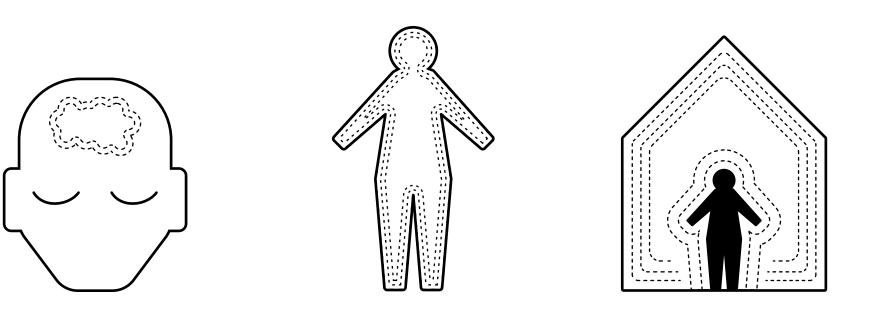
# CONSTRUCTING SUBJECTIVE WELLBEING

exploring the potential of drawing for studying the interrelationship of housing environments and the subjective well-being of older adults



cognitive  $\rightarrow$ 

ecological

towards an ecological approach to subjective wellbeing

bodily

**RESEARCH QUESTION** How do the home environment, the resident and the architect

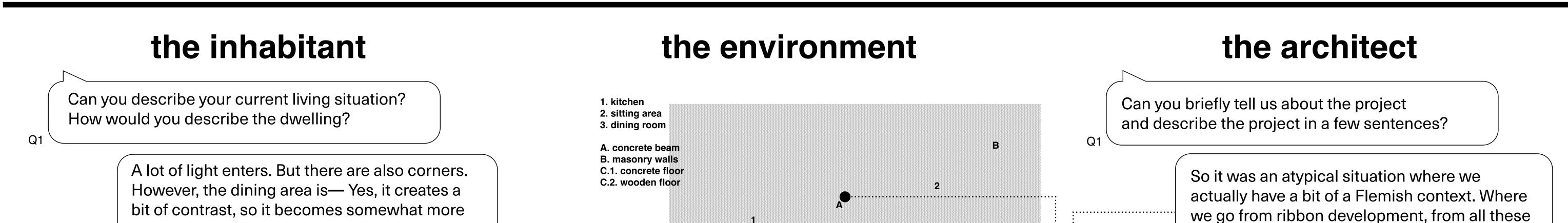
co-construct *subjective wellbeing*?

## **APPROACHES**

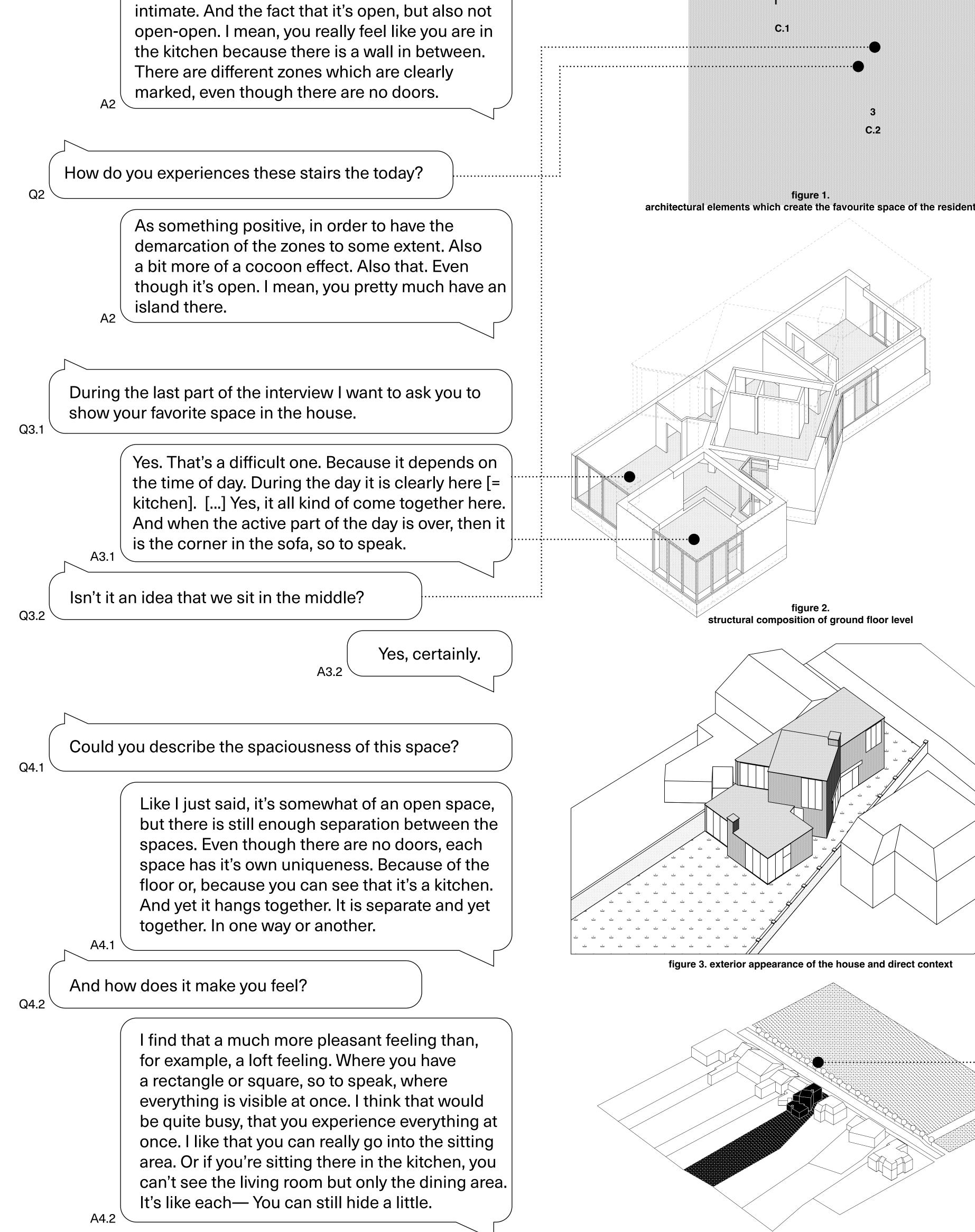
1. consider the environment as an active agent

