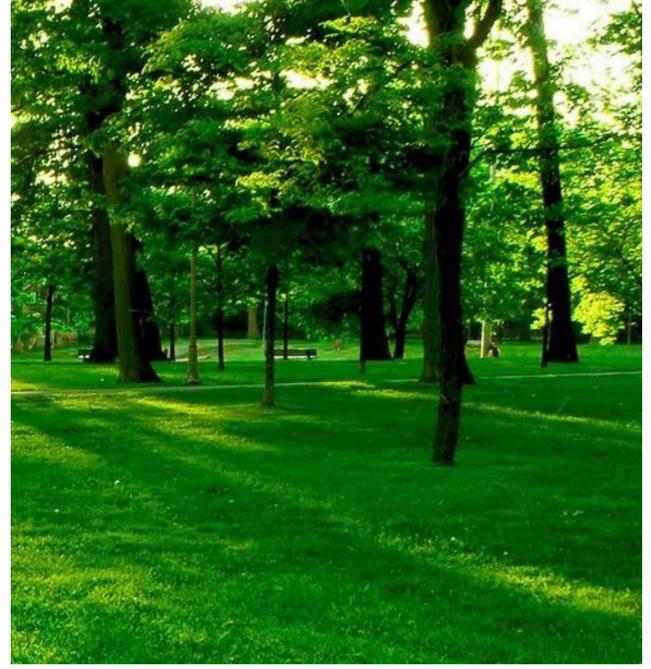


Designing **OUTDOOR SPACES** to **ENHANCE** Urban **INTER-GENERATIONAL LIVING**

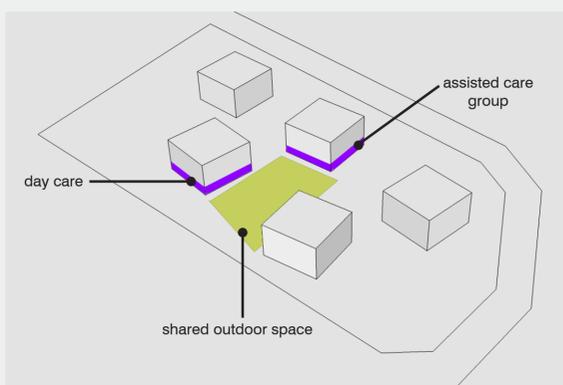


abstract

The function and maturation of the human body, mind, and spirit depend upon the **quality of people's ongoing experiences of nature.** (Kellert, 2005) The incorporation of nature into living spaces can greatly enhance the quality of life in inter-generational living. Healing gardens used in healthcare facilities have proven beneficial to people of all ages; medical and other scientific studies have shown that environmental design can increase a person's physical and mental health. (Ulrich, 1999) Natural environments also prove to be beneficial to children. Play therapy helps children develop self-confidence, a positive self-image, learn to express feelings, and make decisions. (Framingham, 2013) Gardens are important and effective for fostering social contact as well as supporting emotional interactions known to mitigate stress. (Ulrich, 1999) Overall, nature can positively impact a user's quality of life. A thorough review of the literature and exploration of built works will help define how to successfully organize the layout to **maximize the connection with outdoor spaces** in inter-generational living. Maximizing the usability of outdoor spaces is essential for the users' health. The purpose of this study is to explore how the design of outdoor spaces can be integrated into future inter-generational living projects in order to benefit the well being of all users.

precedent

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Fall 2013

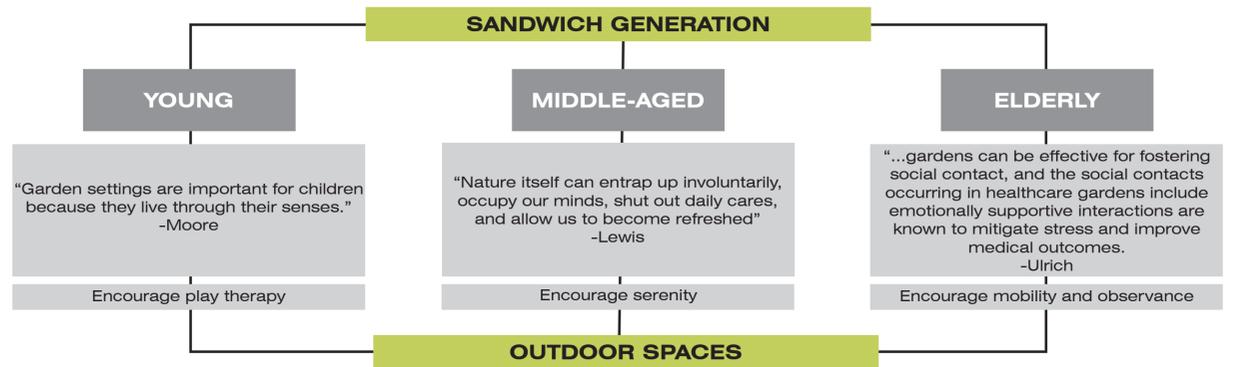


steinacker residential complex

zurich, switzerland

This building supports inter-generational living in multiple ways. Firstly, the amenities it houses are a children's day care and an assisted care group. The two amenities are situated in separate buildings, creating an open green space between them, bringing the two groups together. Secondly, the layout of the building is flexible allowing each unit to be added or subtracted from easily. Lastly, the project is a barrier free design that accommodates small children

users



goals

The goal of this project is to propose **a successful design solution** that will **enhance** the everyday **quality of life** for people of all ages. The designed environment should have a **healing effect** on its users through a **constant connection to nature** through outdoor spaces. The outdoor spaces should be situated in a way that **brings together the young and the old.** The outcome should set a precedent of creative architectural solutions furthering exploration of similar

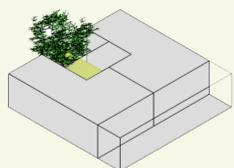
process



central courtyard layout



horizontal courtyard layout



rear courtyard layout

natural materials

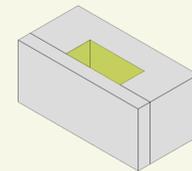
To enhance the effects of nature this project will employ several natural materials throughout the building.

visual access

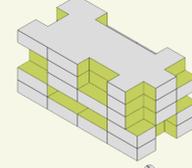
Every living space will try to maximize visual access from interior to outdoor green spaces to maximize the connection to nature.

active space

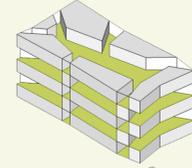
Outdoor spaces should be places where users can be active maximizing the healing effects of the building



shared central courtyard



shared vertical courtyards



inverted stacked plans

references

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summary

This project is currently in the program and early design phase. Much research and exploration of nature's healing effects has been done. The **final outcome will be an architectural proposal** which turns ideas into a build environment. It will be **a place that brings people of all ages together through the outdoor spaces.** Building functions for the young and the old should be situated next to adjacent outdoor spaces. Each living unit will have **a strong physical and visual connection to the outdoor spaces** as well. It will employ appropriate **sustainable solutions** for its site and location. Overall, this project should have the ability to be **a healing environment** for its users.