

# Under construction

A habitation building in Greece: Architecture under construction, in a stream named Krafsidonas, in Volos.

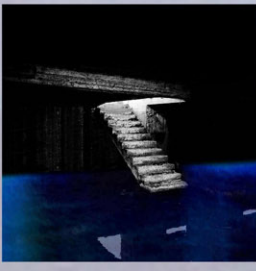
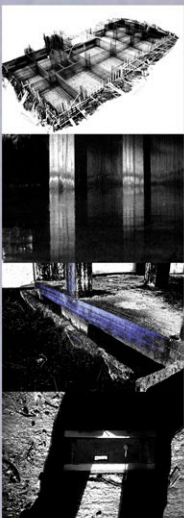
The contemporary, mostly illegal, cheap home-building construction practices in Greece, are elaborated into proper habitation models and forms to be adopted and generalized.

The word “Yapi” describing an unfinished and often abandoned construction, creates, in the modern greek city, a void filled with a variety of uses and definitions.

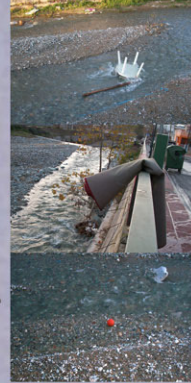
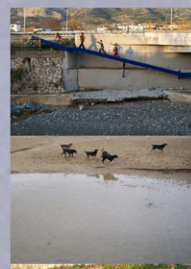
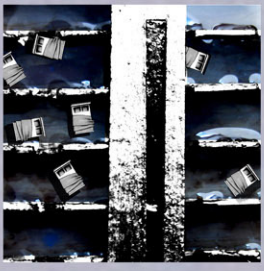
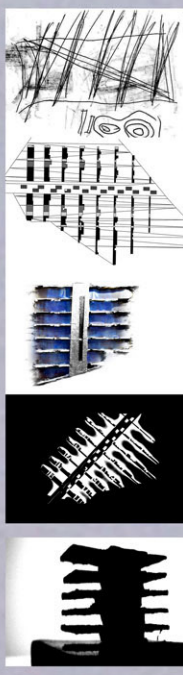
The impetus for the project arose from a fictive collapse of an existing Yapi into “Krafsidonas” stream, tranversing the city Volos.



Yapi



The fall of one Yapi



Activity in the stream

December

July



Winter flood





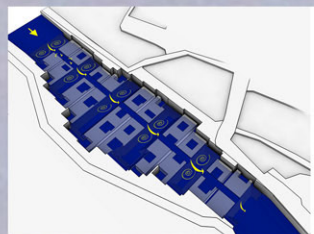
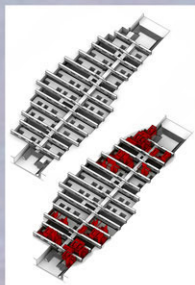
# Under construction

A habitation building in Greece: Architecture under construction, in a stream named Krafsidonas, in Volos.

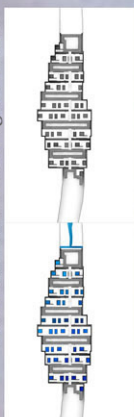


The generated horizontal skeleton bridging the opposite banks of the stream is composed of the main and the secondary structure.

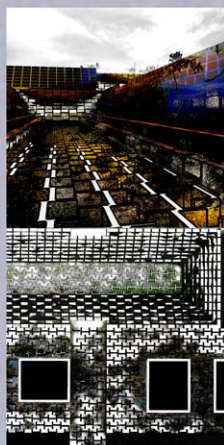
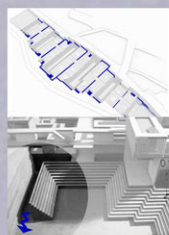
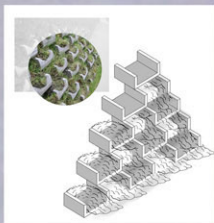
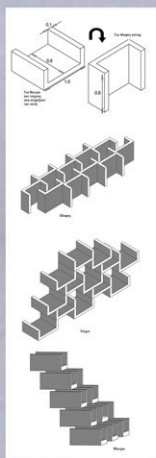
The main structure is consisted of (a) the **12 bridges**, (b) the shores, as defined through peripheral ditches, (c) the **terrain design** (domestic cisterns, outdoor staircases) and (d) the **six amphitheatres**, filtering and retaining the water of the stream.



