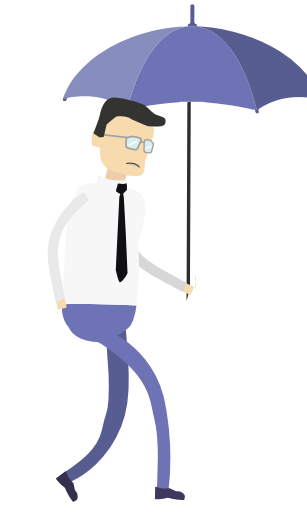


URBAN OASIS



An architecture for the city dweller who has lost touch with nature.

Trapped in a harsh, busy urban environment, longing for a stress-free escape.

Breaking out of the lonely cell that is my house by tearing off the upper floors, filling them with green and sunny roofscapes.

A home with humble private spaces downstairs, but large collective natural living areas.

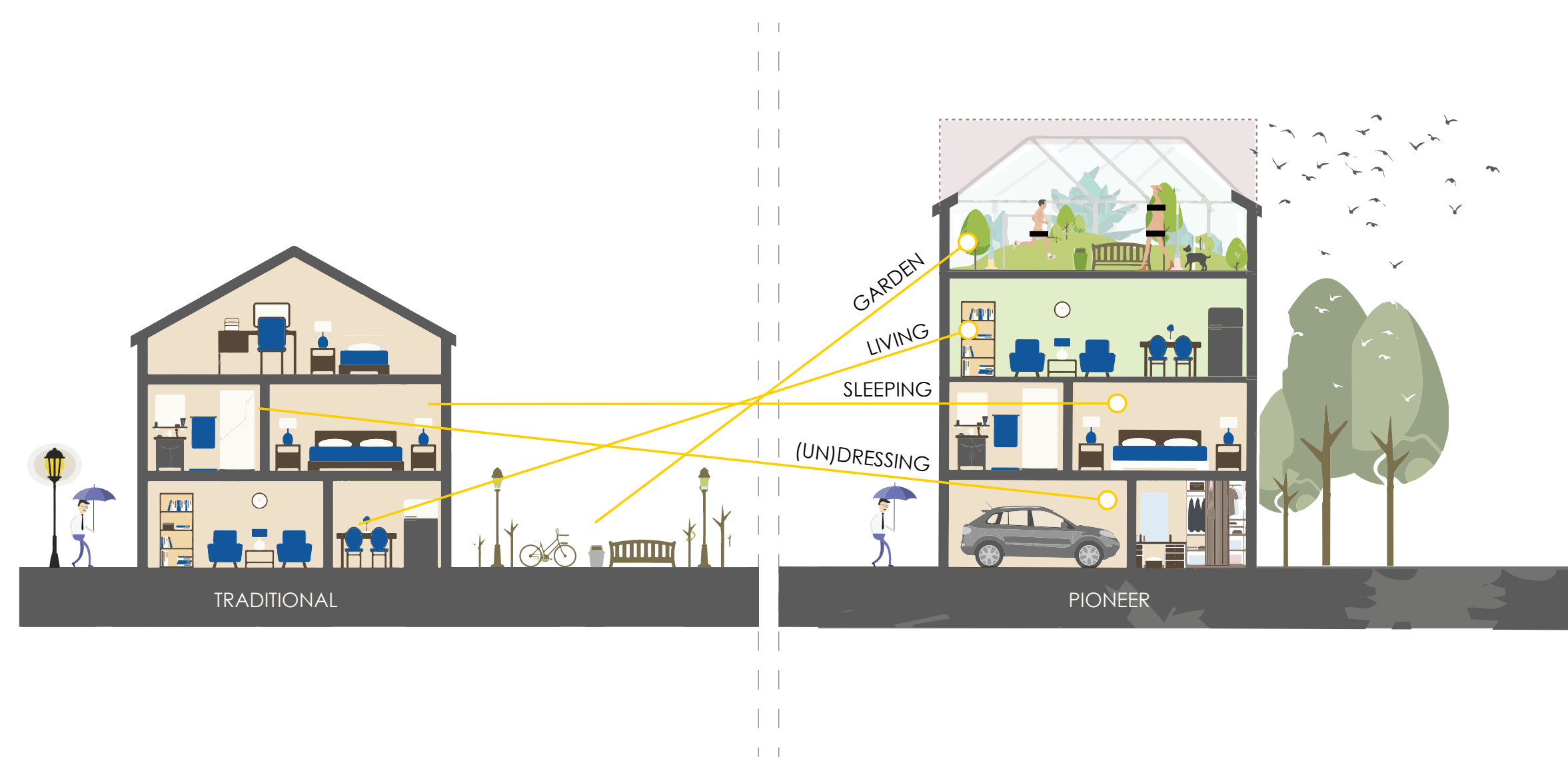
An urban oasis where one can truly be free and escape the grip of their suit and tie



