Cohousing Symposium Booklet
Precedents

Precedents
Contemporary cohousing models.

Introduction

To complement the projects presented in the talks by John Mcminn, Grace Kim, Crystal Byrd Farmer, and Adrian Blackwell, are a list of relevant and inspiring built cohousing projects.

The following precedents are examples of cohousing that demonstrate the realm of collaborative living which is concerned with affordability, participatory design, community funding, and environmentally conscious designs.

Not represented in this list are examples of "cohousing" that operate as a rental model owned by for-profit corporations.

Hashtags

Along the side of each project are values which guided the development and design process of the cohousing complex. Included are:

#Artist Space

#Urban Development

#Ownership Model

#Community Organized

#Low Cost

#Self-Built

#Affordability

#Self Governed

#Market-Rate Secured

#Participatory Design

#Shared Circulation

#Small Units

#Condominium

#Adaptive-Reuse

#Rural Development

#Shared Design

#Pedestrian Street

#Green Design

#Passive House

#Co-Designed and Co-Built

2013

R50 Baugruppen
Berlin, Germany

Europe

United
States

Canada

UK

Japan
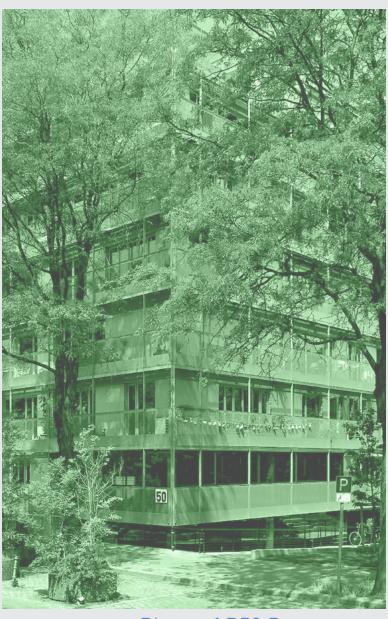

Photo of R50 Baugruppen

Architects
Co-designed by architects ifau, Jesko Fezer, and Heide & von Beckerath

Description
This 19 unit cohousing project was initiated by the architects and collectively funded. Designed through a participatory planning approach.

View This Project Here:

ArchDaily

ifau Project Phases

Architect Project PDF

Heide & von Beckerath

Metropolis

#Community Funded

#Urban Development

#Affordable

#Participatory Design

ChZero
Pisa, Italy

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of ChZero

Photo of ChZero Terrace

Architects

Co-funded and designed by a group of architects and engineers, including ATIProject

Description

Built by a group of architects and engineers. Four units per floor on the first three floors, with a shared roof terrace and common space.

View This Project Here:

Dwell

Domus

ATIProject

Case Study PDF

#Community Organized

#Green Design

#Ownership Model

#Low Cost

2017

Co-living Complex Oosterwold

Almere, Netherlands

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of Oosterwold Exterior

Photo of Oosterwold Unit Interior

Architects
Designed by bureau SLA and
self-organized and funded.

Description
Nine friends come together to build
a cohousing development. A 100m
long bar building leaves a large
space for the community garden.

View This Project Here:

ArchDaily

Bureau SLA

ENKI Magazine

2017

Scarwafa
Amsterdam, Nether-lands

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of Scarwafa Cohousing

Architects

Designed by krft Architects and self-organized.

Description

Three couples bought three lots next to one another and they built a cohousing complex together.

View This Project Here:

ArchDaily

KRFT

#Ownership Model

#Low Cost

#Shared De-sign

#Community Organized

2007

Silver Sage
Colorado, US

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of R50 Baugruppen

Photo of R50 Baugruppen

Architects

Designed and planned by McCammant and Durret Architects in collaboration with residents.

Description

16 households are built around a courtyard. A shared 5000sqft common house. This is a seniors community design with aging-in-place principles, and the first cohousing community in the country.

View This Project Here:

Silver Sage Cohousing

McCammant and Durret Architects

#Adaptive-Reuse

#Ownership Model

#Market-Rate Secured

#Affordability

2015

Mountain View
California, US

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

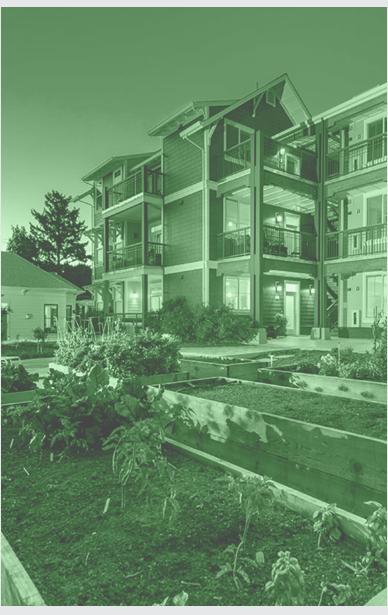Photo of Mountain View Gardens

Architects

Designed and planned by McCammant and Durret Architects in collaboration with residents.