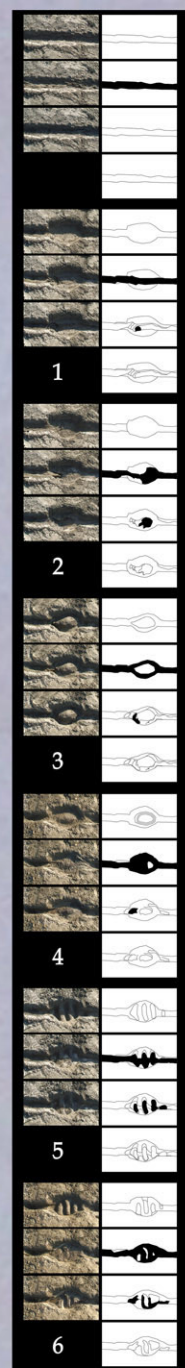
Different flows according the season



River bed's materials



The form and the construction of the six "theatres" were generated as a result of an **experiment** with water and fluvial mud which showed that this figure of the theatres was the most effective. These constructions decrease stream's speed, retain water during summer, as well as transmit water throughout the intervention. Water swirls in the theatres, creating two **internal vortexes**, an interesting natural spectacle. That is the one of the reasons they are named theatres. The other reason is that they are designed to host public uses when the river is dry and therefore function as real theatres in various festivals or concerts during summer.



The versions of the shapes that were tested during the experiment.





# Under construction

A habitation building in Greece: Architecture under construction, in a stream named Krafsidonas, in Volos.

