfare Service Center. Both community residents and nonresidents may use the former, while the community residents may exclusively use the latter. The picture shows the Senior Welfare Center, located on the third floor of the large one, and the day-care center and senior lounge, located on the first floor of the small one, on three dimensions.



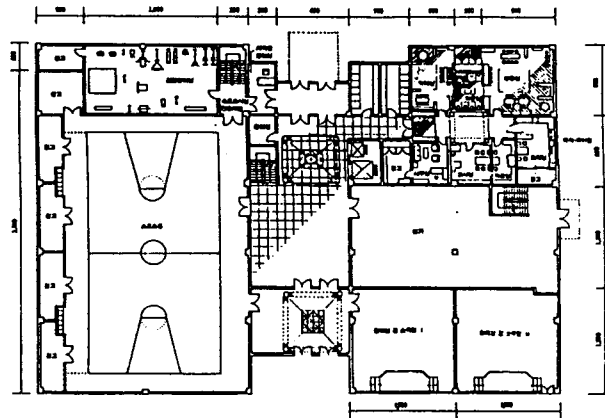
Fourth floor of the large scale Welfare Center—Female welfare center



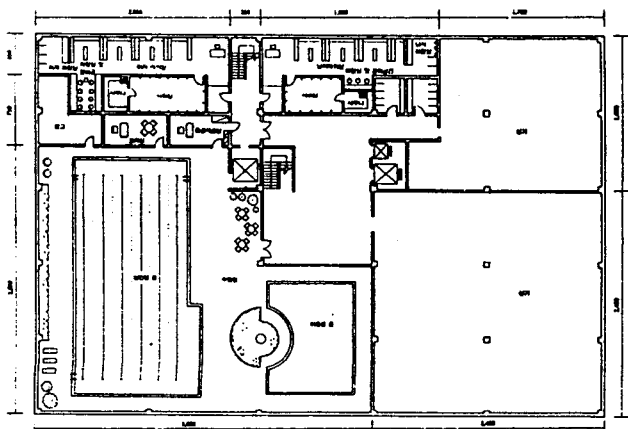
Third floor of the large scale Welfare Center—Senior center



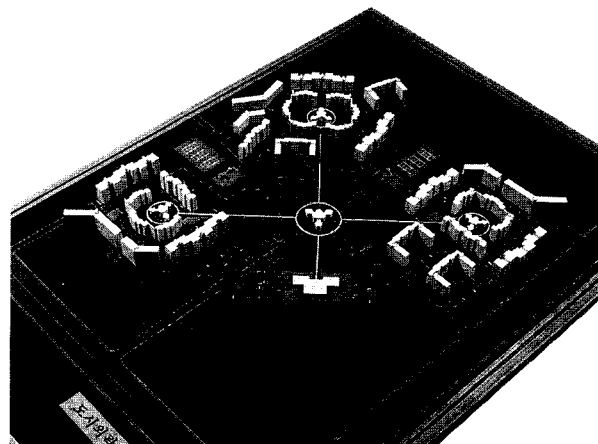
Second floor of the large scale Welfare Center—Library



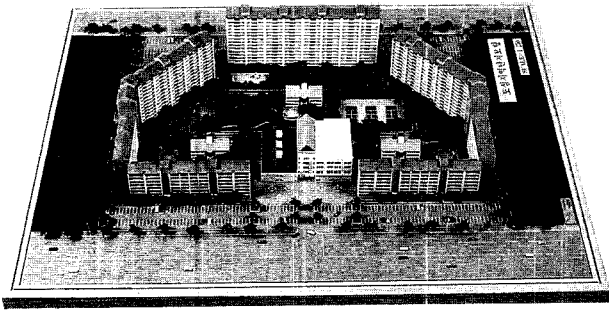
First floor of the large scale Welfare Center—Kindergarten, Small Auditorium, Sports & Health Care Space



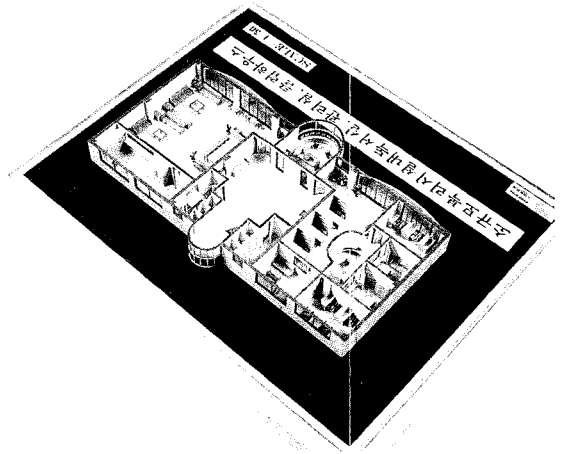
Basement floor of the large scale Welfare Center—Swimming Pool & Health Care Space