Description

This 19 unit complex is a cohousing condominium residence. With 6000+ sq ft of indoor common space and 4000+ sq ft of outdoor garden space. Includes a repurposed 1898 farmhouse.

View This Project Here:

Mountain View Cohousing

McCammant and Durret Architects

Vancouver
Vancouver, Canada

Photo of Vancouver Cohousing "Street"

Architects
Designed by McCammant and Durret Architects with a participatory design approach.

Description
These 29 privately owned houses share a 6500+ sq ft common house. The Vancouver cohousing complex was built in an old city neighbourhood.

View This Project Here:

Vancouver Cohousing

McCammant and Durret Architects

Canadian Cohousing Network

Radiance Cohousing
Saskatoon, Canada

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of Radiance Cohousing Interior

Photo of Radiance Cohousing Exterior

Architects

Designed by BLDG Studio, this was a collaboratively designed and constructed cohousing complex.

Description

This cohousing complex has 9 units. It was designed to Passive House standards and includes many sharing features including a dedicated car-share.

View This Project Here:

[Radiance Cohousing](#)

[Dwell](#)

[Radiance Cohousing Information PDF](#)

[Passive House Buildings](#)

#Community Organized

#Passive House

#Co-Designed and Co-Built

#Participatory Design

LILAC Cohousing
London, UK

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of LILAC Communal Pond

Architects

Using a participatory design approach, this community was built with the help of Architecture firm White Design.

Description

With 20 environmentally conscious units, this Leeds development is built around shared common space, including a common house and outdoor space.

View This Project Here:

LILAC (Low Impact Living Affordable Community)

The Guardian

Pollard Thomas Edwards

White Design

#Adaptive-Reuse

#Community Organized

#Eco Village

#Affordability

OWCH Group
London, UK

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of OWCH Communal Garden

Architects
Pollard Thomas Edwards was the architect who worked with the Hanover Housing organization.

Description
With 25 private residences, Older Women's Co-housing is organized around a series of communal outdoor spaces. Designed for older women the complex is fitted with aging-in-place infrastructures.

View This Project Here:

Dezeen

Older Women's Co-Housing

Pollard Thomas Edwards

"A room of one's own?" Jakarta Post

#Aging-in-place

#Community Organized

#Urban Development

#Women's Only Space

Marmalade Lane
London, UK

Photo of Marmalade Lane Street Front

Photo of Marmalade Lane Center

Architects
Designed by Mole Architects and equity-financed by Trivselhus UK.

Description
Named Marmalade Lane for the car-free street down the center of the development. The complex has 42 homes, a mix of two to five bedroom terraced houses.

View This Project Here:

ArchDaily

Mole Architects

Marmalade Lane

Architonic

2003

Kankan Mori
Tokyo, Japan

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of Kankan Mori Cohousing

Architects

Construction managed and spatially designed by Ikuko Koyabe Architects.

Description

The housing collaborative takes up two floors of a twelve-story repurposed school building. Contains 26 apartments and 166m^2 of common space.

View This Project Here:

JSTOR

Collective House

#Adaptive-Reuse

#Urban Development

#Community Organized

#Ownership Model

2009

Yokohama
Yokohama-Shi, Japan

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of Yokahama Apartments

Photo of Yokahama Apartments

Architects
Designed by Erika Nakagawa Architects.

Description
A 4 unit wooden structure in an unusual site is an artists cohousing complex. The interior courtyard serves as a studio and gallery space for the residents.

View This Project Here:

ArchDaily

Erika Nakagawa

#Small Units

#Shared Circulation

#Urban Development

#Artist Space

2015

Cooperative gar-den

Tokyo, Japan

Europe

United States

Canada

UK

Japan

Photo of Cooperative Garden

Architects
Designed by Erika Nakagawa Architects.

Description
This 10 unit structure is designed over 10 floors with a large communal staircase. As a high-rise condominium, each unit has access to outside space via a deck.

View This Project Here:

Erika Nakagawa Models

Eirka Nakagawa

Credits

This booklet was created by Vic Mantha-Blythe for the University of Waterloo 2020 Cohousing Symposium