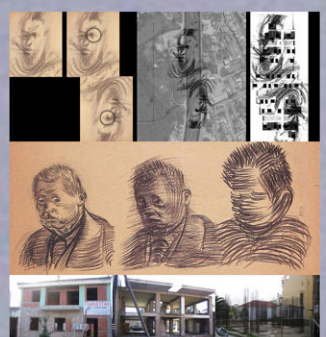
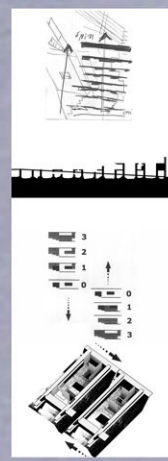
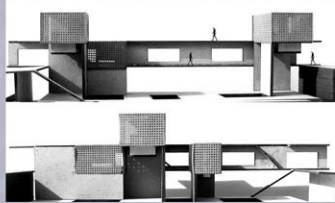
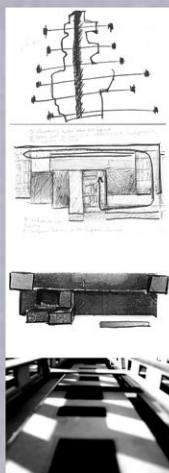
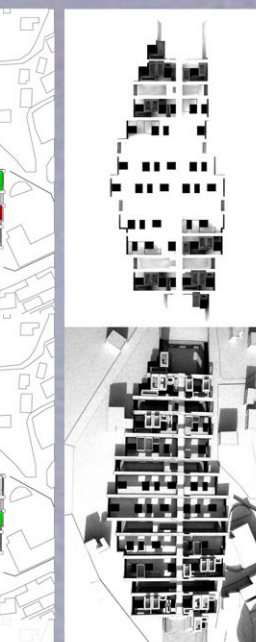
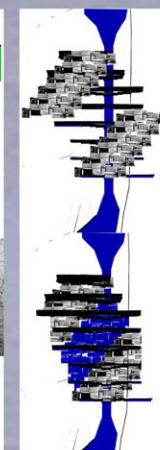
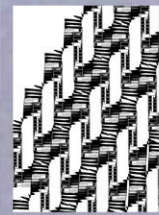
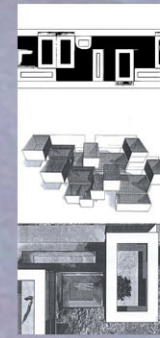
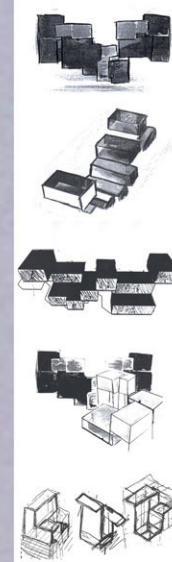
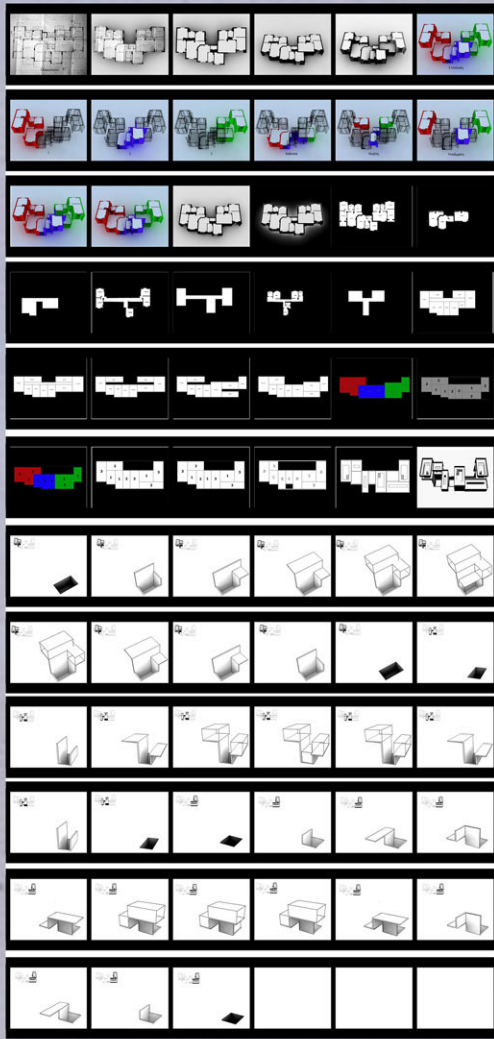
The main construction contains 37 properties, as a result of the repetition of the three different housing typologies. These typologies originated from the study and the transformation of a floor plan of a typical Greek multi-storey building which contains 3 apartments. The three apartments are developed in three floors.

On the ground floor is located the living room, on the first floor the kitchen and on the top the private spaces, such as bedrooms, toilet, bathroom.

Access to the living areas is provided by the bridges, simultaneously functioning as internal corridors,. Though they favour informal encounters, as people move to their bedrooms, no confusion is created in terms of preserving privacy.

As we get closer to the centre of the structure, the above typologies proceed into a state of **constructional non-finito**. Basic elements, such as walls or floors are omitted, so that the generic construction of the skeleton would emerge. Public space (river bed, the theatres and the bridges) grows in parallel to the non-public areas of the project.

This gradient deconstruction implies the emergence of the meaning of space through the inhabitant's interference in the completion process, as opposed to a strategy of total design, leading to controlled and homogeneous completion of the construction.

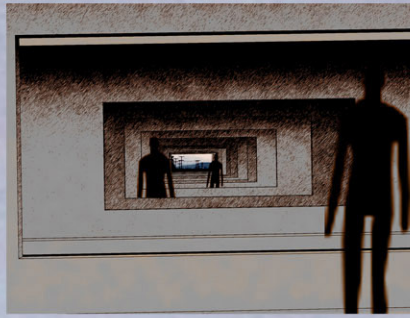


When the property's construction is increased, public space is increased too.