- 2. adopt an ecological approach to SWB\*
- 3. value tacit and intuitive knowledge

\*SWB = Subjective Well-Being



**C.2** 



inhabitant represented

above

A1.1	row houses next to each other, we suddenly switch to detached buildings.
~1.1	
A1.2	We think the context is extremely important and the intention is not to put a unique little diamond there that actually stands out from everything else. And so you are also somewhat anchored in the neighborhood. Maybe you will soon come to that, that well-being. But we think that's what it's about. Having a feel for the place, having a feel for the location, for the neighborhood, for the community in which you live. No islands. I mean don't create islands.
	something that makes the innovative for you?
A2.1	What makes it innovative, or rather what makes it typically us is the combination of how it is responsive to the context and how the construction determines the spatial experience inside.
	If you are under this second concrete element. It is actually that shape, or the corner which it

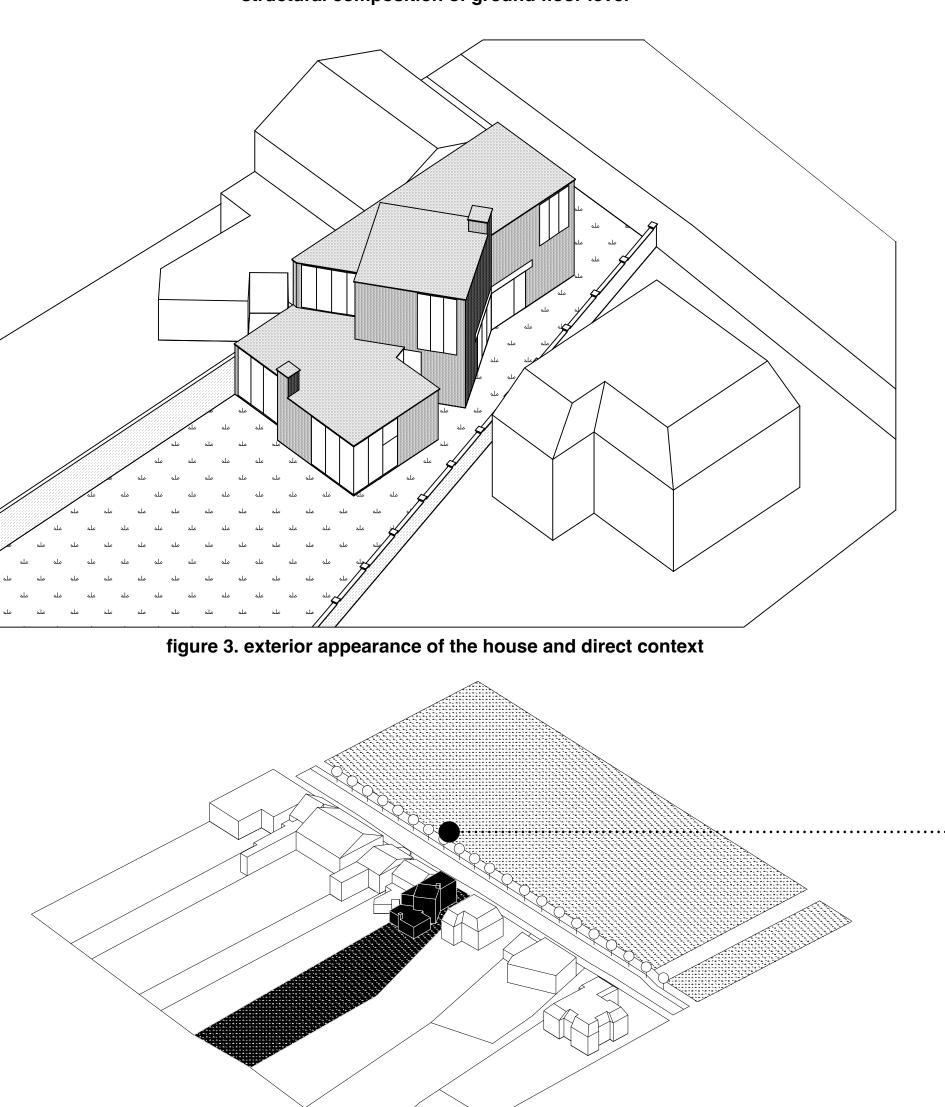


figure 4. larger context of the site

contains, which can be traced perfectly to the beginning of project and the site which has such a strange shape

And so we get that fascinating element which is linked to the wishes of the client: we wanted to have spaces, dining room, living room and kitchen close together, but still somewhat separated. [...] Then the whole puzzle came together of course.

When we think about the term subjective wellbeing, what do you understand by it?

> That's almost that gut feeling you're referring to. Whether you can have it, both we and the residents. Or the visitors. That's a bit of poetry that we try to put into the project.

You just feel it in your stomach. Like, it is pleasant to stay here? It's is about light, it's about... Sense of place is extremely important in that regard. And that sense of place, how to create it? Creating security, but also a relationship with the environment. I think that is one of the most pleasant feelings.

### **CONFERENCE POSTER**

### Effects of Design on Health and Wellbeing

The 6th International Conference on Architecture, Research, Health, and Care Aalto University, Finland, 17-19 June 2024

#### Sander Lambrix<sup>UH,VUB</sup>

Ann Petermans<sup>UH</sup>

## An-Sofie Smetcoren<sup>VUB</sup>

Jan Vanrie<sup>UH</sup>

UH: Hasselt University, Belgium, Faculty of Architecture and Arts, ArcK-Designing for More. VUB: Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium, Society and Ageing Research Lab.

