

The Ecclesiastes principle

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The Ecclesiastes principle

Learning from the past

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Ecclesiastes 1:9

What has been will be again,
what has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.



The Great Frontier



The Great Frontier



2 examples

Architecture
City planning

A Pattern Language

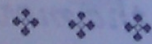
Towns · Buildings · Construction



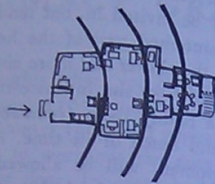
Christopher Alexander
Sara Ishikawa · Murray Silverstein
Max Jacobson · Ingrid Fiksdahl-King
Shlomo Angel

127 INTIMACY GRADIENT**

... if you know roughly where you intend to place the building wings—WINGS OF LIGHT (107), and how many stories they will have—NUMBER OF STORIES (96), and where the MAIN ENTRANCE (110) is, it is time to work out the rough disposition of the major areas on every floor. In every building the relationship between the public areas and private areas is most important.



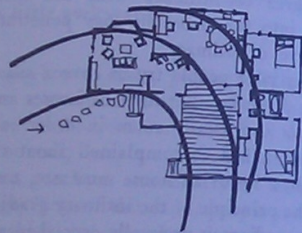
Unless the spaces in a building are arranged in a sequence which corresponds to their degrees of privateness, the visits made by strangers, friends, guests, clients, family, will always be a little awkward.



Office intimacy gradient.

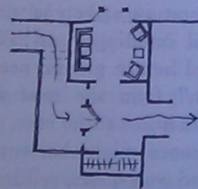
In a small shop the sequence might be: shop entrance, customer milling space, browsing area, sales counter, behind the counter, private place for workers.

In a house: gate, outdoor porch, entrance, sitting wall, common space and kitchen, private garden, bed alcoves.



Intimacy gradient in a house.

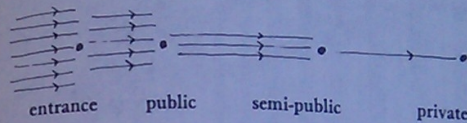
And in a more formal house, the sequence might begin with something like the Peruvian *sala*—a parlor or sitting room for guests.



Formal version of the front of the gradient.

Therefore:

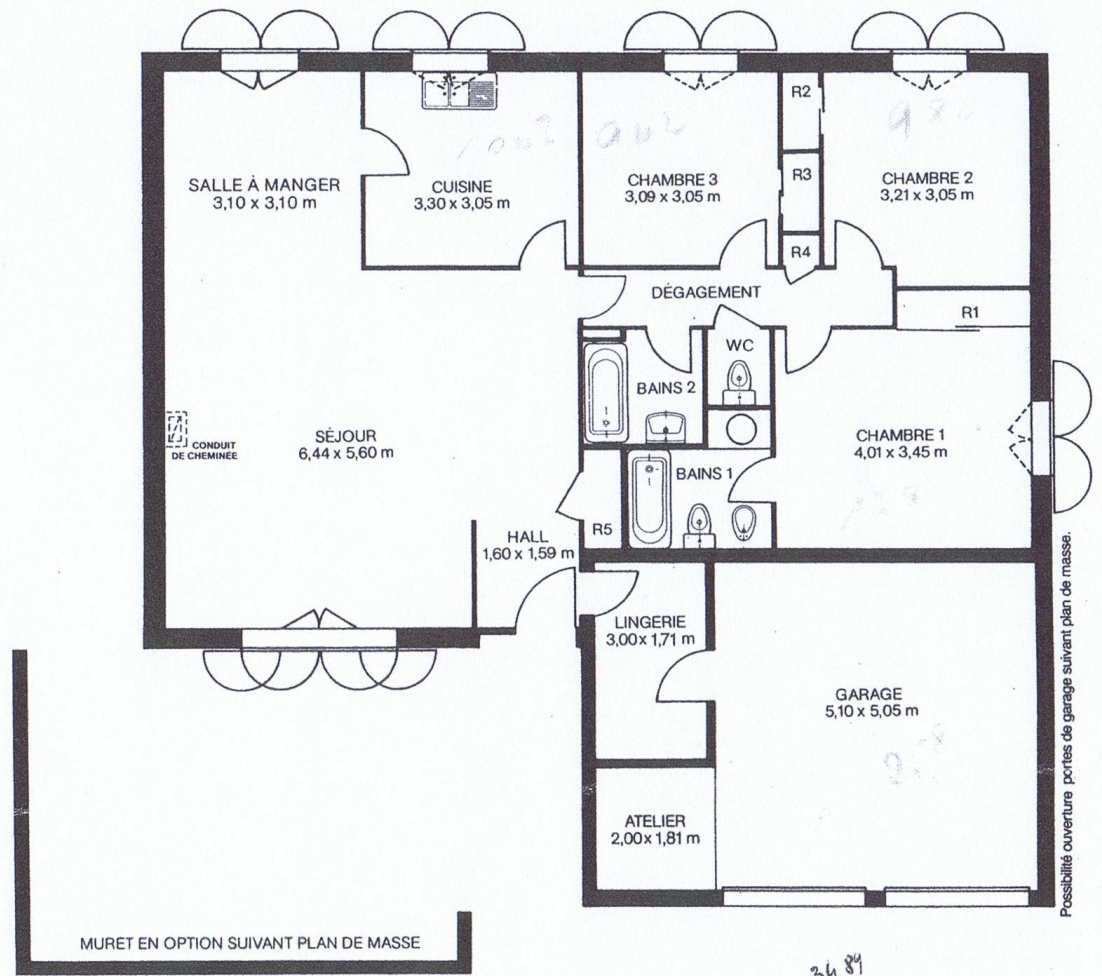
Lay out the spaces of a building so that they create a sequence which begins with the entrance and the most public parts of the building, then leads into the slightly more private areas, and finally to the most private domains.



