

Design Rationale

Research has shown that there are many similarities between the spatial thresholds of residential common spaces and the design of many workplaces. *FactoryHome* encapsulates this research by providing three distinct zones to facilitate an artisan live/work community for all ages.

Live units are formed in two sections each with an external terrace. These can function as autonomous units, or can be connected with an internal stair. This allows for a range of different occupant life scenarios ranging from young to old¹. The lower unit has direct access to the transition zone and work unit.

Work units have a number of different configurations to provide the flexibility of three different modern workplace spatial requirements: ‘The Cell’ (an area for focussed study); ‘The Den’ (an area for group work); and ‘The Club’ (an area for cross-networking)². The upper section of a work module can be pulled across to provide a sound-insulated private enclosure when required.

The *transition zone* is a shared space for the building’s occupants which is intended to host different activities at different times of day. Space is already at a premium in urban centres. Subsequently, live and work units are retractable so that the use of the transition zone can change depending on whether the occupant is in live mode or work mode.

Using cohousing as a precedent, the architecture provides a number of communal facilities intended to encourage occupant interaction:

- Each unit is autonomous (it has its own kitchenette) but a common kitchen on each level allows for occasional live or work common meals.
- A shared FabLab on the ground floor provides a number of different facilities suitable for the building’s occupants, the local residential community, and local business community.
- A winter garden and roof terrace with raised beds provides space for productive gardening, for children to play and for vulnerable adults to relax within a safe environment.

¹ see board 1 diagram - lower centre

² see board 1 diagram - top right