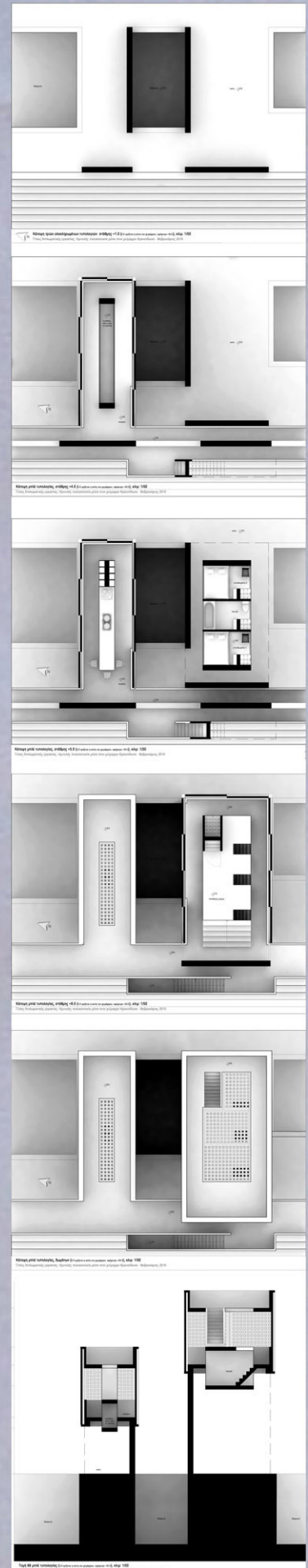
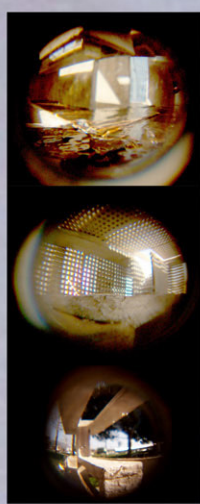
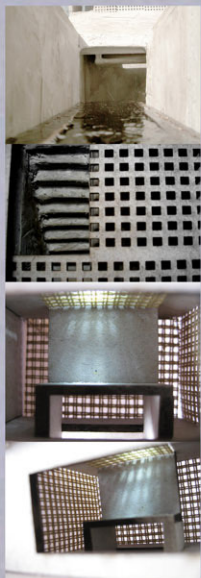
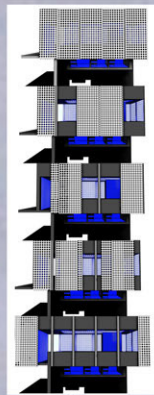
# Under construction

A habitation building in Greece: Architecture under construction, in a stream named Krafsidonas, in Volos.



The finished rooms are like **circumferential balconies**, as almost every single room in a block of flats in Greece. Room's façade

The completed residences' façade design was also influenced by the unfinished buildings, which are usually closed for safety reasons. The material used for this, is a kind of translucent textile gauze, which allows both the light to enter partially into space, and a visual communication with the open-air area.





# Under construction

A habitation building in Greece: Architecture under construction, in a stream named Krafsidonas, in Volos.



The whole estate is run by a public organization, regulating property prices according to the degree of completion each property would have.

The project suggests a scheme of housing with a deliberately suspended level of privacy. The compartments of each property, with their different functions, are spread around different floors. Therefore it is unavoidable that **public area** would be transversed, by inhabitants moving from one space to the other.

By reducing privacy, the project aims at reducing the primacy of private property in the organization of social life.

The project develops a new design rationale: **no gap can arise between the time of design, the period of construction and the moment of inhabitation.** An continuous space transformation is proposed.

The project acts as a filter of the river flow, but, simultaneously, of the flow of all natural or urban events that are provoked. People are asked to redefine (space-) community relationships, through either cooperation or conflict.