At the same time that common areas are to the front, make sure that they are also at the heart and soul of the activity, and that all paths between more private rooms pass tangent to the common ones—COMMON AREAS AT THE HEART (129). In private houses make the ENTRANCE ROOM (130) the most formal and public place and arrange the most private areas so that each person has a room of his own, where he can retire to be alone—A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN (141). Place bathing rooms and toilets half-way between the common areas and the private ones, so that people can reach them comfortably from both—BATHING ROOM (144); and place sitting areas at all the different degrees of intimacy, and shape them according to their position in the gradient—SEQUENCE OF SITTING SPACES (142). In offices put RECEPTION WELCOMES YOU (149) at the front of the gradient and HALF-PRIVATE OFFICE (152) at the back. . . .

2.544
 35.064
 961
 10.065
 94245
 97905
 138345
 919085

641
 342
 1.20



PAR GUY DE SAINT ANTHOST S.A. - NEUILLY - R.C. SEINE 73 B 5943.

+ 60m
 + 40m

Garden

Gentiane 5 pièces

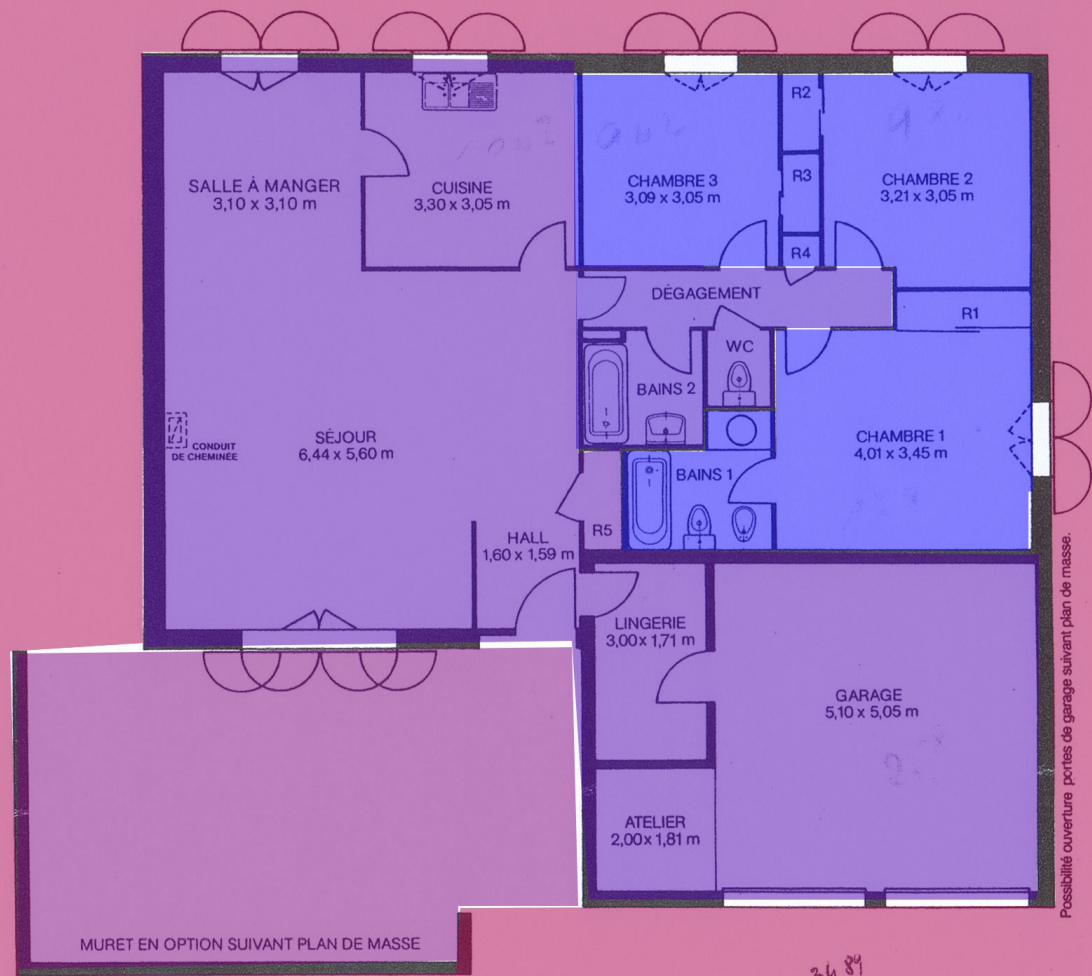
Surface habitable : 112 m²
 Surface utile : 141,50 m²

Front gate

34.84

2.544
 35.064
 961
 10.065
 94245
 97905
 138345
 919085

661
 342
 1.20



34,84

PAR GUY DE SAINT ANTHOST S.A. - NEUILLY - R.C. SEINE 73 B 5843.

+ 60m
 + 40m 40m

Garden

Gentiane 5 pièces

Surface habitable : 112 m²
 Surface utile : 141,50 m²

Front gate

Community intimacy gradient

- Public: Forum, public mailing list, ...
- Semi-public: IRC, blog comments, ...
- Semi-private: Moderated mailing list, invitation-only IRC channel, BOFs/meet-ups, ...
- Private: Private email, phone, face to face

Community intimacy gradient

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THE DEATH
AND LIFE
OF GREAT
AMERICAN
CITIES

JANE JACOBS

"Perhaps the most influential single work in
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Mixed Uses



Mixed Uses



Professional ←————→ Amateur





Thank you!



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