The urban oasis is a critical intervention of the existing -isolating- buildings.

The design proposes to re-organise the home layout. By moving the living areas to the valuable upper floors, moving and reducing the private areas to the lower floors.

Ripping off the existing roofs and upper facades, exposing the collective roofscape to nature.



STORY

The urban professional has lost their roots. They spend the day in a grey, generic office building struggling in a high-pressure job.

Stress is the emotion dominating the working day. Collared in the stranglehold of a suit and tie.

Going home, they share the commute with fellow 9-5'ers, but are hardly acknowledged. In a bus stop, subway or supermarket full of people, one feels lonely.

In a single home on the edge of downtown one is surrounded by fellow gentrifier neighbours, who all have a private kitchen, living room and small garden. In which they - separately - cook their single meal and spend their lonely evening.

SOLUTION

We have the strong inner desire to be surrounded by the natural environment - it is in our **nature**. We need the oxygen trees share and the vitamins produced in the sunlight.

To reduce stress, a home-coming should cater to this desire. A house programmed around the maximum integration of nature. A place to walk in the grass barefoot and feel the wind blow through your chest hair.

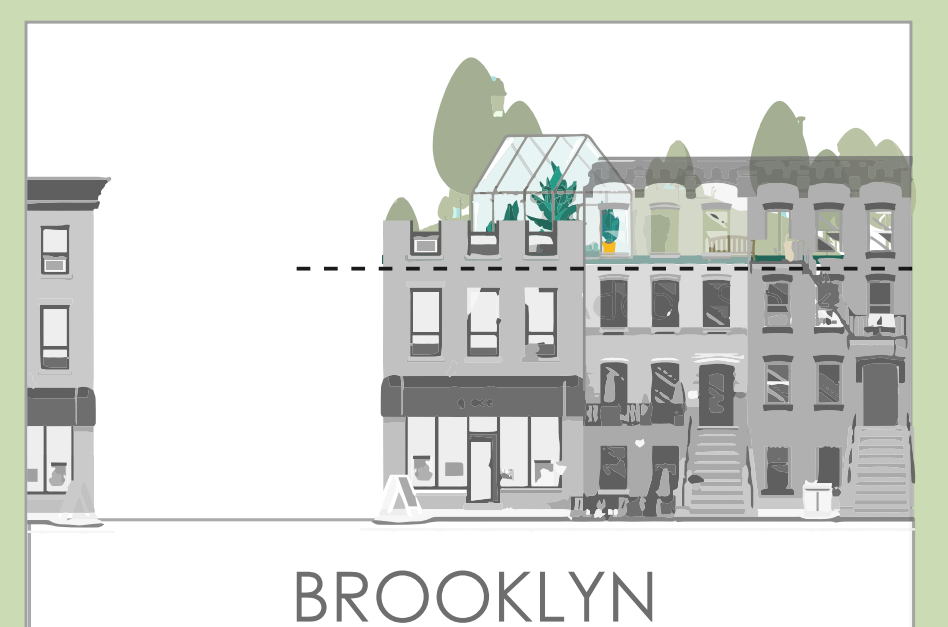
A sharing of the common places we use throughout the day to optimise m² efficiency and reduce loneliness.

STRATEGY

In a dense urban environment, the upper floors are most valuable - This is where the privacy, views and sunlight are best. Naturally, this is also where one would expect to spend the majority of their free time.

The proposal of the urban oasis uses the upper two floors to create a fully collective, natural living environment of a shared building block.

Retaining the facade, the building will stay integrated in the urban context. By moving the private functions (bed, bath) to the lower levels and opening up the upper levels to collective nature, a hidden, elevated oasis appears. A design solution to combat city-life-symptoms all around the world.



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