The study is part of the research program 'HOUSE. Innovating housing for older adults and subjective wellbeing (www. house-research.be), supported by a grant from the Flemish Research Council (SBO S007122N). This research is conducted independently of the funding body. The consortium is a collaboration of Hasselt University, Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Hogeschool PXL.



#### DATA COLLECTION METHOD

2. In-depth interviews were conducted 1. In-depth interviews were conducted 3. Graphical representation of the current with residents according from two age with the architects who designed the home environment was collected in the categories (44+ and 65+) in there home home environment of the resident. These form of floor plans drawn by the archienvironment. These interviews generally interviews generally took around 1 hour tects. These drawings were supplementand a semi-structured interview scheme took 2,5 hours and semi-structured intered by photographs of the house in-use, view schemes were used. Topics included was used. Topics included the designed taken by the researchers during resident project, the architects perspective on interviews. Additionally, maps of the envithe resident's housing history, the meaning of subjective wellbeing and the experi- innovative housing, subjective wellbeing ronment were consulted through governence of the current home environment. and the design process. ment websites.

#### SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF COMPLETE CASES . \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ,

	age	44	65	75	96	gender	education	ownership
		1	I	1	1			
1			I I	I I	1	female	higher	owner
2			I	1	1	female	higher	owner
3			I	1	1	female	higher	owner
4			I	1	1	male	higher	owner
5		1	] [	1	i	female	higher	owner
6		- - -			i	female	higher	owner
7					i	female	higher	owner
8					i	female	higher	owner
9					i	male	higher	owner
10				ļ	i	female	secondary	owner
11			<u> </u>		1	male	other	social renter
12			-	I	I I	male	secondary	private renter
13		1	1	I	I	female	higher	private renter
14				1	1	male	primary	social renter
15				]	1	male	higher	owner
16					I I	female	higher	other
17					1	male	higher	other
18		- i - I			1	male	higher	private renter
19		1	i 	i I		female	secondary	owner

### **AVAILABLE DATA**

architect interviews 23x

A3

A2.2

Q3

inhabitant interviews 60x

complete

\* in this study a complete case is defined if all three

types of data shown above

are available for one corre-

sponding housing situation

cases\*

**19x** 

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