

MANIFESTO

From Villa to Barrio

Villa 31 is dynamic, in a continuous and rapid transformation. A complex reality, based on social and economical activities networks. Currently it is isolated from the rest of the city, in a sort of parallel dimension.

From Villa to Barrio is an open and undetermined process. The objective is to solve the urban amnesia, through spatial and social inclusion in the city. Integrating the informality into the urban context through accessibility, primary infrastructure and advanced services.

1

The Manzana

Manzana or *cuadra* characterizes the historical fabric of the city of Buenos Aires. *Manzana* is assumed as a fundamental rule for the inhabitants' relocation, according to the principle of the *urbanizacion con radicacion* as a result of the thinning of the units' housing.

The goal is to let villeros remaining in their social networks built over years.

2

Primary infrastructural network

The poor living and hygienic conditions and the inefficient infrastructural system represent negative and problematic aspects of this reality.

The first step of the process is the construction of primary infrastructures and basic utilities (roads, drain system, electricity and sewage lines) within the new areas of expansion.

3

Public spaces and advanced services

Nowadays Villa 31 has already spread throughout the available lands. There is no ground left to be extended in the horizontal direction. This prevents the presence and the growth of open and public spaces.

The informal settlement has the lowest percentage of green areas in the whole city. The design of public services is translated into the project as a series of vegetable gardens, commercial, social, educational and health activities, specifically located in each manzana.

4

A growth device

Villa 31 is viral. The project cannot margin the spontaneous growth mechanism. It proposes a device that manages the natural development of the housing units. Each manzana is equipped with basic infrastructures and public spaces. It becomes a reactive surface, open to any use according people's needs. The flexible structure allows different possibilities of customization and change in the housing units, while remaining within the rules and zoning laws. The inhabitants are the protagonists of this process. The urban landscape reflects the users and creates the base for a symbiotic process of identification and recognition.