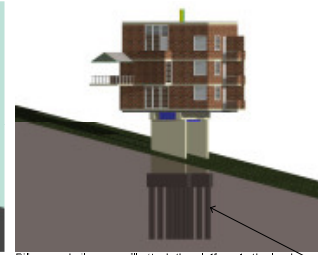
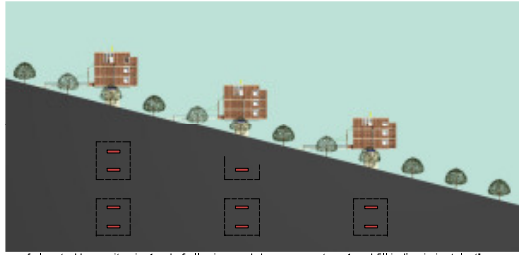
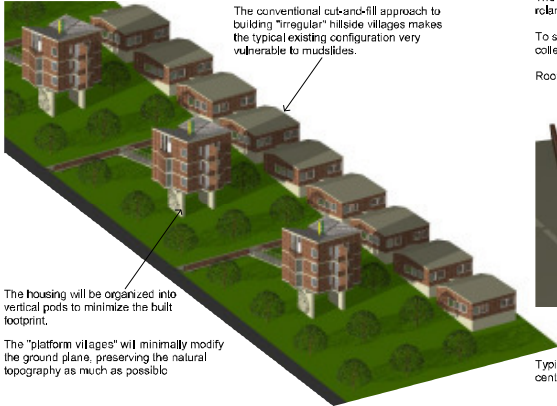


The community's layout and footprint will either promote or prevent erosion. By investing in an infrastructure of elevated homesites instead of allowing each homeowner to cut and fill indiscriminately, the proposed "platform" organization will have the least impact on the original terrain, and will enhance the safety to the residents by offering minimal resistance to any mudslides that may occur.



Pilings and pile caps will attach the platform to the load-bearing strata of the hillside.



The conventional cut-and-fill approach to building "irregular" hillside villages makes the typical existing configuration very vulnerable to mudslides.

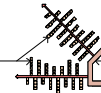
The housing will be organized into vertical pods to minimize the built footprint.

The "platform villages" will minimally modify the ground plane, preserving the natural topography as much as possible.

The "platform villages" can be linked via elevated walkways wide enough to carry emergency vehicles.
 The terrain will either be left in its natural state or landscaped with soil-strengthening ground cover.
 To supplement the municipal water supply each building will collect its own rainwater into an above-grade cistern.
 Roof-mounted photovoltaics will augment electrical storage.



Typical pods will be arrayed uphill from the "town center" and accessed by pedestrian walkways.

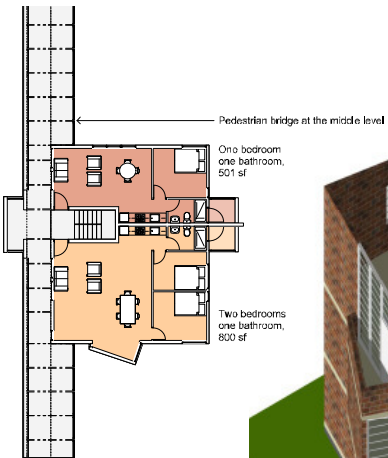


The "town center" will have public facilities, access to transportation, and will be located on the flatter terrain.

Cast-in-place concrete columns
 Precast concrete beams
 Above-ground cistern

Precast concrete planks

Conventional masonry construction on the pre-fabricated concrete platforms can either be executed by the end-users, or by professional builders depending on budget or on the complexity of the architectural design.



Pedestrian bridge at the middle level

One bedroom, one bathroom, 501 sf

Two bedrooms, one bathroom, 800 sf



The middle floor carries an elevated bridge to link pods, and a central stair within each pod communicates the six units vertically.

The kitchens and bathrooms back up to each other to simplify the plumbing.

The bathroom opens to an exterior balcony for clothes drying.

The low-tech masonry vernacular lends itself to owner-supervised construction.

Concrete base is elevated above the terrain.

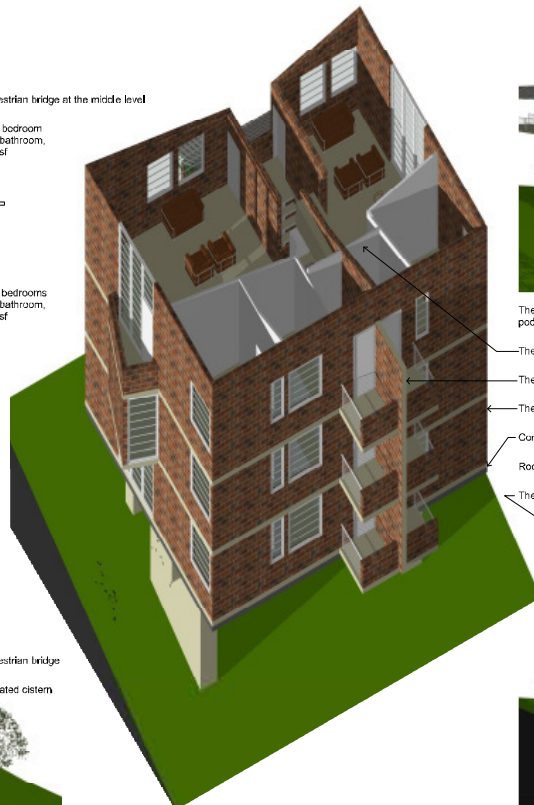
Roof-mounted photovoltaics will help generate and store electricity.

The roofs slope inward and will harvest rainwater into an above-grade cistern.



Pedestrian bridge

Elevated cistern



Safe favela joint venture: infrastructure by construction company and houses by occupants

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