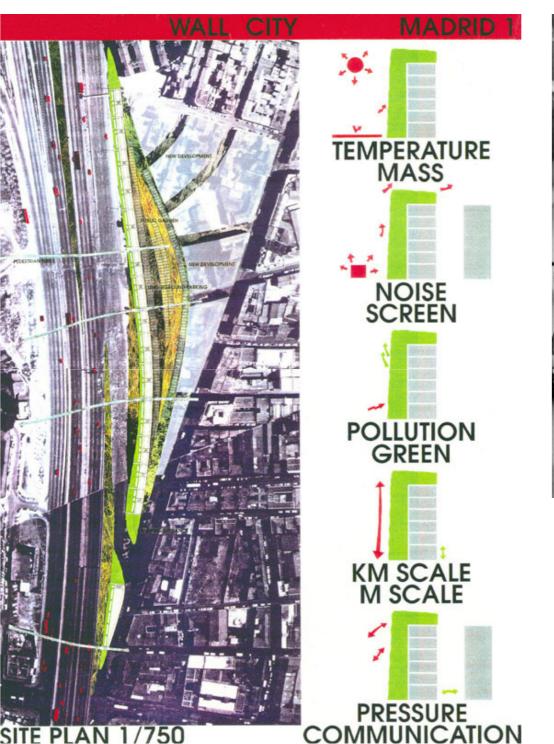


large projects

housing project europan competition

project wall city : too many aggressors attacked the borders of the city; noise, speed and pollution from the highway caused a regression of the habitable zone. the relationship between traffic and housing can not be neglected nor oppressed, but the vibrating edge should be used in a positive way. the proposed green city-wall heals the scars and acts as a medicine for the adjacent quarters. this wall is a building designed for protecting life inside and in the neighbourhood. its two facades both require an appropriate treatment because the vision on things is strongly related to the velocity of passing by: the pedestrian in the public garden has much more time to view the whole than a motor rider on the highway for whom this longitudinal construction disappears after only a few seconds. therefor a vertical green field on one side and wooden shutters on the other side give the building two scales. the project is a trigger for further development, similar buildings can be build all along the highway, a green flux running at the edge of the city of madrid.



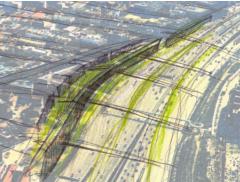




wall city

wall life: transparent pedestrian tubes cross the highway over the driver's head. small openings in the green wall give him a glimpse of the presence of the city and the life inside. the façade facing the traffic is a composition of irregular stones, assembled in trellis cages. since this natural wall is thought and constructed as a huge screen it functions as a permanent barrier, as an obstacle for the transmission of sound waves, its thick skin is an acoustic insulation. its mineral base permits vegetation to filtrate the dirt and to prevent pollution to penetrate further into the city. this greenery makes the wall a living feature: the ever changing composure of nature in contrast with the grey asphalt. the enormous mass provided by the masonery of stone cages creates also a thermal flywheel which stabilizes the internal temperatures.



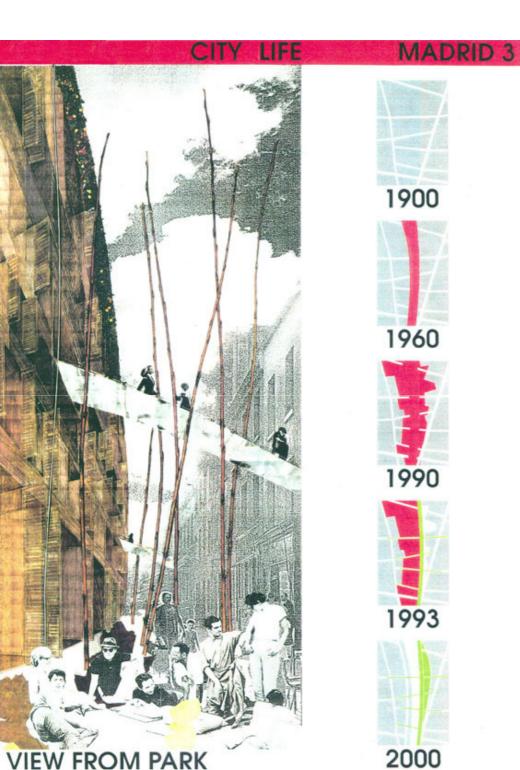






wall city

city wall: to improve the thermal performance of the opposite side, the facade towards the city is made of wooden perforated panels which hinder direct sunlight to enter, a traditional element of mediterranean architecture. to illustrate the close relationship between the house and the city, the organisation of the floor plan of the apartments follow the global layout of the building. noisy functional rooms(kitchen, storage, wc, shower and elevator) reinforce the buffer to the highway, they are enclosed in the green walll. on the other side, every living and bedroom has a glazed wall that can be made completely open on the shady terraces to participate in the living area.







project	wall city competition
function location	housing project madrid
year	spain 1993

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