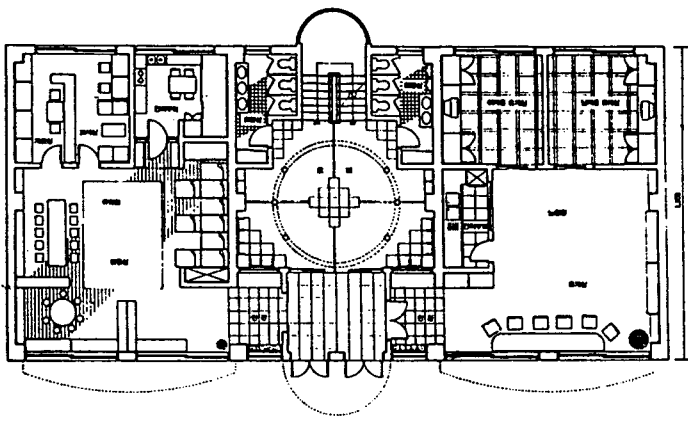
TGFA model for the neighboring districts of city (Planned by Prof. Tai-Hwan Park)



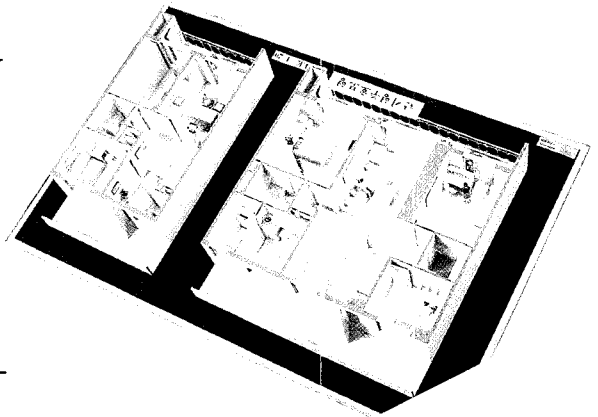
TGFA model for the central part of the city
(Planned by Prof. Kyung-Hoi Lee)



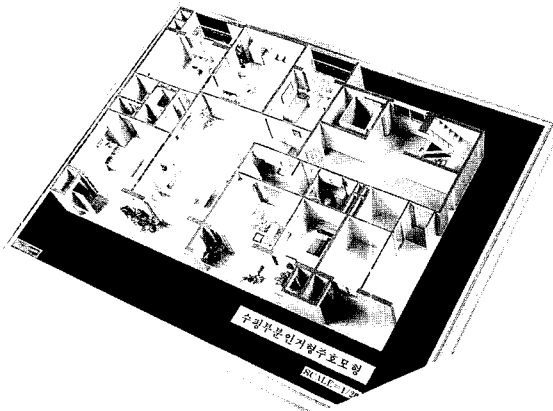
Second floor of the small scale Welfare Center
—Reading Room & Clubhouse



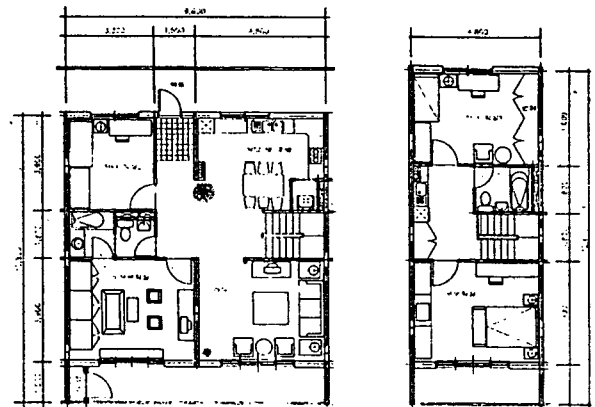
First floor of the small scale Welfare Center
—Day-care Center & Lounge for the Elderly



Completely separated vertical two units



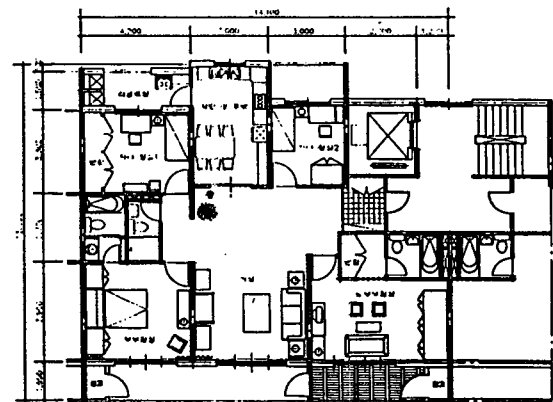
Partially shared horizontally and internally
connected two units



Partially shared vertical single unit



Partially shared horizontal single unit



Completely shared horizontal single unit